



St. Andrew's Newsletter 14 25/26

No: 14 || Thursday 23rd April 2026



National Nurturing
School Award
2025

St Andrew's Primary School



Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to Term 5! We would like to welcome back both Mrs White and Mrs Dyson from their Maternity leave. Both have very much enjoyed meeting and getting to know Robin crew and their parents. In addition, it is my pleasure to share that Mrs Rees has also returned back to work and everyone has been delighted to see her again.

Last week was the National offer day for Reception pupils and we are pleased to have a full class of 30 children starting in September in Robins. For the new families that will be joining us we are looking forward to the next seven years of partnership and for families who already have children at our school we look forward to welcoming their younger child.

Whilst we are looking to the start of the transition process for our new intake of pupils for September, this week the first signs of our Year 6 pupils beginning the start of their leaving transition has started with the arrival of their hoodies! There was much excitement yesterday when they walked into school to find that their leavers' hoodies had arrived.



Every year we ask parents/carers to complete a survey about their child / children's experience at St. Andrew's. This takes place across all the schools in the Lighthouse Schools Partnership and at St Andrew's we would love to know what we are doing right so that we can do more of it! Your annual feedback also supports us to make things even better for our pupils in the future. As in previous years, we will share with you the findings once we have reviewed them.

We appreciate that everyone has busy lives but please try and take a few minutes to complete the survey and the deadline for completion is:

<https://responses.lsp surveys.org.uk/t/StAndrewsParents/>

Fran Martin

Christian Value : Friendship

St Andrew's Primary School Christian Values Termly Newsletter

'Growing Together'

FRIENDSHIP



Questions to think about...

Questions to think about...

- Who shows you friendship and how?
- How can you be a good friend even when it is difficult to do so?
- What makes a good friend?
- Do you have a friend who lives far away? How do you stay in touch?

This term we will be learning about these bible stories:

Jesus ascends into Heaven

Jesus heals a paralysed man.



Family

activities...

- Make a friendship bracelet
- Make a list of all the things you think makes a good friend
- Invite a friend over to play
- Make new friends when you go on holiday or start a new club

Quotes about Friendship

Good friends are like stars. You don't always see them, but you know they are always there. (*Anon*)

A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out. (*Walter Winchell*)

Friends are like the walls of a house. Sometimes they hold you up, sometimes you lean on them and sometimes it's enough just to know they are there. (*Anon*)

Always remember: you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think. (*A. A. Milne*)



The Goodbye Plan - Helping mornings feel safer.

Mornings can sometimes be tricky. This plan may help with the transition.

THE GOODBYE PLAN: HELPING MORNINGS FEEL SAFER

WHAT A GOODBYE PLAN IS
A goodbye plan is a predictable, calm way to separate in the morning. It helps children know exactly what will happen, reducing anxiety and emotional overload at the school door.

WHAT MAKES A GOODBYE PLAN WORK
Short, consistent goodbyes help the nervous system settle more quickly. When separation feels hard, staying longer can sometimes increase distress rather than reduce it. This isn't because children need less comfort — it's because their bodies are finding it hard to let go while the attachment figure is still there.

HOW TO SUPPORT BIG FEELINGS
You can acknowledge feelings without extending the goodbye. Calm confidence, gentle validation, and a clear plan help children borrow regulation. Tears can happen alongside a safe goodbye — they don't mean you've caused harm or that the plan isn't working.

WHY GOODBYES CAN FEEL HARD
Goodbyes activate the attachment system. For some children, especially those experiencing separation anxiety, the presence of a parent can intensify big feelings — not because the parent is doing anything wrong, but because attachment makes the separation feel more real.

A SIMPLE GOODBYE PLAN MIGHT SOUND LIKE
"We walk to the gate together. We have one hug. I tell you I love you and that I'll be back after school. You go in with your teacher. I'll be thinking of you".

WHAT CHILDREN NEED MOST
Children need to feel believed, supported, and confident in your return. A clear goodbye plan sends a powerful message: "You are safe. You can cope. And I will always come back".



