



St Andrew's C of E Primary School 19th June

Everyone is different. Everyone is special. Everyone is our neighbour.





Thank you to the parents who met with our SIAMS inspector on Tuesday - and to all of the parents/ carers for your wonderful children, who were very polite, welcoming and conversational with the inspector during the day. The inspector had a positive day and we look forward to receiving the official report in a few weeks time; I will share the outcomes with you then.

I am delighted to be able to share with you our staffing plans for next academic year (2026-27):

Reception class - Mrs Annie Arnold / Mrs Band

Year 1 - Mrs Karen Loveday / Mrs Band

Year 2 - Miss Grace Noble (whom the class already know) / Mrs Band

The Nest - Mrs Carla Holden

Year 3 - Miss Alice Park (returning back to St Andrew's School!!)

Year 4 - Mrs Vicki Cooper

Year 5 - Miss Kiera Cagney

Year 6 - Miss Emma Clanchy

Mrs Becki Halcrow will be covering the PPA time (preparation, planning & assessment) for all the Key Stage 2 classes (Year 3, 4, 5 & 6). Mrs Becki Halcrow will be in each class for half a day each week. Mrs Band will be in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 for one day each week.

We are sad that several members of staff are retiring this year: Mrs Chris Walker (who has already retired, with Mrs Mary Magil now being the librarian), Ms Sian Davies and Mrs Chris James. These members of staff have been at St Andrew's for an incredible number of years and we are really grateful for all that they have achieved and contributed over that time. In addition, Mr Chris Chamier-Williams is leaving to take up a Deputy role in another Oxfordshire school - our loss is their gain, but we wish him all the best in this new role.

Fun Run

The Fun Run was hugely popular - as was demonstrated during last Friday's celebration assembly, when a significant number of the school were up on the stage collecting their medals! Judging from the number of laps run, the children are also super fit (see action shot photos)!

Please return Fun Run sponsorship forms and money as soon as possible. There is a payment item on ParentPay or you can give cash to the office. Forms need to be returned with any gift aid ticked.











































































Festival of Voices

On Wednesday 17th June, members of the choir went to Dorchester Abbey to participate in the Festival of Voices. They rehearsed all afternoon, having already been working on their songs with Louise Graham during school choir time. The performance was testament to their hard work: the singing was incredible! The whole Abbey was filled with beautiful singing and the audience were rightly hugely impressed.

In addition, St Andrew's had more reason to feel proud: Year 6 pupils Maya (violin) and Emma (trumpet) both performed solos. Both performed with confidence, competence and expertise - the tone, control and musical expression were exquisite.







Exciting opportunity...

On Saturday 4th July, one of our parents, Sholto Kynoch, will be giving a piano recital at St Andrew's Church. Sholto is an international pianist and Artistic Director of Oxford Song.

The concert is at 5.30, and will be very accessible for children. We highly recommend coming to the concert with your child if they are learning the piano or another instrument, as it will be truly inspirational; equally all children would enjoy this amazing opportunity to hear live piano music.

Please also consider asking others in the local community to come.

Money raised from tickets sold will go back into supporting music at St Andrew's School. Last year, we raised money for a new piano, and have been able to include learning to play the gamelan in our curriculum, amongst other musical things.

Tickets are available at the school office or through this link: [Sholto Kynoch: Piano Recital | Events | Oxford Song](#) (£7 for an adult / £3 for a child). We are keen to make the concert accessible for all, so please do be in touch if you would like a free reserved ticket.

A poster for a piano concert. The background is light blue with several black musical notes scattered around. The central graphic is a black silhouette of a piano. Inside the piano silhouette, the word "PIANO" is written in large yellow letters, and "CONCERT" is written in large white letters below it. At the bottom of the piano silhouette is a white keyboard. To the right of the piano silhouette, there is a black scalloped-edged circle containing the text "SATURDAY 4 JULY 5:30PM" in yellow. Below the piano silhouette, the text "SPECIAL RECITAL BY" is written in black, followed by a black banner with "SHOLTO KYNOCH" in yellow. Below the banner, it says "An hour of music by Bach, Mendelssohn, Schubert, and Mompou" in black. Below that, "ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH" is written in bold black. Then "Tickets: £7 for adults, £3 for children" in black. At the bottom left, it says "All funds raised will support music provision at St. Andrew's School" in black. To the right of this text is a QR code. To the right of the QR code is a black arrow pointing left towards the QR code, with the text "BOOK ONLINE" in black. At the very bottom, in small black text, it says "Please stay for a glass of wine or soft drink after the show!"

