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

18th December 2025

Dear Lord Jesus,
Help us to share special times with family and friends this Christmas,
and to share the light, hope and gift of Jesus to the world.
Amen.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son…'
John 3:16

Headteacher's Message

Yesterday, we celebrated Christmas at St Andrew's Church. The children shared readings, songs and prayers telling the story of the birth of Jesus; God's only son, sent into the world to offer love and compassion to people everywhere. Christmas is a time of rejoicing and a time of hope.

When reading the news or scrolling through social media, it's easy to become overwhelmed by negative headlines and the many challenges facing our world and humanity. This can leave us anxious, worried about the future and may inhibit our ability to notice positive things around us. Recently, I have chosen to focus less on the news and try to be more mindful of the good things I see every day. The more I look, the more there is to rejoice in.

There is so much love and compassion in the world and here in our school community. I am grateful for all our parents and volunteers who gave their time and money to make the Christmas fair a success. Yesterday, I was humbled by the generous gifts collected for our children by a local lady who was a pupil at St Andrew's in the 1950s and wanted to give something back to children today. Thank you to the people who fundraise for the Salvation Army who also donated gifts to our pupils. I see kindness in our wonderful staff who care so deeply about your children's education and welfare; in our governors, church team and volunteers who give their time freely to benefit the school; and of course, in our pupils. As I write, our Foundation pupils are singing to the residents of Wesley Court, sharing mince pies and no doubt bringing sunshine and laughter to all!

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas, filled with moments of beauty and love. Thank you for all your support this term.

Miss Lewis

Check toys before you buy

Trading Standards have issued a press release and short video aimed at parents and carers, regarding toy safety in the run up to Christmas. The press release and video give some simple things to check when buying toys to help ensure they are safe for children: Trading Standards urges shoppers to check toys before they buy this Christmas - Trading Standards Service

Mathletics Champions

The 10 children who collected the most points during the Mathletics challenge, were treated to cake and Christmas crackers in the staffroom with Mr Line – congratulations!

Term Dates	
First day of term 3	Tuesday 6th January
Last day of term 3	Friday 13th February
First day of term 4	Monday 23rd February
Last day of term 4	Thursday 2nd April

New School Governor

Congratulations to Samantha Marshall who has been elected as your Parent School Governor. Thank you to those of you who took the time to vote. We look forward to welcoming Samantha to the board at our next meeting in January.

Bread Pudding

As part of their World War II topic, Year 6 made bread pudding - a very popular recipe during the war. They invited Miss Lewis to have a taste when it was ready and she gave it the thumbs up. Maybe they will be inspired to make it again during the Christmas holidays!

Christmas Fair

Thank you to all the families who attended the school fair on Friday 5th December and for donating so many prizes and cakes – it was a huge success! With your help, the fair raised a whopping **£979.25** for the school fund. A massive thank you to Miss Phillips who works so hard to prepare and organise the fair, along with Mrs Freeman and to the parent helpers who ran some of the stalls.

Christmas Dinner Day!

We love Christmas Dinner Day! The children all made Christmas hats to wear at lunchtime and were each given a festive pencil and rubber. A big thank you to the kitchen staff once again for all their hard work. There are lots of photos of our Christmas lunch on the school website.

Thank You!

A huge thank you for all the good wishes, cards, messages and gifts that we have received.
You are very kind.
We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and we wish you a very Happy New Year.
We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 6th January.