

WIGAN ST ANDREW'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2025

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER – FINISH FOR HALF TERM (NORMAL FINISH TIME)

MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER - BACK TO SCHOOL

THURSDAY 11TH DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

KS1 PM & KS2 AM (EXACT TIMES TO FOLLOW)

FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

KS1 AM & KS2 PM (EXACT TIMES TO FOLLOW)

FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER – FINISH FOR CHRISTMAS

CELEBRATING OUR ATTENDANCE

This week, our whole school attendance was 91.46%, which is well below the national average. There is no doubt that the children with the best attendance are the ones who are best able to access the curriculum.

KEY STAGE 1 ATTENDANCE:

YR- 98.67%

Y1- 93.7%

Y2- 78.16%

KEY STAGE 2 ATTENDANCE:

Y3- 91.07%

Y4- 93.21%

Y5- 95.26%

Y6- 91.4%

UNIFORM – AFTER HALF TERM

After half term we will be transitioning over to our winter uniform as it is getting to the colder months. We ask that children start wearing a light blue shirt with a St. Andrews tie when returning after half term.

YOUNG VOICES CONCERT

We're excited to share that our Year 5 pupils will be taking part in the Young Voices concert in Manchester on **Thursday, 5th February 2026**.

Young Voices is more than just a performance – it's a year-long, inspiring and educational programme designed to build confidence, support wellbeing, and create lasting musical memories for our children.

Earlier this week, Year 5 parents were sent an email containing a **link and QR code** inviting them to join the Young Voices Music Room. This platform allows you to purchase **tickets and t-shirts** for the event.

Please note:

Tickets and t-shirts are available at a special school offer price **until 31st October 2025** via the Music Room. After this date, any remaining tickets will only be available from the arena box office at a higher price – and many concerts are likely to sell out before then.

We encourage families to book early to avoid disappointment and to be part of what promises to be a memorable experience for both pupils and parents!

POPPY DAY

Royal British Legion – Poppy Day - Tuesday 11th November 2025

As I'm sure you are aware, Tuesday 11th November 2025 marks Poppy Day, a time to remember and recognise the brave and admirable efforts of the armed forces community. To support the Royal British Legion (RBL) and the incredible work they do, we will be selling official RBL merchandise in school.

Below is a guide to **suggested** donation prices, as listed on the RBL website. Please remember that this is a charitable cause, so any donation for your chosen item will be greatly appreciated.

Price List:

Snap Bands – £1.50

Festival Bands – £2.50

Wrist Bands – £1.00

WORSHIP CLUB

Please note there is **NO** worship club next week (22nd October). We will resume after the half-term break on Wednesday 5th November.

RED CARD AGAINST RACISM

Sandra Cullen and I accompanied Mr Finch and Y6 to the Brick Stadium to take part in the above educational event in partnership with Wigan Athletic.

The behaviour of the children was impeccable, both on the walk to and from the stadium and at the event itself.

They were commended for their questions, answers and engagement during the workshops.

Y6 you were a credit to yourselves, your parents/carers and to school.

Thank you and well done - you should be proud of yourselves.

Jayne Donnellan (Chair of Governors)

WARM SPACES IN THE PARISH CENTRE

This restarts every Wednesday from 1st October 1pm-3pm.

Come along for a cuppa and chat, a bite to eat and an afternoon keeping warm. We have crafts, puzzles and books available.

You can call in and do as you wish. This is aimed at the elderly, vulnerable or those living alone who would like to get out of their house and enjoy some company. Everybody welcome.

UPCOMING DATES & LOCATIONS – FOR PARENTS, CARERS & SEND SUPPORT

Family Hubs are a new way of bringing together all the support a family may need, from pregnancy through to young people turning 19 (or 25 if they have a Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND)). Family hubs will operate as a network of services within your neighbourhood to provide accessible and connected services and support to all families. These services will work together to provide high quality support for the whole family, so that children, young people, and families will get the right help at the right time.

23rd October – Mornington Road Family Hub – Tel: 01942 488246

3rd November – The Meadows Family Hub – Tel: 01942 488000

11th November – Leigh Family Hub – Tel: 01942 777705

18th November – Clifton Street Family Hub – 01942 828377

2nd December – Wigan North Family Hub – 01942 488000

9th December – Golborne/Lowton Family Hub – 01942 828377

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTIONS

The Headteacher has now sent out letters with information regarding the election of the 2 parent governor roles – if you have not received a letter and wish to apply you can collect one at the office.

Please note the application need to be returned by 12pm Friday 7th November 2025.

Parent governors are a core part of a school's Board of Governors. The role is voluntary and unpaid. The role of a parent governor is no different to any other governor. Governing boards make strategic decisions and work together to:

- develop a vision and strategy for the school
- oversee financial performance and make sure money is well spent
- hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school
- engage with pupils, staff, parents and the wider school community to understand their views

Parent governors play a vital role on governing bodies, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school. Through the children, they have a first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum, and how the school is perceived from the 'consumers' point of view. This enables parent governors to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of the school.

It is important for parent governors to establish a rapport with the parental body which elected him/her, whilst continuing to maintain a strategic approach to school governance. Although being available to advise parents on appropriate routes of action is a very important aspect of the role, it is vital that parent governors do not personally become involved in individual concerns. Confidentiality and impartiality need to be maintained at all times.

While all parents are concerned with their own child's best interests, a parent governor must make strategic decisions that are in the best interests of the whole school community – governing boards work as a team to make collective decisions.

The role of governor, although demanding and challenging at times, is very rewarding too. We hold one full governing body meeting each term, in the evening, in addition two committee meetings per term, usually held during the day. You will receive the necessary training to help you settle into your role and we usually 'buddy' new governors with an experienced governor. There is also mandatory training. You will have to undergo a DBS check, a governor eligibility check, complete a declaration of interest and agree to our Code of Conduct.

There will be more information in the election pack and on the LA website to help you make an informed decision as to whether this may be for you. We look forward to welcoming the successful parents to our team.

Jayne Donnellan

Chair of Governors

HOLIDAY PATTERN 2025/2026

AUTUMN TERM: TUESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER – FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2025

HALF-TERM: MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER – FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2025 (INCLUSIVE)

SPRING TERM: TUESDAY 6TH JANUARY – THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 2026

HALF-TERM: MONDAY 16TH FEBRUARY – FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2026 (INCLUSIVE)

EASTER HOLIDAY: FRIDAY 3RD APRIL – FRIDAY 10TH APRIL 2026 (INCLUSIVE)

SUMMER TERM: MONDAY 13TH APRIL – THURSDAY 16TH JULY 2026

BANK HOLIDAY: MONDAY 4TH MAY 2026

HALF -TERM: MONDAY 25TH MAY – FRIDAY 5TH JUNE 2026 (INCLUSIVE)

Many Thanks

St Andrew's Staff