



St. Andrew's C of E (VA) Primary School

November 2025



Father God
Help to be strong and courageous,
Help us to speak out for others,
Help us to stand up and be counted,
Help us to do the right thing, not just the easy things. Amen

**'Be strong and courageous
Do not be frightened or
dismayed, for the Lord your
God is with you wherever
you go' JOSHUA 1.9**

Headteacher's message

We have a jam-packed newsletter this week, so I shall keep my message brief and let you read on! I hope you all enjoyed a restful break last week and managed to recharge your batteries. Every season has its own beauty, and whilst it may seem strange to some, I particularly love autumn and winter – so delighted in the opportunity to light candles on dark evenings, make soups and stews, find my woolly jumpers and brave the chilly outdoors for some bracing walks. Simple pleasures! Children have shared lots of interesting holiday news with us and I would like to celebrate the phenomenal achievement of William in Year 5, who competed against gymnasts from all four nations of the UK to achieve a silver BGA medal for his age group. What a talented and hard-working individual! We are all very impressed and look forward to a demonstration soon.

News from St Andrew's Church



"Hi, my name is Stacey and I'm the children's worker at St. Andrews Church. I have the pleasure of coming into school each week to help with collective worship, Explorers club at lunchtimes and JAM club after school. It is such a joy to spend time with the children, share Bible stories with them and play games together. When I'm not working, I love sea swimming and going for walks on Dartmoor with my husband, my two children and our crazy ginger dog, Porthos.

We have lots of family activities taking place at St. Andrews Church and would love to extend a warm welcome to all our St. Andrews School families. In particular, we would love to see more families at our weekly **toddler group on Friday mornings** and our **monthly "Who let the dad's out" group** on the second Saturday of each month. For more details see the flyers attached at the end of this newsletter."

New Autumn/Winter Menu



The Autumn/Winter menu has now come into effect. It is available to look at on the school website. There are many tasty options to choose from, all freshly prepared in our kitchen.

School Council Traffic Patrol

The older members of the school council performed their first duties recently. They accompanied police and traffic control officers around the local area to issue posters (designed by the children) to drivers who were parked inappropriately.



School Immunisation Date – Tuesday 11th November

For the 2025/26 season, all children from Foundation to Year 11 will be offered the free nasal flu vaccine. For full details, including eligibility and the patient information leaflet: www.nhs.uk/child-flu
Please complete the online form by 9.00 am on 10th November 2025.

To provide consent please follow the link and code below.

Link: <https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu> School code: **DV113417**

Harvest

It was lovely to see so many families who joined us to celebrate Harvest – the hall was jam-packed!

A big thank you for all the food that you so generously donated – we delivered it on the same day to the Shekinah Mission and Foodbank where it was gratefully received.



St. Luke's Guiding Lights Art Trail

We are so excited that the school is one of 42 schools taking part in next Summer's St Luke's Guiding Lights Arts Trail. If you would like to keep up to date with all the latest news regarding this project, please sign up to receive a copy of their monthly newsletter here: [News - St Luke's Guiding Lights](#)

Well done to Ms Turner who has been busy at home creating beautiful lighthouse inspired tealights and bottles to sell at the Christmas Fair as part of our St Lukes fundraising challenge. Mr Napier has also been busy painting unique pieces of lighthouse art to sell.

Individual School Photos – Monday 10th November

The school photographer will be in school on Monday 10th November to take individual photos. Smart uniform as always please!



Children's Ethics Board

Congratulations to this group of children for their participation in a Children's Ethics Board Session before half term. We were so proud to receive such a complimentary letter of thanks from the host!

'It was an absolute privilege to spend time with such an engaged and thoughtful group of children. Their input into how I should approach research with children was considered and insightful. The ideas they shared, ranging from creative methods to ethical considerations, were full of wisdom, and their ability to reflect on what makes children feel safe, heard, and respected was truly impressive.'

I was particularly struck by the maturity and kindness they showed throughout our discussions. Their behaviour was exemplary, they were respectful, curious, and incredibly supportive of one another. It was clear that they felt empowered to share their views, and I left feeling genuinely inspired and better equipped to shape my research in a way that honours children's voices.'



Luke Pollard MP Christmas Card Competition

Today I have launched my 5th annual Christmas Card competition for the brilliant school children in Plymouth Sutton and Devonport. This year I am asking children to focus their card designs on the theme of "hope and happiness at Christmas". The competition is an opportunity to highlight our children's hopes for the future, what brings them happiness and to celebrate Plymouth's communities.

There will be prizes for first, second and third places, which I will announce after judging all the entries.

This competition is open for all primary school aged children who live or go to school in Plymouth Sutton and Devonport. The design needs to be the size of an A4 page. Please ask parents and carers to email their child's submission to luke.pollard.mp@parliament.uk by 28th November. Or they can alternatively drop off paper copies at my office at 13 Frankfort Gate, Plymouth PL1QA.

I know how creative our young people in Plymouth are and I cannot wait to judge this year's designs - I'm going to be sending the winning Christmas card to the King on behalf of our part of Plymouth!

I look forward to seeing the creativity coming in!

Luke



Luke Pollard MP

Labour and Co-operative Member of Parliament for Plymouth Sutton and Devonport

Email: luke.pollard.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.LukePollard.org Twitter: [@LukePollard](https://twitter.com/LukePollard)



Children In Need

Friday 14th November



Wear your own clothes to school for a donation of £1.00 for Children in Need.

Pudsey Bear biscuits on sale for 50p

Term Dates

Monday 10th November	Individual photographs. Extra smart please.
Tuesday 11th November	Flu immunisations in school
Wednesday 12th November	Yr 4 class assembly in school hall at 9.05am
Friday 14th November	Children in Need day.
Wednesday 19th November	Yr 3 class assembly in school hall at 9.05am
Wednesday 26th November	Yr 1 class assembly in school hall at 9.05am
Wednesday 3rd December	Yr 5 class assembly in school hall at 9.05am
Friday 5th December	Christmas Fair in school hall. Details to follow.
Wednesday 10th December	Yr 2 class assembly in school hall at 9.05am
Thursday 11th December	Christmas lunch
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Service at St. Andrew's Church 10.00am
Friday 19th December	Last day of Term 2
Tuesday 6th January	First day of Term 3 (Monday 5 th January is a non-pupil day)



NOAH'S ARK TODDLER GROUP

With a heart for Jesus

A fun group for pre-school children, their parents & carers, run by volunteers at St Andrew's Church in the Abbey Hall.

09:45-11:15am Fridays during term time.

Cost: £3 per family per session.

For more info contact the church office on 01752 661414 or visit

www.standrewschurch.org.uk

The Minster Church of
St. Andrew
PLYMOUTH



Toys

WHO LET THE DADS OUT?

Games

A fun group for Dads, Granddads, male Carers & their
0-7 year olds on the 2nd Saturday of each month
@10:30am-12:00 noon in the Abbey Hall, behind St

Bacon
Butties

Andrew's Church, Royal Parade.

Suggested £1.50 per child (max £3)

For info and dates see

www.standrewschurch.org.uk/wltdo

or contact the Church Office - 01752 661414

Fun &
Friends

The Minster Church of
St. Andrew
PLYMOUTH

