

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE-



**THIS HALF TERM WE ARE FOCUSING ON THE CHRISTIAN VALUE OF
COMPASSION**

NOVEMBER 2022 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Introduction

I trust you all enjoyed a safe and relaxing half term break with your families and hope you find this newsletter helpful in keeping you up to date.

We are trying to keep parents/carers as informed and involved as possible and are continually updating our school website www.standrewsmethodistschool.co.uk, **Seesaw** and **Twitter** account. This can be found at **Twitter @StMethodist**. Your child's class will add any exciting learning to these sites, so you can log on to see what they have been up to- you may be surprised! If you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can improve communication further, please let us know.

Remote Learning

As you will be aware, we use Seesaw to support children's learning at home. Seesaw is used to set and mark homework, communicate with parents/carers and provide remote learning in the event that any children have to isolate at home.

You will continue to receive half termly Home/School knowledge planners from your child's teacher, outlining knowledge to be taught this half-term. I hope you find these to be interesting and useful, when supporting your child with homework. These can also be found on the school website.

Uniform

The children are all looking very smart in their uniforms- thank you for supporting us with our uniform policy. As the weather becomes colder please remember that trainers and boots e.g.; Ugg Boots are NOT allowed in school, the correct footwear is black shoes. Children wearing incorrect footwear will be **required to wear PE pumps** in school. The only bags needed in school are reading folders and PE bags.



Punctuality and Attendance

It is vitally important that your child arrives for school at the specified time and **attends regularly**. Staff are working very hard to ensure all children progress and achieve their best and good attendance is key to this. If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please remember to telephone the school office before 9.30am. Any holidays taken in term time WILL receive a fine.

Medical Appointments

Can you please try, whenever possible, to request medical appointments after 3.30pm. This avoids children missing their learning by being taken out of school for appointments.

Should there be any matters of concern regarding your child you should first discuss these (over the telephone) with the class teacher, teaching assistant or family support worker, Mrs Utzeri. They are the people who know your child best and who are aware of incidents that happen during the school day. Should you feel that your concerns have not been resolved, or if there is an urgent matter you need to discuss with me, I am happy to speak with you at a convenient time that can be arranged via the office.

Extra-curricular

After-school activities

Monday: KS1 multi-sports club

Pyramid club

Tuesday: Y5 Spanish Club

KS2 Choir

Netball

Wednesday: Football

Thursday: Cricket

Breaktime activities

Monday: Premier Sports coach (KS1 & 2)

Tuesday: Pupil rights group

Wednesday: Worship committee

Thursday: Place2Talk

Friday: Premier Sports coach (KS1 & 2)

Place2Talk



Poppies

Every year we are proud to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Poppies will be on sale before and after school on the playground. We will be observing the two minutes silence on 11th November in school as usual.



Children in Need non-uniform Day

Children in Need is on 18th November. This year's theme is '**The Great Spotacular!**' If your child would like to bring in a voluntary contribution to the charity, they may come to school dressed in something spotty or red and yellow on this date.



Parents' Evening

Parents' evening will be held in school this term. It will consist of a five minute meeting with your child's teacher. Following the success of the after-school 'book looks' we will not be making books available on this date. This will save time and reduce congestion in school.

Book Fair

During parents' evening, please spend some time browsing the Scholastic Book Fair. The book fair will be open in school each night after school from 28th November to 1st December inclusive.

Christmas Events



We have been making lots of plans to ensure that Christmas in school, will be a magical and exciting time for the children. I have outlined the proposed Christmas celebrations and dates below.

Hamper Raffle

The staff will again be donating items towards Christmas Hampers, which will be raffled off in December at the disco. The children will also be selling raffle tickets on the yard after school during the first two weeks of December.

Christmas Bauble Competition

The children are invited to make bauble/decoration at home for their class Christmas tree. These should be sent in on 5th December for the class Christmas tree light switch on! The winning bauble in each class will receive a prize.

Christmas Disco

There will be a Christmas Disco on 12th December from 6-7.30pm. This will be £1 admission for children and adults. Please note that children from Nursery to Y2 are only allowed to attend the disco if accompanied by a responsible adult. The disco will finish promptly at 7.30pm so please ensure you make arrangements for KS2 children to be collected on time.

Nursery Singalong

Families of nursery and Reception children are invited to a Christmas singalong on 16th December at 9.15am in the school hall. Mince pies, tea and coffee will be served from 9am.



Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day

The kitchen staff will be serving Christmas lunch on 15th December. If your child is on packed lunches, they have the option of buying a Christmas lunch. The office will be sending out forms to book and pay for the lunch in advance. Alternatively, you may wish to make your child's packed lunch more festive by adding a cracker or mince pie. Children are allowed to wear a Christmas jumper instead of their school sweatshirt on this day.

Christmas Production

The KS2 children in Year 3, 4 and 5 will be presenting a production of the nativity story, Stable Boy. There will be two performances of this, at 2pm on 14th December and at 6pm on the 15th December. Tickets (free of charge) will be available from the school office from 5th December and limited to two per family due to space restrictions. The office staff will send out further details.

Party Day

Party day will be on the 20th December. Class teachers will send out further details nearer the time.



Carol Service

Our traditional carol service in Walkden Methodist Church will be on the last day of term, Wednesday 21st December at 9.15am. It will be led by our Y1 and Y2 children. We really hope lots of families will join us for this.

Christingle

You are invited to join the congregation of Walkden Methodist Church for a Christingle service on Christmas Eve. This will be at 3pm.

Finally

School breaks up for the Christmas holiday on 21st December at 3.20pm and starts back on 3rd January 2022.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs. A. Barker
Headteacher