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FREE DOWNLOAD — an extended THE GOODBYE PLAN. FOLLOW the page, LIKE the posts and comment GOODBYE below. So sure to follow all the steps to receive the link.

Mental Health Support Team



Mental Health Support Team

Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) were established to support schools, helping them develop ways to look after the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people (CYP) as well as the wider school community including school staff and parents/carers.

The MHST are now delivering online sessions which are free to sign up to. Please scan the QR code below to register for our next webinar.

NEW Online Parent/Carer Sessions NEW

Exam Stress

To sign up, please complete a registration form here:



[MHST Online Session](#)



What is it? This session covers:

- Stress caused by exams (or SATs in primary school) and how to support our wellbeing to prevent stress overload.
- Signs of stress and how to spot when things are building up.
- Providing practical tips for supporting relaxation and wellbeing during the exam period.


Who is it for? Helpful for parents and carers whose children may have Exams coming up.

When are they? Sessions will be run at 12pm-1pm every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

New topics and dates will be released regularly.

The MHST is a partnership between Off the Record (OTR) and CAMHS. We are working with selected education settings across Bristol, North Somerset and South Glos. To find out where we work, check out our webpage:

www.otrbristol.org.uk/what-we-do/mhst/



We Love Reading - Teacher's Book Recommendations

Mrs Gilbert recommends Flower Block by Lanisha Butterfield

Flower Block follows Jeremiah and his brother as a magical sunflower grows through their tower block, bringing neighbours together on an adventure up through the building. It celebrates nature, community, and the joy of working with others to create something special. Its bright illustrations and uplifting story make it engaging and inspiring for young readers.



School Uniform Labelling

Please can we remind parents / carers to label your child's clothing. Now the weather is getting warmer and the children are taking their jumpers on and off there are a lot of unnamed jumpers being left outside that we cannot return.



Information about Roblox

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is an online platform where users can play and create games known as "experiences" made by other users. Roblox has a large UK audience. TV News has reported that millions of people in Britain use the platform regularly, with children forming a significant proportion of its users. The sheer scale of it makes it extremely difficult to moderate effectively, creating risks for unsupervised children.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A PLATFORM RATHER THAN A GAME

Roblox differs from traditional video games in that it hosts millions of games in real time instead of a fixed number of experiences. Each experience is self-made by its creator rather than independently programmed content. The user with PEGI-rated games, with millions of user-generated experiences, is responsible for moderation. Roblox's moderation system is automated through AI and creators with varying success. Inappropriate content is frequently reported on the platform. Some experiences have explicit content displayed to user players. While Roblox has tools to restrict user-generated content, these measures are not always perfect. Parents should be able to monitor what their child is doing.

MATURE CONTENT

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IN-GAME SPENDING

Roblox is free to play, but many experiences offer in-game purchases. Parents should be aware of the platform's virtual currency, Roblox's virtual currency, and how it is used in games. This currency can be used to purchase items within the game, but reporting has highlighted cases where children have spent large amounts of money unintentionally or without understanding the real-world cost.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox encourages repeated and extended play. Many experiences are made of short levels, events, and progression systems that can prompt users to keep playing for longer periods of time. Some games also use timers, daily rewards, or forced events to encourage continued play. These features can make it difficult to stop playing, especially if parents notice they affect sleep, schoolwork, or other activities. It is important to set boundaries.

COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER USERS

Roblox includes text chat features that allow players to talk to other game players while the platform uses automated filters and moderation tools. Parents should be aware that inappropriate and potentially harmful content can get through. There are risks that children could be targeted by strangers in the chat. Roblox has strict rules to use facial recognition technology to reduce the risk of contact between adults and children they do not know.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox's parental controls provide an important starting point. Linking a child's account to an adult's account allows parents to apply filtering, controls, and communication features, and review recent activity. Regular supervision, use of parental controls, and conversations with children about what they see online can help reduce the risk of exposure to inappropriate content.

