



# St. Andrew's C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Our Vision:

At St Andrew's CE Primary School, we aim to bring children to a place where they can realise their full potential. Our Christian values are the foundation of all we do and each one is a facet of the central value, love, which 'always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.' (1 Corinthians 13:7) Protect, Trust, Hope and Persevere

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have really missed opportunities to showcase what the children are doing in school. As restrictions decrease we will plan opportunities for parents to come in to school to share work the children have completed. The first of these will be the Art Competition, the children have started work on this ready for the exhibition on 4<sup>th</sup> March. The theme is 'Sustainable Me' and we are really looking forward to seeing the creations inspired by each year group's theme.

We also have an update from our link school in South Africa. Mrs Ludlow received a Whatsapp message from Priscilla, one of the teachers who visited us in 2019. *"Good morning Fiona I hope you're doing well. It is with great pleasure to inform you that I retired at the end of the year. I know that it is not good news for you as we were working so well together on our project of zero hunger helping the community of Nqaba and the entire community of Fort Beaufort. A lot has been done and will continue to be done through this partnership in the future. God will sustain it by faith and a lot of good will come out of it. As I am at home now, I will share the experience I got through the partnership. During lockdown we tried to start a garden a house project and I am going to revive it now. We have also collected some school shoes to donate when schools reopen. Keep up the good work that God has given you. He will never leave you nor forsake you. Take care my family at St Andrew's . I hope to see you when you visit South Africa again. Pass my regards to the Principal and staff. God bless you"*. We wish Priscilla a long and happy retirement, from all at St. Andrew's.



Thank you to those of you who have kindly donated to Make IT Happen. Children in year 6 already benefit from this initiative. We want to purchase our next quota for year 5.



St Andrew's C of E Primary in Chinnor has a dream of advancing our pupils into the increasingly digital world, with the life skills highly relevant to their future - at school and beyond. We know our children will need to be able to navigate online confidently and safely, and we want to ensure every one of them has the access to do so. If the last couple of years have taught us anything, it's the importance of being connected - being able to use technology to learn, to connect and even to socialise.

To achieve that dream, we're working hard to become a Microsoft Showcase School – and hope to be amongst the first in the UK to join this global community of pioneer schools. Microsoft Showcase Schools create immersive, and inclusive experiences that inspire pupils to enjoy lifelong learning, stimulating development of essential future-ready skills for the future.

To really make the most of this amazing opportunity, we want to equip every child at St Andrew's with their own laptop, for use at school and at home throughout their time at St Andrew's. Access to their own laptop would mean their learning is enhanced, homework becomes automated and interactive, and their progress can be easily tracked on their own single accounts.

We're calling this Make IT Happen – reflecting the restless nature our wonderful school. This is a fundraising initiative started by the school governors and we're asking for your support.

St Andrew's now has a school roll now of over 400 pupils, due to extensive growth in our local population with the developments which have been placed in Chinnor. The School Governors have already approved the purchase of the first 60 laptops at a cost of £20,000 funded from within carefully managed school budgets, meaning a full school year will benefit from their own devices in the 2021/22 academic year. Our plan is to continue this investment every year until all pupils have their own laptop, which are passed on as pupils leave the school.

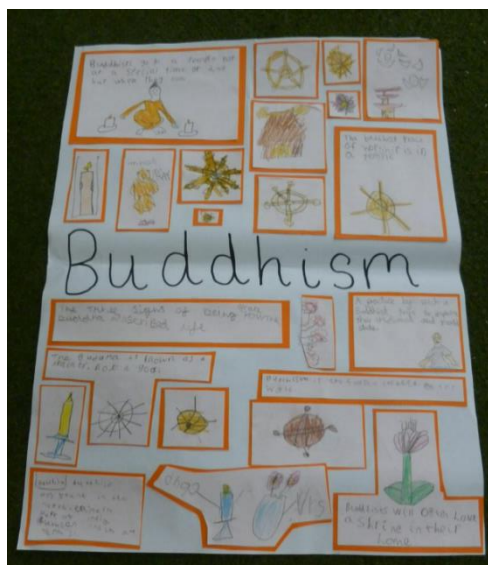
But, because we're restless, we want to go faster – and reach more pupils, more quickly. So we're asking for your support. Whether you're a parent, a local business, a business with an interest in the area, or a member of our wider community – can you help us accelerate this programme, and Make IT Happen for all pupils, even sooner?

