

# St. Andrew's Newsletter

No: 07|| Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Term 1 - Monday 04 September 2023 to Friday 20 October 2023  
Term 2 - Monday 30 October 2023 to Wednesday 20 December 2023  
Term 3 - Thursday 04 January 2024 to Friday 09 February 2024  
Term 4 - Monday 19 February 2024 to Thursday 28 March 2024  
Term 5 - Monday 15 April 2024 to Friday 24 May 2024  
Term 6 - Monday 03 June 2024 to Tuesday 23 July 2024

## INSET Days for 2023 – 2024

Monday 19 February 2024  
Monday 3 June 2024

## Dates to Remember:

**Monday 11 December (2:50 pm)** – Falcon class worship  
**Thursday 14 December** – Rocksteady Concert  
**Friday 15 December** - Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day  
**Tuesday 09 January (9:15am)** – Coffee Morning – Sleep Workshop  
**Monday 5 February (2:50pm)** – Owl class worship  
**Monday 25 March (2:50pm)** – Kingfisher class worship  
**Monday 20 May (2:50pm)** – Kestrel class worship  
**Monday 01 July (2:50pm)** – Jay class worship

School Website: [www.standrewscongresbury.co.uk](http://www.standrewscongresbury.co.uk)

School Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Education-Website/St-Andrews-Primary-School-Congresbury-631401120595092/>

School Office e-mail Address: [office@standrewsprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@standrewsprimary.org.uk)

School Phone Number: 01934 832505

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This week we have had the pleasure of watching "Away in a Manager" – a perfect, warming of the heart start to the run up to Christmas festivities. The children were incredible and it was a joy to watch! They were all courageous performing in front of everyone and rose to the occasion: performing songs, actions, acting, impromptu dancing and just simply being very engaging! The smiles on their faces were priceless and so was the reaction of the family members in the audience. We are immensely proud of them all! A huge thank you to the team too for all the hard work and preparation supporting the children to perform in the way they did.

Falcons and Eagles went and performed for nearly 40 Senior citizens yesterday afternoon in the Old School Rooms. Our children sang several Christmas carols to the delight of the audience. It was a wonderful atmosphere and the children thoroughly enjoyed the reaction of all the smiles around the room.

Last Friday, we also opened the doors to our PTA run Christmas fair. Despite the very cold evening, it was very well supported and we would like to thank everyone for their support in raising funds for the school. The PTA worked tirelessly for weeks preparing for the event and there was a team working busily throughout Friday. On behalf of the Governing body and the staff team of St Andrew's I would like to express how appreciative we are of all of the PTA's hard work as well as the parents that also volunteered – THANK YOU!

Working in a school at this time of the year is always very special. Today, we have one of the highlights of St Andrew's school year – Christmas shopping day! Again, the PTA and members of staff have been working hard preparing for the Christmas shopping event. It is a magical experience and the children absolutely love carefully choosing family members' gifts to share on Christmas day (if they can wait that long in giving out their presents!) Thank you again for supporting this event.

Thank you for supporting the Every Child Needs a Christmas charity event. We have had so many generous gifts handed in and they are sure to put a smile on the recipients faces. We will deliver them to the Grand Atlantic Hotel tomorrow.

Next week, we have Experience Christmas at the church for all of our classes to enjoy; our Christmas Rock Steady concert and Year 6 are looking forward to their Fish and Chip disco.

Christmas is a time for joy and a time for love; I hope that you are able to feel these over the festive period. If I am not able to see you before we break up, I would like to wish all of you and your families a very Merry Christmas.

Take care,

Fran Martin

### **Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

As the Christmas celebrations continue, we would like to remind you that next Friday is School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day. Please check if you have already ordered a meal for this day, if not there is still a bit of time to place your order through SELECT as usual. If you decide not to order school lunch please make sure your child brings a packed lunch from home.

We are looking forward to seeing the children wearing their Christmas jumpers. However, please do not buy a jumper just for the day if you do not have one. Your child/ren can wear anything festive they like and they feel comfortable in - after all, it is all about having fun!