PLAY TOGETHER WHERE POSSIBLE

Playing Roblox with a child can help adults understand the types of experiences available, how moderation works, and how children interact online. This shared engagement can also make it easier for children to raise concerns if something feels wrong. Parents and educators should monitor all games played on Roblox due to its self-rating nature.

CONSIDER LIMITING OR DISABLING CHAT

Although Roblox is introducing tighter age-based chat restrictions, some parents and educators may prefer to disable chat entirely for younger children. Children can still play games while communicating with friends only using through other supervised platforms.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Many Roblox experiences are creative and age-appropriate, used for many children. The platform is an important way to connect with friends, but in their learning to navigate, parents and educators should talk openly with children about online safety, reporting, and how to respond to inappropriate behaviour.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a technology journalist who has written for publications including BBC, The Mirror, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.






See full reference: [BBC News website](#)

[@wake_up_weds](#)
[www.thenationalcollege](#)
[@wake.up.wednesday](#)
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Secondary School Transition Sessions



Transition to Secondary School

PARENT & CARER WORKSHOP

Supporting your child's move to secondary school



The transition workshop will share the latest thoughts, feelings and experiences of children currently in Year 7 across North Somerset, helping parents and carers understand what the move to secondary school is really like.

-  **Stay informed**
Hear up-to-date insights from current Year 7 students
-  **Feel confident**
Get practical advice and reassurance for the transition
-  **Ask questions**
Share thoughts and concerns with local professionals

Please find below the links for our transition workshop, parents and carers can book a space for free via the link, this open to all parents not just current year 6 parents and carers.

Transition to Secondary School Workshop 21 April - book your place now¹

Transition to Secondary School Workshop 27 April - book your place now²

¹<https://buytickets.at/northsomersetsafeguardingchildrenpartnership/2143567>

²<https://buytickets.at/northsomersetsafeguardingchildrenpartnership/2143600>

Transition to Secondary School Workshop 30 April - book your place now³

Year 6 Lifeskills Trip

Year 6 Visit to Lifeskills

Our Year 6 children recently had a fantastic and educational trip to Lifeskills in South Bristol. Lifeskills have created a realistic, interactive village within the Create Centre that helps children learn how to deal with potentially dangerous or difficult situations in a safe and supportive environment, their visit, the children experienced a variety of real-life scenarios, including road and railway safety, dealing with hazards in kitchens and living rooms, and learning about electrical safety at a substation. They also practiced making emergency phone calls and were introduced to some basic first aid techniques. This hands-on learning experience was not only informative but also engaging, and the children thoroughly enjoyed their day. A big thank you to Lifeskills for providing such an important opportunity to help prepare our pupils for the real world.

Volunteer at Lifeskills

Lifeskills welcomes over 10,000 children each year, and they are currently looking for volunteers to help guide children through their sessions. Volunteering is flexible, fun, and a brilliant way to build new skills while making a real difference. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact: ☎ 0117 922 4511 ✉ volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk



Stage Starlings Drama Club

Dear Parents / Carer of years 3-6

³<https://buytickets.at/northsomersetsafeguardingchildrenpartnership/2143607>

You should have recently received an email regarding a new after school Drama Club starting this term. Stage Starlings. Please see the flyer below for more information. Bookings for this club are dealt directly through Stage Starlings.



After School Sports Clubs - Term 5

PH Active are back again next term continuing to provide some exciting sports activities for the children after school. There are a couple of different activities for the children to try. Please see details on the flyer below. Booking is directly with PH Active.



After School **Sports Clubs**

St Andrews Primary School

| Monday | Wednesday | Thursday |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Football (All Years) | Racket Sports (All Years) | Multi-Sports (All Years) |
| £23.80 (4 weeks) | £29.75 (5 weeks) | £29.75 (5 weeks) |
| Charlie H | Archie M | Archie M |

All clubs run **3:20-4:20pm**
Clubs start the week commencing **20/04/2026**

Our after-school clubs are a fantastic opportunity for your children to enhance their learning and physical development in a safe and enjoyable environment.



