

26 February 2026



# St Andrew's News



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## Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely first week back and got to enjoy some sunshine in the first few days as well! It meant we could open up the second sandpit and bring out the music speaker again.

This week we have had one of our subject 'Golden Thread' weeks. This is where we take a subject and focus in on the key skills and knowledge we want the children to remember and embed. It was Geography for this week, and we used Geography Passports with the children. These passports contain core knowledge such as capital cities, continents, points of a compass and understanding the impact of the equator and poles.

Next week is World Book Day and teachers are already very excited about this and planning their outfits! Some of the pupils have already started to come and chat to me about their ideas as well. It will be a brilliant day, and we have lots planned (please see full details in rest of newsletter).

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend with friends and family,  
Stina Witkowski

## Head Teacher Tea Party

We had our Head Teacher tea Party this afternoon. The children were invited by their teachers for consistently demonstrating our school values and for good work last half term.



We are celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5 March. World Book Day is a charity that champions reading for fun because it seriously

improves lives. Young people are more likely to read if they see it as a fun, entertaining and social thing to do. That's what their work is all about; inspiring them to see reading differently. Together, let's help every child enjoy the life-changing benefits of reading for fun.

On Thursday all pupils are invited to come to school dressed as a character from any book. During assembly the children will have a chance to share what they are wearing and there will be prizes from Governors and the school for winning outfits. Dressing-up can be a fun way to get children talking about books, sharing recommendations, and celebrating what they enjoy reading. Pupils will receive a £1.00 book token for one of the free World Book Day books available at bookshops or supermarkets.

Parkside School has arranged for the author Alex Milway come to give an assembly to our pupils on World Book Day. Alex's books Hotel Flamingo and Big Sky Mountain are hugely popular so this should be great.



As part of our World Book Day celebrations, all pupils are invited to come back to school at 5.00pm on Thursday in their pyjamas to listen to bedtime stories read by their teachers.

Children should be dropped off and picked up from the place where they would normally be picked up at the end of the day. The side gates will be open from 4.55pm for drop off and from 5.50pm for pick up. Children will go to their classroom where they will listen to stories and have hot chocolate and a biscuit. Pick up is at 6.00pm.



We have also organised a Scholastic Book Fair at school. The children will have a chance to view the books on Monday and Tuesday and parents will be able to buy books after school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Parents can scan the QR code to pay online at the Fair.

Reading Raffle

Congratulations to the winners in the Reading Raffle from last half term. Keep up with your home reading so that you have a chance of winning a book this half term.



Teresa Class

For Geography day, Teresa class enjoyed revisiting their learning on the 7 continents and singing the song they love so much. Reception children described the 4 seasons and the things which happen during each one, while Year 1 labelled the continents on a world map and the countries on a UK map. (Mrs Wilde)

Parton Class

Parton Class have begun our learning journey to become botanical artists this week. We have learnt what a botanical artist does and explored different types of plants. We have practised using the skills of shape and form in our artwork and using shading to make our sketches look more realistic. (Miss Harris)



Don't forget to collect your bookmark from the office if you are taking part in the **Golden Bookmark Reading Challenge**



Join us on Thursday 5th March after school for a cosy **Bedtime Stories** evening. Come in pyjamas, bring your teddies and enjoy stories with our teachers. FoSA will be serving hot chocolate and biscuits to make it extra special! We can't wait.

FoSA will be selling good condition World Book Day costumes after school on Monday. They will be in the main entrance if you need an outfit for Thursday.

Our FOSA **Mother's Day Sale** is now live on Classlist! Tickets are £2 and children will choose a special gift themselves — we know how much they love keeping it a surprise! Don't forget to buy your ticket by the 12 March.

Football

On Monday there was a girl's football meet with Greenfield School. This match was different because everyone who wanted to play could play. There were two teams and all the players played amazingly with perseverance and determination. Our goalkeeper was great at saving goals and the penalties.

The group A game was a friendly match with the teams mixed. Both teams scored one goal, and everyone had fun and played well. Fifteen minutes into the group B game we scored. Everyone in the team helped to score the goal and we were all very happy. Thank you to Mrs Eley for arranging the match and to Coach Rachel. (Markela, Faith & Alice)



Jamming Together Band Club

Just Play Music has started a Wednesday lunchtime session. The classes are ideal for beginners and children looking to try out playing an instrument in a safe and enthusiastic setting. With progression built into our classes, they will gain a firm foundation in their chosen instruments and enjoy learning together. All instruments will be provided.

To join for a free trial email your child's name and year group to [merlyn@justplaymusicschool.co.uk](mailto:merlyn@justplaymusicschool.co.uk). See attached flyer. Find out more - <https://justplaymusicschool.co.uk/jamming-together/>

**Best Class Attendance**  
Henry Class

**House Points**  
Brooklands

**Next week's value**  
Integrity

Celebration Certificates

Value— Respect

- Teresa: Yasmine
- Parton: John
- Henry: Sham
- Craig: Caspar
- Hamilton: Max

Achievement, Progress or effort in Maths/English

- Teresa: Frankie
- Parton: George
- Henry: Edgar
- Craig: Ajay
- Hamilton: Markela