**PIANO
CONCERT**

**SATURDAY
4 JULY
5:30PM**

SPECIAL RECITAL BY
SHOLTO KYNOCH

An hour of music by Bach, Mendelssohn,
Schubert, and Mompou

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

Tickets: £7 for adults, £3 for children

All funds raised will support
music provision at
St. Andrew's School

 **BOOK
ONLINE**

Please stay for a glass of wine or soft drink after the show!

Year 3 trip to the Natural History Museum

On Tuesday 16th June, Year 3 headed to the Natural History Museum to learn more about skeletons linked to their topic work. The children were excellent ambassadors for St Andrew's as they engaged enthusiastically and explored both curiously and sensibly.





Conversation starters with your child

Listening to the amazing singing at Festival of Voices, I was reflecting on how singing can be so uplifting. Do you like to sing? What sort of songs do you like to sing? Or do you like to listen to music or play a musical instrument?



Mental Health Support Team - Year 6 parents/ carers

We are fortunate this year to be working with the Mental Health Support Team (<https://oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs/oxon/mhst/>) to help support our Year 6 pupils as they prepare for the transition to secondary school.

On Tuesday next week, a member of the team will visit school to deliver a workshop for the Year 6 class. During the session, pupils will explore strategies for managing anxiety, building resilience, and coping with change.

The team will return on **Thursday from 9:00–10:00am to deliver a workshop for parents and carers**. This session will cover similar themes and strategies, while also providing an opportunity for you to ask questions and discuss any concerns you may have about the transition process.

We would encourage you to attend if possible. Transition is not only about preparing for a new school before September; it is also about supporting children through the first few months of settling into a new environment. The workshop will offer practical strategies that may be helpful both now and throughout this important period of change.

After school club

Bookings are now available for After School Club 2026-2027. When you book, you will only need to do so once for the whole year. Your child will only be removed from the register when you request that via email to the school office.

Free school meal eligibility

The government has recently changed the process for free school meal eligibility. A paper form (Annex A) was sent home to every child which needs to be completed for every child, regardless of whether you think you are or are not eligible for free school meals. Please can you return this as soon as possible.

Waitrose tokens

Please remember to put some tokens in the St Andrew's box to secure our school some money. Windmill Primary also has a box, so the competition is on!



Cheney upcoming events

['Nature Late' Festival, 2nd July, 6 - 8pm](#)

Nature Late will celebrate the world of nature on site at Cheney School through talks, workshops, stalls, activities and exhibitions. The schedule is as follows:

6 - 6.30pm - In Conversation with Roger Harrabin, previously BBC Environmental Analyst

6 - 8pm - Ecology Festival for all ages with a large range of science and nature-themed stalls and activities

8 - 11pm - Bat Night with Ben Carpenter from Bioscan UK

If you would like to attend any part of the event, please fill in [this form](#).

It is free and aimed at all ages. There will be live performances and refreshments as well as many stalls and activities, crafts, talks and workshops.

[Iris Classics Summer School, 17th - 19th August](#)

We are delighted to be offering our tenth annual Classics Summer School this August at the Iris Classics Centre at Cheney School in Oxford. It will take place on the mornings of 18th, 19th and 20th August. This year the summer school will be themed on the ancient star myths and astronomy.

The format for each day will be as follows:

9 – 10.30am – Latin (ages 7 – 9); Latin (ages 10 – 11); Greek (ages 7 – 9); Greek (ages 10 – 11)

10.30 – 11.15am – refreshments and activities

11.15 – 12.45pm – Latin (ages 7 – 9); Latin (ages 10 – 11); Greek (ages 7 – 9); Greek (ages 10 – 11)

The classes will be run by experienced teachers and will include activities as well as language learning. **They will all be aimed at complete beginners.** There will be themed activity stalls and refreshments between the morning classes.

Please visit the webpage [here](#) for more details and booking.

