

WIGAN ST ANDREW'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 23rd JANUARY 2026

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

WEDNESDAY 4TH FEBRUARY – Y4 ROMAN EXPERIENCE DAY (INFORMATION BELOW)

THURSDAY 5TH FEBRUARY- YEAR 5/CHOIR @ YOUNG VOICES

FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY- 'NUMBER DAY' (INFORMATION BELOW)

MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY – BRASS CONCERT (Y4 & SCHOOL BAND)

MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY to FRIDAY 13th FEBRUARY- CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY- 'WEAR YOUR SCARF TO SCHOOL DAY' (MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW)

FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY- FINISH FOR HALF TERM (NORMAL FINISH TIME)

MONDAY 23RD FEBRUARY - BACK TO SCHOOL

THURSDAY 5TH MARCH- 'WORLD BOOK DAY'

FRIDAY 20TH MARCH- 'COMIC RELIEF'

WEDNESDAY 1ST APRIL- 'EASTER BINGO'

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL– FINISH FOR EASTER (NORMAL FINISH TIME)

THURSDAY 7TH MAY – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR POLLING DAY

CELEBRATING OUR ATTENDANCE

This week, our whole school attendance was 91.11% , 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-95.37%

Y1- 91.95%

Y2- 96.3%

KEY STAGE 2 ATTENDANCE:

Y3-77.38%

Y4-92.46%

Y5- 88.03%

Y6- 96.93%

A THANK YOU FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

Last Friday, we were delighted to receive recognition from the Secretary of State for Education, Bridget Phillipson, praising our achievements. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to raise standards.

A message from Bridget Phillipson



Dear Lindsey,

[Congratulations](#) to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Wigan St Andrew's CofE Junior and Infant School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

There are real opportunities available for you to support improvement for a wider group of pupils including through:

- engaging actively with [your region's RISE networks](#) and partnering with nearby schools and trusts;
- contributing to regional roundtables and professional communities to spread the approaches that are working in your context; and
- sustaining excellence by continuing to focus on disadvantaged pupils

Please pass on my thanks and [congratulations](#) to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.

Your sincerely,

Bridget Phillipson
Secretary of State for Education

CONGRATULATIONS

On behalf of the governing body, I would like to say thank you and well done to our Headteacher Lindsey Taylor, her senior leadership team, and every member of staff for the dedication and hard work to ensure such 'excellent outcomes for disadvantaged pupils'. I really don't like the term 'disadvantaged', but it's the one we must use!

When Miss Taylor first showed me the letter and I congratulated her, she immediately said 'it's not me, it's the staff', which didn't surprise me at all. I, of course, agreed, it is every member of staff, all of whom go above and beyond, every single day, for every single child in our school. But every great team need a great leader. Miss Taylor is an optimist with a clear vision for our school, she is honest,

dedicated has integrity, emotional intelligence, and amazing strategic foresight. This is why we are where we are. The hard work continues but let us celebrate this achievement of our staff and pupils.

BRASS CONCERT - YEAR 4 & THE SCHOOL BAND

On Monday 9th February, Year 4 and the school band will be performing for parents/carers in the school hall at 9:30am. You do not need tickets to attend.

We hope to see you there.

GOODBYE REV. JOHN

I'm sure most of you are aware that sadly, we are losing Rev John. He has successfully completed his curacy and has a new post in Middlesbrough. His final service at St Andrew's church is on Sunday 1st February at 9.30am. This is a parade service with holy communion when we welcome our uniformed organisations.

Please join us if you can.

We are sorry to see John go, he has done so much, both in church and school and we will miss him.

We wish John, his wife Laura, and son Ted all the very best for the future.

NUMBER DAY

Friday 6th February is 'Number Day'. This year, we are going to have a 'Times Tables Rockstars Day'. The focus of the day will be Maths fluency skills and the children will take part in a fun times tables challenge. Your child can be a 'Rockstar' for the day and dress up as a Rockstar/Popstar.

FUN RUN



WEAR YOUR SCARF TO SCHOOL DAY- FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY.

Our School Council would like to raise awareness during Children's Mental Health Week and raise money for the Place2Be charity. The theme this year is "This is My Place" and we will be celebrating school as a place where our children feel safe and able to talk about their feelings.

We are asking children to wear their SCARF and bring in a donation. During the afternoon, the children will enjoy a hot chocolate and a biscuit whilst listening to a story or chatting with their friends.

We wear our SCARF to remember:

S- Safe

C- Caring

A- Achievement

R- Resilience

F- Friendship

POLLING DAY

On Thursday 7th May school will be closed as we are being used as Polling station. We will be open and back to normal school hours on Friday 8th May.

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