Book Here

Community News

The Old School Rooms - Parking Notice

We kindly ask all parents to refrain from parking in the Old School Rooms car park. These spaces are reserved for those attending activities and lessons. Please note that these classes are paid sessions many run by small businesses and attendees require access to the car park as part of their participation. Using the car park for school drop-offs or pick-ups makes it difficult for participants to attend their sessions on time. Your cooperation in keeping these spaces available is greatly appreciated and helps ensure everything runs smoothly for everyone involved.

Thank You

Nicky Andrews

Congresbury Parish Clerk



Congresbury Parish Council

St Andrew's Church Plant and Cake Sale



New Creation
Building Better Community

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
(Congresbury)

**PLANT AND
CAKE SALE**



in aid of Leavers' Bibles for our Schools
(St Andrew's, St Anne's and Banwell Schools)

SATURDAY 25 APRIL
10am – 12pm
at church

Refreshments available

Thank you for your support



Coding Clubs



MINECRAFT CODING CLUB

Join our monthly Minecraft club. Learn how to program mini-games, automate builds and change gameplay behaviour with code.



Saturday
25th April

Yatton library
48 High St, Yatton BS49 4HJ

Ages
8-12

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
codingbug.co.uk

HOW TO JOIN →
Scan the QR code
to join and book a spot.
Limited spaces available



Train the micro:bit to play!

Explore machine learning at the AI Lab for children.

In this hands-on workshop, children will take their first gentle steps into the world of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and explore how machines learn using the micro:bit.

What they'll learn

- ✔ What is machine learning
- ✔ What an AI model is
- ✔ How to train a model with data
- ✔ How to train the micro:bit
- ✔ Problem solving and teamwork

WHERE

Yatton library
48 High St, Yatton,
BS49 4HJ

WHEN

Tuesday 14th April
10:00 - 12:00

FOR AGES

Children aged 8-12 years
For curious beginners and
those up for a fun challenge



HOW TO JOIN →
Scan the QR code to join
and book a spot.
Limited spaces available
<https://codingbug.co.uk/ai-lab/>



School Calendar Dates

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

Term 5 - Monday 20 April 2026 to Friday 22 May 2026

Term 6 - Monday 01 June 2026 to Wednesday 22 July 2026

INSET days 2025 – 2026

Term Dates 2026-2027

Term 1 - Thursday 3rd September 2026 - Friday 23rd October 2026

Term 2 - Monday 2nd November 2026 - Friday 18th December 2026

Term 3- Monday 4th January 2027 - Friday 12th February 2027

Term 4 - Monday 22nd February 2027 - Thursday 25th March 2027

Term 5 - Monday 12th April 2027 - Friday 28th May 2027

Term 6 - Monday 7th June 2027 - Friday 23rd July 2027

INSET days 2026-2027

Thursday 3rd September 2026

Friday 4th September 2026

Friday 20th November 2026

Friday 15th January 2027

Monday 22nd February 2027

Monday 12th April 2027

Annual Planner - Dates to Remember

Dates to Remember 2025 - 2026

Trip to Weston Museum Kingfishers - Wednesday 6th May 2026 AM

Trip to The Matthew Jays Crew - Thursday 14th May 2026

Trip to Court Farm Robins Crew Wednesday 20th May

SATs Week & SATs Breakfast: Monday 11th – Friday 15th May

Worship for Parents Kestrels: Monday 18th May @ 2:45pm

Y6 Camp: Monday 18th – Friday 22nd May

PTA Mufti Day: Friday 22nd May

Sports Day Wednesday 17th June KS2AM / KS1PM

Reserved Sports Day Wednesday 24th June KS2AM / KS1 PM

Permission to Play: Friday 3rd July

Worship for Parents Jays: Monday 6th July @ 2:45pm

Rocksteady Concert for Parents & KS2: Thursday 16th July

Y6 Leavers Service: **TBC**

PTA Mufti Day: Wednesday 22nd July

Contacts

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.uk⁴

School Phone Number: 01934 832505

⁴<mailto:office@standrewsprimary.org.uk>