### **Celebration worship 24<sup>th</sup> November**

<b>Kingfisher Crew</b>	<b>Lila – compassion, Poppy</b>
<b>Jay Crew</b>	<b>Chloe – courage, Robyn</b>
<b>Owl Crew</b>	<b>Courage – Casper, Matilda - trust</b>
<b>Kestrel Crew</b>	<b>Codie – courage, Dolly – courage, Leela - compassion</b>
<b>Falcon Crew</b>	<b>Hollie-Jayne, Sam G</b>
<b>Eagle Crew</b>	<b>Alex, Archie</b>

### **Top Table 24<sup>th</sup> November**

<b>Robin Crew</b>	<b>Mabel</b>
<b>Kingfisher Crew</b>	<b>Sebastian</b>
<b>Jay Crew</b>	<b>Josh</b>
<b>Owl Crew</b>	<b>Harry</b>
<b>Kestrel Crew</b>	<b>Leela</b>
<b>Falcon Crew</b>	<b>Evelyn &amp; Hollie-Jayne</b>

## VIP Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November

<b>Eagle Crew</b>	<b>Zameena, Dylan, Elsie, Jacob</b>
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## Celebration worship 1<sup>st</sup> December

<b>Kingfisher Crew</b>	<b>Zach, Evelyn</b>
<b>Jay Crew</b>	<b>James, Eddie</b>
<b>Owl Crew</b>	<b>Harry, Molly</b>
<b>Kestrel Crew</b>	<b>Jessica, Samuel</b>
<b>Falcon Crew</b>	<b>Ella, Martha</b>
<b>Eagle Crew</b>	<b>Shanice, Ili</b>

### Tissue donations

If you have any spare boxes/packs of tissue you could share with us, we would gratefully welcome the donation. It is the season of colds and we are running low on our supplies.

### Interest Clubs Terms 3 and 4

In **Term 3** we are opening **Library Club**, which we will be running free of charge this year. In **Term 4** we will be offering **Art & Crafts Club** for a charge of £3.50 a session. Please sign up by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December by using the link below. There is a limited number of spaces and they will be secured on first come first served basis. We will send confirmations to confirm if you have managed to secure a space after 15<sup>th</sup> December.

**TERM 3 - Thursdays – start on 4<sup>th</sup> January/6 sessions – Library Club – Years 3-6 – no charge**

**TERM 4 - Tuesdays – start on 20<sup>th</sup> February/6 sessions – Art & Crafts Club – Years 1 & 2 – cost: £21**

Please use the below link to sign up:

<https://forms.office.com/e/v9hGi1vP0X>

### **2024 Teaching Awards now open for nominations**

Don't miss the opportunity to nominate a special teacher, colleague or friend for the 2024 Teaching Awards. The nominations are free and there are 16 categories to choose from, including individual, team and support staff awards. This is a great way to show someone you appreciate their outstanding work and commitment.

<https://www.teachingawards.com/2024-categories/>

### **Attendance for this Academic Year so far:**

<b>EYFS</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>
<b>92.59%</b>	<b>89.10%</b>	<b>90.92%</b>	<b>89.35%</b>	<b>88.62%</b>	<b>88.04%</b>	<b>88.57%</b>

### **A reminder about not bringing dogs to school grounds**

It has been brought to our attention that on several occasions at drop off/pick up times parents have brought their family dogs with them. Although we understand that your pets are like family members to you, please bear in mind it is a school rule that dogs (except for guide dogs) are not allowed on school grounds.

All National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS



Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

## Meet Our Expert

Daniel Ipeccorre is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and more. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Warzone, Roblox and Minecraft. His work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247. He has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Website: <https://npsa.org.uk/about/privacy.html>



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## DECEMBER UPDATE

Thank you for your fantastic support of our events so far this year. Since September, we have already raised an impressive **£3795** for the school. In addition to funding for several on-going projects, this year the PTA have increased the WOW day budgets for each class. WOW days and experiences help enrich the curriculum and are great fun for your children.

### Quick Look- DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Fri 8th Dec**– Christmas shopping event

**Wed 20th Dec**– Non-uniform day

**Friday 2nd Feb**– School disco night

**Fri 23rd Feb**– Bags2School recycled clothes drop

### CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Thank you so much for supporting this event. It looked like everyone had a fantastic time and there was a lovely festive atmosphere throughout the school.**

Huge thanks to school staff, parents, students and former students who helped run stalls on the night. You will be delighted to know that we raised a brilliant

**£2593.68**



### CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENT

Friday 8th December



This event is taking place in school **tomorrow**.

