



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

Monday 24th February 2025

## 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,

Musicians from Years 3 to 6 were treated to an experience they will never forget! The County Youth Orchestra performed its annual Schools Concert in the historic Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, introducing children to each of the instruments. They played a variety of pieces including music from Star Wars. The Brass Group featured with one of their teachers surprising us by hoping to join in on the hose pipe.

'I loved how magical the music was, and I learned how to do beat boxing.'

One of the highlights was a beat-boxing session in which we could all join, followed by an original piece for soloist beat-boxer and orchestra, performed by the composer, Alessandro MacKinnon-Botti.

The final piece, Pines of Rome by Respighi, really showed both the quietest and the loudest sounds that the orchestra can make.

'The music was outstanding, my ears felt like they were having the best time of their life'

We would like to say a big 'Thank you!' to Mrs Clarkson and Mr Cooper for their support in accompanying us on the trip.



In July we sent some pictures and descriptions of ourselves to a school in the North of Spain. Much to our excitement, we received a package on the first day back from the pupils in Spain! They sent us 66 Christmas cards written in English and decorated with our traditions. January 6th is 'El día de los Reyes' in Spain and is an important celebration of the 3 Kings' arrival to visit the baby Jesus. We watched a clip of the procession through the streets of Madrid and our Year 3 children quickly drew a card of the kings to send back to our friends in Spain. We hope to hear from them again soon.



One of our Christian Values is 'Responsibility' and, as a school, we have been faithfully supporting Haddy throughout her education since she was a pupil at our partner school, Brikama First School, in The Gambia. Children raise money through Mufti Days and staff contribute a box full of useful stationery, toiletries and gifts each year. We have recently received a letter from Haddy:

*Dear St Andrew's School,  
I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. It has been a while since I wrote you a letter. I am writing to share some very exciting news and express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support. I have successfully completed my High School education. I cannot thank you enough for believing in me. I am even more excited to let you know that I am offered admission to the University of The Gambia where I will be pursuing a degree in Engineering! This is a significant milestone not only for me but also for my family. As I am the first child in my family to be admitted to a university. This accomplishment fills me with pride and motivates me to work even harder to make the most of this opportunity. I owe much of my success to your kindness and support without your help, this journey would have been more challenging. You have not only helped me financially but also inspired me to strive for excellence. As I embark on this new chapter of my life, I promise to remain committed to my studies and make the best use of the opportunities I have been given.*

We are proud that, through supporting Haddy, we have been supporting her right as a child to education and to achieve her full potential. We have also helped and worked toward the Sustainable Development Goals of Quality Education and Reducing Inequalities and who knows what Haddy will go on to achieve! We will continue to remember her in our prayers and wish her all the best in her studies. Mrs Ludlow





We have been making Tudor London out of clay in Year 2! The children were challenged with creating detailed Tudor houses for the upcoming art show using clay; they showed amazing perseverance and great teamwork as many of them had never used this material before. We can't wait for them to dry and put the finishing touches to them so that we can show you all the finished products.



Asia Class had a tasty time trying a variety of different soups. Exploring different flavours and textures in preparation for their DT lessons next term, in which they will be using their newfound knowledge to create their own delicious soups! Europe Class have been taking part in whole-class violin lessons for the past 18 weeks, practising pieces and developing their skills in preparation for the music recital to their parents. A huge thank you to their wonderful violin teacher, Mrs. Scoles, for her dedication and guidance! Asia Class are looking forward to starting their lessons next term.



Year 5 have been investigating 'Properties and Changes of Materials' this term in Science. The children have planned and conducted their own experiments to test a variety of hypotheses surrounding dissolving. They have then used their collected data to produce graphs on excel.





## Swimathon

We are pleased to be taking part in Thame Rotary Club Swimathon again this year on Sunday 2nd March. 12 children from Years 4, 5 and 6 will be swimming. We are hoping to raise as much money as we can for resources for outdoor learning and for the wonderful charities that Thame Rotary support. Should you wish to donate, please see our Giving page: [St Andrew's CE Primary - 2025 Swimathon - Online Social Fundraising Donation Platform | Givey](#)

## Chinnor Silver Band



Following a visit from Chinnor Silver band please see the video which captures a flavour of the brilliant assembly they delivered.

<https://vimeo.com/1056068438/972b66c03c?ts=0&share=copy>

## Dates for your Diary Term 4

Please remember we like to take opportunities as they arise for the children. An event may appear on the calendar at short notice because it is too good to miss.

February 26<sup>th</sup> - Y5/Y6 Boys Football Tournament  
February 27<sup>th</sup> - Y6 trip to The Imperial War Museum  
March 6<sup>th</sup> - World Book Day  
March 7<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Discos SASA  
March 8<sup>th</sup> - March 11<sup>th</sup> - Art Exhibition Manser Hall  
March 10<sup>th</sup> - Hatching Eggs arrive  
March 11<sup>th</sup> - Y5 trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum  
March 12<sup>th</sup> - School Nurse talk for parents  
March 12<sup>th</sup> - Junior Citizen Atlantic class  
March 13<sup>th</sup> - Junior Citizen Pacific class  
March 13<sup>th</sup> - Y5/Y6 Hockey  
March 13<sup>th</sup> - Year 3 Cake Sale SASA  
March 18<sup>th</sup> - Y2 trip Oxford Story Museum  
March 20<sup>th</sup> - Y3/Y4 Hockey  
March 21<sup>st</sup> - Red Nose Mufti day  
March 21<sup>st</sup> - Quiz Night SASA  
March 25<sup>th</sup> - Y4 Production  
March 26<sup>th</sup> - Y5 Production  
March 27<sup>th</sup> - SASA Wonderful Women sale  
April 4<sup>th</sup> - Term Ends 1.30pm