St Andrew's C E Primary School
London Road, Headington,
Oxford, OX3 9ED
Telephone: 01865-762396
www.st-andrews-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely half-term break. We are looking forward to a busy and enjoyable seven weeks, with plenty of opportunities for learning, trips and celebrations as we approach Christmas.

Ways you can help your child this term

- **Practise times tables:** Short, regular practice of multiplication and division facts up to 12 × 12 will help build your child's confidence and fluency in Maths.
- **Read together:** Encourage daily reading and take time to discuss books. Ask your child about characters, unfamiliar vocabulary and the evidence behind their ideas.
- **Support homework routines:** Help your child find a regular time and a quiet space to complete their homework, encouraging them to have a go independently before offering support.
- **Explore space together:** Look at the night sky, share a book or watch a documentary about our solar system. Encourage your child to ask questions and share what they have learnt in class.
- **Share your expertise:** If any parents, carers or family members have knowledge of space, astronomy or space exploration, we would love to hear from you! It would be wonderful for the children to learn from your interests or experience.
- **Talk about learning:** Ask your child what they have discovered, what has challenged them and what they feel proud of. Explaining their thinking aloud can help strengthen their understanding.

Thank you for all the encouragement and support you give at home.

The school day

School gates open at **8.40am**, with registration at **8.50am**. Early Morning Work takes place between 8.40am and 9.00am, so arriving promptly helps children settle and make a positive start to their day. Please remind your child to wait calmly and sensibly before the gates open.
During the morning, children will take part in English, Maths and Reading lessons, alongside assembly or collective worship. Morning break is **10.30–10.45am**.
Lunch is **12.00–1.00pm**. Children can bring a packed lunch or order a school meal, and will have time to play and socialise with their friends.
Our afternoon sessions will focus on foundation subjects. The school day ends at **3.20pm**, when children will leave through the side door used on arrival.

Teaching arrangements

Miss Cagney will teach the class throughout the week, except on Tuesday mornings. Mrs Halcrow will teach on Tuesday mornings.

Day-to-day arrangements

All stationery and classroom equipment will be provided, including access to laptops for use in school.

Outdoor PE will take place on Tuesday morning, and indoor PE on Monday afternoons. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school for both sessions.
Our allocated library session is on Thursday afternoons. Children can also change their library books during lunchtime.

Homework
Doodle Maths and Spag.com assignments will continue to be set every **Thursday**. Children should also read daily. Talking about their reading with an adult helps them develop their understanding, vocabulary and enjoyment of books.

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What to bring
Please ensure your child brings:

- A packed lunch, unless ordering a school meal.
- A named, refillable water bottle.
- A coat suitable for the weather.
- Their library book.
- A named PE kit that meets the school's uniform requirements.

As the weather becomes colder and wetter, please ensure your child has suitable outdoor clothing each day. Naming clothing and belongings helps us return any misplaced items.
For further information, please see the school's uniform guidance.

Key dates

Date	Event
Friday 6 November	Festival of Faith
Wednesday 11 November	Remembrance collective worship
Friday 13 November	Individual and sibling photographs
Thursday 19 November	Year 5/6 Headington Maths Challenge — participating pupils
Friday 20 November	Children in Need and Year 5 celebration assembly
Thursday 26 November	Parent book look and non-uniform day for tombola donations
Friday 27 November	INSET day — school closed to pupils
Monday 30 November	St Andrew's Day
Thursday 3 December	Year 5 trip to Science Oxford for a space workshop
Friday 4 December	Christmas Fair
Tuesday 8 December	Christmas service in the morning
Tuesday 15 December	Years 3–6 theatre trip to the Playhouse
Thursday 17 December	Year 5 Christmas lunch, Christmas jumpers and afternoon film
Friday 18 December	End of term

Further details about trips and events will be shared nearer the time. Dates may be subject to change.
Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to sharing another exciting half term with you and your children.

Kind regards,
The Year 5 Team