All donations are welcome, big or small. Every pound raised will go towards buying these valuable laptops. If you are able to ask your employer to match your donation, that would be appreciated too.

We are always extremely grateful for the ongoing support from the Chinnor and surrounding community, we know when we all pull together amazing things happen. Thank you for your support to Make IT Happen!

Donate here: <https://gofundme.com/st-andrews-c-of-e-primary-make-it-happen>

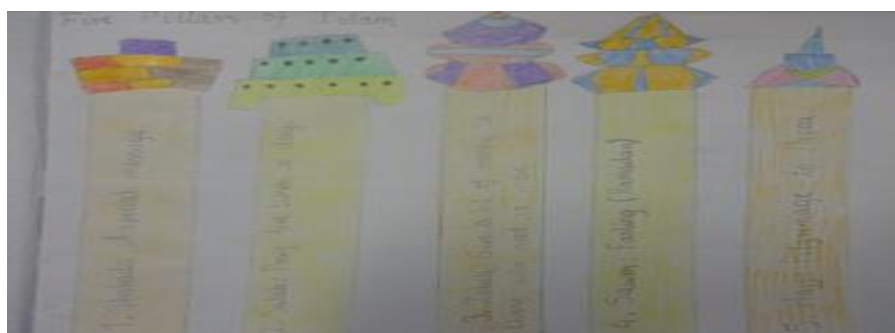
Annette Mashru – **Headteacher**



### RE day 2022- Religions of the world

On Monday 17th January we all took part in an RE day where our focus was religions of the world. Every year group looked at a different religion and a country that has a large population following the given religion. We stretched this even further by comparing the religion to Christianity and looking for similarities and differences. It was valuable for us to learn about a variety of religions (article 30) and we did so in many different ways including making a fire in Early Years!

Kayleigh Churchman - **RE Leader**

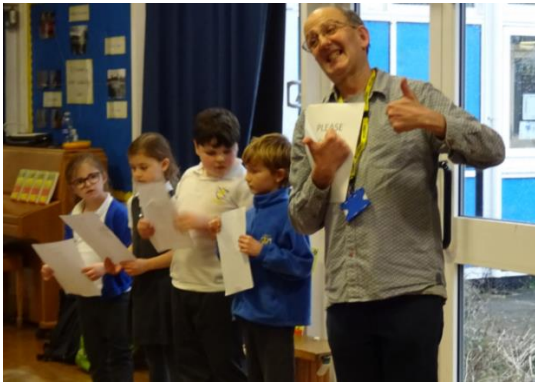




### James Carter's visit - 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

James is a children's poet, non-fiction writer and musician – and the author of many best-selling poetry books. He makes visits to primary schools to deliver workshops in order to bring a big poetry buzz into school, generate enthusiasm for reading, writing and performing - and to inspire teachers as well as children.

The children in year five enjoyed his visit to us so much when he came as part of the Pop-Up Festival, that we invited him to run workshops with all our Key Stage 2 classes. James started and finished the day with inspiring and entertaining assemblies - reading his poems, playing musical instruments and making us laugh with his jokes and chats on his banana phone!



The children produced fantastic poems as a result of their workshops. Year 3 wrote kennings about animals of their choice, year 4 learnt how to write cinquains, year 5 thought up impossible gifts for a loved one and year 6 created poems about wild creatures.

At the end of the day, James sold copies of a couple of his titles and spent time talking to the children and signing their books.

The children ended the day full of enthusiasm for writing and reading poetry.

We are hoping we can enjoy another visit from James in the near future.

Comments about the day from some of our children:

“I liked that he helped us write our own poems because it inspired me to write more poems.”

“I enjoyed the way he helped us come up with ideas. It was a good step-by-step way to learn.”

“I found out I can write proper poems!”

“I got ideas from hearing his poems.”

“I really like James Carter because he was really funny when we came in the hall – he started doing weird things.”

“He was funny. He used a banana to talk on the phone.”



Kendra Gerrish – Literacy Leader

### Polite reminders:

- We have had requests from parents to remind everyone to follow the one-way path outside.
- Please also ensure your children bring their indoor shoes into school to avoid them having to clean mud off before entering the carpeted classrooms.