

9 January 2026



St Andrew's News



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Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a fabulous first week back, which even featured a little fluttering of snow (very exciting for the children to watch from the classroom windows!)

Classes began their new Spring projects, which you can read about further on in the newsletter.

Elmbridge Museum has been collaborating with St Andrew's Year 6 pupils this year to help be part of an 80th VE day celebration exhibition at the Civic Centre. A recording team came in to work with a selection of pupils to record dialogue and sound effects for an interactive display. We will update you with details when the exhibition opens so that you can visit and enjoy the collection which is based on local WW2 stories and experiences.

We had our Headteacher's Tea Party this week and all the children were really proud to share their story of when they found out and how their family reacted. Lots of very proud parents and family members.

I hope you all enjoyed a lovely festive break and had a wonderful New Year.

Stina
Witkowski



Painshill House

The winning House last term was **Painshill**. Pupils in **Painshill** have a mufti day on Friday 16 January to celebrate their success. They can come to school in casual clothes instead of school uniform.

Class Projects

Teresa Class have begun their "Bright Lights, Big City" project by creating their own city picture, cutting out squares, rectangles and triangles to create buildings. We have learned the names of the countries in the UK and the name of our own capital city, London. Barnaby Bear sent a postcard to the class from London explaining some of the landmarks he had visited. We are going to be learning more about London landmarks and writing our own postcards back to Barnaby. (Mrs Wilde)



Parton Class have started to explore what's under our feet in Rocks, Relics and Rumbles. We investigated different types of rocks by testing their strength, porosity and by observing their features closely. We used our results to classify them into the three different types of rocks: sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. (Miss Harris)

Henry Class have made a great start to their Geography Unit Misty Mountain, Winding River. They especially enjoyed learning about what a physical feature and human feature is yesterday. (Miss Wyatt)

In Year 5, we have started our new learning project focusing on the Ancient Greeks. Alongside this, we are also learning about Forces and Mechanisms in Science, and about Architecture in D.T. Each of these topics have various links, which should hopefully create a fulfilling experience for the children. (Mr Hunter)

Year 6 have had an intriguing week! In Science, we are looking at Evolution and Inheritance, understanding how we can group living things beyond the animal kingdom! In Geography, we have started our project by investigating the features of Earth and understanding the significance of longitude and latitude. As our projects progress, we look forward to learning all about genetic inheritance, the theory of evolution, climate change and trade around the world! (Mrs Ellard)

Reading Raffle

Well done to all the winners in the Reading Raffle from last half term.



Keep up with your home reading so you are in with a chance of winning one of the books this half term. Children who read four times a week and record it in their reading diary, will receive a raffle ticket and a chance winning a book in the end of term draw. 2026 is the National Year of Reading, a UK-wide campaign designed to inspire more people to make reading a regular part of their lives and discover the joy of reading.

Our reading raffle is a fun way of engaging with this national strategy.



WW2 Exhibition

Last term Year 6 curated part of an 80th anniversary of VE Day celebration exhibition alongside Elmbridge Museum. During the first workshop they learned about what it takes to put on an exhibition and carefully selected WW2 artefacts to include in the exhibition. In the second workshop they designed a display case to hold their chosen WW2 artefacts. This week four children were involved in recording dialogue for an interactive part of the display.

Our choir will be singing at the opening of the 'Echoes of War' exhibition in February and the Year 6 work completed in the workshops will form part of this exhibition.



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

School Admissions

Just a reminder for parents with pre-school children that the closing date for Reception for September 2026 entry is **15 January 2026**. Full information is available on Surrey's website at www.surreycc.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Best Class Attendance
Teresa

House Points
Boxhill

Next week's value
Gratitude

Celebration Certificates

Value– Perseverance

- Teresa: Iris
Parton: Kris
Henry: Buddy
Craig: Georgi
Hamilton: Max

Achievement, Progress or effort in Maths/English

- Teresa: Nella
Parton: Alan
Henry: Harry
Craig: Arshan
Hamilton: Effie

