



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

To strive for respect, enjoyment and excellence for all!

05.11.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that everyone had a lovely half term. We have a very busy half term coming up with school events and preparations for Christmas. Children have been telling me how many days it is until Christmas!

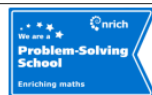
In Collective Worship this week we have been focusing on our theme of Compassion (Colossians 3:12) and listening to the hip hop music genre. It was a lively way to start the week!

Sharing Assemblies

There isn't a sharing assembly this week. It is the turn of Year 1 on Friday 14th November.

Something to celebrate!

St Andrews has been awarded the Nrich Problem Solving School Enriching Maths Mark. To meet the criteria, our school must meet the majority of the statements on the charter and complete an action plan to meet the remaining statements. This has been completed by the Maths team here at school.



Problem-Solving Schools Charter

Values and ethos

In our setting, it is evident to learners that:

- Mathematical ability is not fixed: everyone can learn and make progress
- Problem solving often involves taking wrong turns and making mistakes: every learner has the right to struggle and the right to enjoy success
- Everyone has opportunities to develop their mathematical thinking and mindsets to help them become confident problem solvers
- Problem solving can motivate learners to learn new mathematics, apply previous learning and make mathematical connections

Leadership and professional development

In our setting:

- Our staff promote positive attitudes towards problem solving
- Time is set aside to discuss problem solving in our meetings
- Our displays, newsletters, website, and social media content celebrate the problem solving of all learners
- Our monitoring system ensures that priority is given to problem solving and mathematical thinking
- We engage with printed, online and face-to-face professional development opportunities offered by subject organisations

Curriculum, pedagogy and assessment

In our setting:

- We regularly embed non-standard problem-solving opportunities in our maths curriculum for all learners
- We ensure that problems, and classroom support, offer opportunities for all to experience both struggle and success
- We allocate time to developing learners' mathematical thinking and mathematical mindsets
- We use learners' responses to non-standard problems to inform next steps
- We liaise with other subjects so that meaningful cross-curricular links can be made

Classroom culture

In our setting:

- We create a safe environment in which learners explore, take risks, and appreciate the value of learning through making mistakes
- We celebrate multiple approaches to solving problems and discuss the merits of the different strategies offered
- We provide frequent opportunities for individual and collaborative problem solving, where learners are given both thinking time and opportunities to share ideas and insights
- We celebrate the mathematical thinking of every learner

Problem-solving beyond the classroom/school

In our setting:

- We offer school maths club(s) and promote high-quality maths books, ideally stocked by the school library
- We encourage learners to take advantage of printed, online and off-site mathematical enrichment opportunities
- We support parents and carers to engage with problem solving through family homework and in-school events, while recognising that not every adult has had a positive experience of maths
- We encourage learners to appreciate, and learn more about, the achievements of a diverse range of mathematicians

<https://nrich.maths.org/problem-solving-schools>
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'Pupils, including those with special educational needs, are happy at school. Typically, pupils meet leaders' high expectations of the

school. Pupils at St Andrew's School. They are happy and pupils strive each day to





Our school has created an internal SEND provision called The Learning Haven because we want every child with identified additional needs to feel supported, understood, and able to succeed. We have seen that more of our pupils need extra help with their learning, communication, or emotional wellbeing, and we want to make sure that support is available quickly and in a familiar, caring environment. By having this provision within our school, we can offer the right help at the right time without children needing to go elsewhere.

This space allows us to work closely with pupils in smaller groups or one-to-one, using approaches tailored to their individual needs. It also means we can build strong, trusting relationships with pupils and families, working together to find strategies that help each child feel more confident and engaged in school life, as demonstrated this week at Parents Evening.

Our aim is simple: to remove barriers to learning so that every child can make good progress, feel happy in school, and develop the skills they need for the future. By strengthening our SEND support from within, we hope to create a more inclusive school community where every child is valued and given the chance to shine.