**Please send your child into school with a NAMED carrier bag to carry their presents on the day.**

### CHRISTMAS CARDS

Thanks for getting behind this.  
Your purchases raised

**£207.38.**



Wednesday 20th December

As always, there will be a non-uniform day on the last day of term. You may wish to wear something festive! Suggested donation £1 per child or donate what you can.



Pop **Friday 2nd February** in your diaries for the school disco. More details will come out nearer the time.



Please get in touch if you would like to be part of our PTA team. Many hands make light work, and we would really love more people to join the fun. Most of our meetings are on Zoom– you don't even need to leave the comfort of your own home!

Contact: [standrewspta.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:standrewspta.secretary@gmail.com)

Community News:



# Library News

## Yatton Library December 2023

### Christmas Crafts

Please come on in and help us decorate some Christmas bunting to hang around the library. We also have a new drawing club Tuesdays 3:15 -4:30pm

### Book of the month

Jackson knows practically everything about Father Christmas except *how* he became Father Christmas. Then one Christmas eve Jackson actually meets him and finds out his origin story!

### Storytime & Rhymetimes

Our Rhymetime and Storytimes for preschoolers will take a festive turn in December. Older siblings are welcome to come along too in the holidays.

### Joke Corner

**Q: Why is a foot a good Christmas present?**  
**A: Because it makes a good stocking filler!**



A beautiful retelling of A Christmas Carol. Great for older children to read or to read aloud to the younger members of the family



[yatton.library@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:yatton.library@n-somerset.gov.uk) / 01934 426100





# Drawing & Colouring club



**Yatton Library  
study area.**

**Tuesdays  
3:15 - 4:30pm**

**Children must be accompanied  
by an adult**





Inspiring the next generation of coders and makers

# MINECRAFT CLUB



For more information and to register:  
[codingbug.co.uk/coding-in-minecraft/](http://codingbug.co.uk/coding-in-minecraft/)

## Coding in Minecraft

Coding in Minecraft club: learn how to program mini-games, automate builds, and change gameplay behaviour in Minecraft with code.

The club is suitable for children aged 8 – 12 years old.

### WHERE

Yatton Library  
BS49 4HJ

### WHEN

Saturday 16th December 2023  
From 9:45am – 12:45pm

[codingbug.co.uk](http://codingbug.co.uk)

Email: [info@codingbug.co.uk](mailto:info@codingbug.co.uk) or call 07909226520



[facebook.com/codingbug/](https://facebook.com/codingbug/)



# NEW SATURDAY PAY & PLAY COACHING CLASSES at



**FUN AND ENERGETIC TENNIS  
LESSONS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL  
AGES!**

**AGES 4 to 8 — 9AM**



**AGES 8 to 10 — 10AM**



**AGES 11 to 18 — 11AM**



**£6**

£8 for  
non members

**FIRST CLASS 50% OFF WITH CODE: SATP&P**

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/congresburyltc/Coaching>

NORTH SOMERSET  
TENNIS ACADEMY

# North Somerset Tennis Academy Christmas Tennis Camp



**FUN WITH FRIENDS**

**PRIZES TO BE WON**

**JUST £10 PER DAY**

**ALL PLAYERS WELCOME**



**Why not come along to one of  
the NSTA camps!**

**Lots of fun, learn new skill, from drills to team events.**



Available to all children from 4 - 16 years of age.



**9 am - 12 pm - £10 per day**

DECEMBER 2023 : WED 20TH - THU 21ST - FRI 22ND - THU 28TH - FRI 29TH  
JANUARY 2024: TUE - 2ND - WED - 3RD

📍 Clevedon Seafront Tennis Courts

**TO BOOK SCAN THE QR CODE!**



For more information Contact Head Coach Stuart

📞 07593456869 📧 [stuart@somersettennis.com](mailto:stuart@somersettennis.com)



# Congresbury Community Library

## Xmas Story Time



**Friday 22 December  
between 2 and 4 pm**

**Come and listen to stories in the library  
All welcome!**



Congresbury Parish Council

Managed by Volunteers and Congresbury Parish Council  
Station Road, Congresbury, Bristol BS49 5DX