[Classics Creative Writing Cafe & Weekly Writing Nook](#)

The Iris Project runs a monthly Classics and Creative Writing Cafe, and also a weekly Writing Nook.

The cafe is a relaxed and informal opportunity to come and share ideas, have a go at writing, or just relax and read and chat in a beautiful setting. Each session has a different classical theme as a prompt if people want to have a go at writing while there. All genres are welcome!

The cafe is usually held once a month at St Alban's Church in Charles Street, Oxford from 2 until 4pm. There are hot and cold drinks and snacks available (we welcome donations towards refreshment costs).

The next date will be **Saturday 6th June, 2 – 4pm** – Hector and Achilles (book 22 of Homer's Iliad)

The cafe is aimed at ages 14 + to adult, and is run by Iris director Dr Lorna Robinson (author of novels [Hamadryad](#), [The Birder](#) and [Flower Gatherers](#), and short story collection [Telling Tales in Nature](#)). Please contact her on lorna@irisproject.org.uk if you have any questions about the cafe.

You can attend as a one off or regularly – please book using the email address above.

We also run a weekly writing space with a classics library – find out more [here](#).

Coffee mornings



Every Thursday morning will be a coffee morning with Mrs Suzanne Walker. Feel free to pop in any time between 8.45 - 9.30am to meet other parents/ carers or to talk to Mrs Walker. The coffee morning will be held in the learning base - come to the school reception to be signed in.

Health, Safety and safeguarding



Oral hygiene information

<https://supervised-toothbrushing.my.canva.site/june-newsletter-smile360>

Primary School Health Nursing Newsletter June 2026

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/S5JuiRh8BMANXEhr?ref=email&loc=play>

Safeguarding

Mrs Jo Holmes is our designated safeguarding lead and Mrs Mary Wright is our deputy designated safeguarding lead. If you ever have any concerns about the safety of a child, please do let us know.

ALWAYS FOLLOW THE WATER SAFETY CODE

ROYAL LIFE SAVING Drowning Prevention Week SOCIETY UK

Whenever you are around water:

STOP AND THINK STAY TOGETHER

Take time to assess your surroundings.
Look for the dangers and always research local signs and advice.

When around water always go with friends or family.
Swim at a lifeguarded venue.

In an emergency:

CALL 999

If you are at the coast, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard.
Don't enter the water to rescue.

FLOAT

Fall in or become tired - stay calm, float on your back and call for help.
Throw something that floats to somebody that has fallen in.

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY UK
Enjoy Water Safety | Free From Drowning

Learn more about water safety.
Scan the QR code.

Dates



Term dates for this academic year (2025-26) are available [here](#).

Below are some key dates which impact the whole school.

In addition, class letters will have specific dates for special events, visitors or trips for your child's class.

Monday 8th - Friday 12th June - Year 6 to Woodlands residential

Monday 8th - Friday 12th June - Year 1 phonics screening & Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

Monday 15th June 4.00pm - New Reception (Sept 2026) garden visit

NEW - Tuesday 16th June - SIAMS inspection

Wednesday 17th June 6.30pm - Festival of Voices at Dorchester Abbey

Thursday 18th June 4.00pm - New Reception (Sept 2026) garden visit

Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th June - Class teacher meetings for parents of children with SEND

Friday 3rd July, 11.30am - Sheldonian concert for orchestra

Monday 6th - Friday 10th July - Health week

Monday 6th July, 5.30pm - Summer Music concert (for anyone who learns an instrument in school or out of school as well as the gamelan and orchestra members) - a letter will come out about which instrument & piece your child would like to play

Wednesday 8th July - Years 3 - 4 Sports day at Horspath athletics stadium

Friday 10th July, 3.30pm - Summer Fair

Monday 13th July, 5.30pm - Piano concert

Tuesday 14th July, 10.30am - Leavers' service at St Andrew's Church

Tuesday 14th July - end of year reports sent home

Wednesday 15th July - Transition morning (all children to next year's class)

Thursday 16th July - Year 6 leavers' assembly - Year 6 parents/ carers invited

Friday 17th July - Leavers' assembly at school

Friday 17th July - Term finishes 1.15pm (Reception), 1.30pm (Years 1 - 6)

Helpful information for parents/ carers

Parent/carer engagement:

At St Andrew's, we would love for every parent/carer to feel that they can engage with the school at the level at which they feel comfortable. For some this might mean becoming a governor; for others this might mean helping out at an event or being able to contribute financially.