If you have any questions regarding The Haven, please come and speak to Mrs Bradford or myself as we are always happy to help.

Our Year 6 children are continuing to sell poppies to support fundraising for the Royal British Legion ready for Remembrance Sunday.



'Pupils, including those with special educational needs, are happy at school. Typically, pupils behave well and meet leaders' high expectations of their learning.'

ilities (SEND), thrive at St Andrew's School. They are
positive attitudes to learning. Pupils strive each day to
ATED May 2023



Neon Night

I'd like to thank everyone for attending our Neon Night disco and it was great to see so many parents enjoying cake and hot drinks in our small hall. The quiz proved to be incredibly popular too. Thank you to Mrs Birkett, Mrs Scholes and the team for making the event such a success.



Christmas Disco!

As a result, a Christmas Disco has now been planned for 17th December. More details to follow. Please add the date to your diaries.

Clubs

Clubs restart next week and finish on 5th December,



Tapestry

Tapestry is an online platform where information, photographs etc is shared between our Nursery and Reception classes and our families. Since we've all changed our email addresses, we have struggled with some technical issues. Please bear with us and we hope to get it reinstated as soon as possible.



Children In Need 2025

Next Friday is Children In Need (14th November). All children and staff are invited to wear own clothes for a minimum of £1 donation. Children may wear what they want (PJs always prove to be popular!)

'Pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), thrive at St Andrew's School. They are happy at school. Typically, pupils behave well and they develop positive attitudes to learning. Pupils strive each day to meet leaders' high expectations of their learning and behaviour.' OFSTED May 2023



Lunchtimes

Our school yards are really limiting in terms of the opportunities for play at lunchtimes. After Christmas our staff are introducing 'Play Zones' so we can offer more than football and free play. To help resources this, I am looking for donations of second hand equipment and toys so we can provide as much as we can without breaking the bank.

Every fortnight I will be asking for specific donations to help with storage (so it doesn't all come in at once). With Christmas coming, some of you may be thinking of throwing away some toys that are in good condition that we would be able to use, so please keep an eye on this newsletter.

Donations aimed at primary school age children

Scooters, bikes, trikes, balance bikes
Board games

All donations gratefully received.

God bless,
Mrs Bladen-Kay
Head Teacher

Autumn Term 2025 Key Dates (subject to change)	
November	
3 rd 4 th	Parents Evenings
10 th	Y4 class prayer assembly week
11 th	Buildings and Finance Committee EYFS Stay and plays
12 th	EYFS Stay and plays
14 th	Y1 Sharing Assembly
19 th	Standards and Welfare Committee
24 th	Parliament Week
December	
1 st	Y3 Class Prayer Assembly Week Mathstermind Competition
3 rd	Panto Day Full Governing Board Meeting
5 th	Clubs finish KS2 Carol Concert at St Andrews Church Y6 Sharing Assembly
7 th	Audacious Big Sing Event
8 th	AM Nativity Dress Rehearsal (N & R)
9 th	Rev Jez Collective Worship PM N & R Nativity Performance
10 th	AM N & R Christmas Performance
11 th	Christmas Lunch
12 th	AM KS1 Dress Rehearsal
15 th	PM KS1 Performance
16 th	AM KS1 Performance
17 th	PM Christmas Parties Christmas Disco
18 th	End of term (3.20pm finish)
School re-opens 6 th January 2026	



Less Is More

3

2

1

4

5

5

5

4

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Place the numbers so that both inequalities are true

Submit

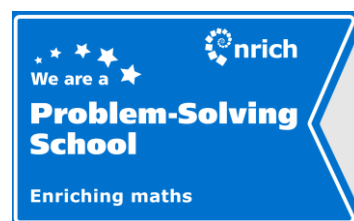
It is impossible to satisfy both inequalities

Try a new challenge

Fortnightly Maths Challenge

<https://nrich.maths.org/problems/less-more>

All solutions to be handed in to Mrs Bladen-Kay



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