SASA (St Andrew's School Association) is the parent/carer group of which every adult with a child in the school is automatically a part.

Fundraising:

As a school, we are extremely grateful to our parent body / SASA who look for ways to raise money for the school, through events such as the fun run, disco, film night etc - this all supports the wider learning opportunities, such as keeping our lovely library well-stocked, updating our play equipment, developing our music provision. In addition, as a school, we seek out opportunities for grants and free events/ trips, to enable all of our pupils to have a rich learning experience during their time at St Andrew's.

Sometimes families are unable to attend the fund-raising events but would still like to contribute to the school. For this reason, we have set up the following options:

1. A **QR code** found on our [website](#).
2. An **Amazon 'wish list'**: <https://amzn.eu/2DAkpvb>
3. **Cashback from Sainsburys and Argos** – signing up to the MySchoolFund. When someone signs up using our school code, the individual gets 2% cashback on spend in

Sainsburys and Argos and the school gets 1% in eGift vouchers. Link to our school (use postcode OX3 9ED) on the My School Fund website. If this could work for you, please do sign up. Sign up today at www.myschoolfund.org Our school registration number : 29600

Eggs: Don't forget that eggs from our very own chickens are on sale in the office. The children looking after the chickens are keen to get this money, as we need it to buy food for the chickens!

Recycling opportunity

We are really pleased to see the success of the recycling box (via Collection4Clothes) for clothes and other items. For every kg collected, the school receives 40p and also Great Ormond Street Hospital received a donation: [Clothing Collections | Great Ormond Street Charity \(gosh.org\)](http://Clothing Collections | Great Ormond Street Charity (gosh.org))

Please bring items to the box in the school office foyer. The box will be emptied on a regular basis. So, there is no deadline - bring items along as suits you. The items should be in good condition - the sort that you would take to a charity shop.

Library books: If a book is overdue, a reminder comes from the librarian. If the book is lost or damaged, the cost of the book is on that overdue reminder slip. Replacing a book or sending in money to cover the cost of the book enables the library to remain well-stocked.

Toys: At St Andrew's we ask that children do not bring in toys and special items from home, as these items can be lost, which causes upset and tension between children when accusations arise as to who might have taken or broken an item.

Information about local events

MAY 2026 CAMPS
Tech-powered camps, packed with **WOW** experiences!

Example camp activities
Ages 5-11, Camps run 9 am - 4 pm

ROBOT LAB	3D PRINTING	ELECTRIC INVENTIONS	ID CREATIONS	ANIMATION
COOL ESCAPES	CRAZY CODING	SOCIAL MEDIA	MINICRAFT REDSTONE	VIRTUAL REALITY

WOW EXPERIENCES

INFLATABLES	ANIMALS	STREET DANCE	SCIENCE	LASER TAG
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Activities vary by location, please visit our website to see what's running at your venue.

WHAT TO EXPECT:
At Next Thing Education our goal is to inspire curiosity, fuel creativity and empower young minds for the future. Bringing hands-on tech experiences with unforgettable WOW experiences, we inspire children to create, connect, and discover... and by DfES-checked, friendly and supportive staff, we build confidence and skills through exciting activities, challenges, and real-world building adventures.

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Dragon School, OX2 6SS
20th - 23rd May 2026
www.nextthing.education

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June 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom, 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	1 June 10am
School Anxiety	1 June 7pm
Facing Defiance	2 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	2 June 7pm
Anxiety Explained	8 June 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	8 June 7pm
Introduction to OCD	9 June 10am
What is ACT?	9 June 7pm
Decreasing Depression	15 June 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	15 June 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	16 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	16 June 7pm
Improving Family Communication	22 June 10am
Autism-Improving Communication	22 June 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	23 June 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	23 June 7pm
ADHD and Homework	25 June 7-8pm

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Ages 5+

Image: Giulia Spadafora

13 – 14 JUNE 2026, 2PM

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BIG
Splash
WEEKEND

6th - 7th June

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