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"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!

26.11.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

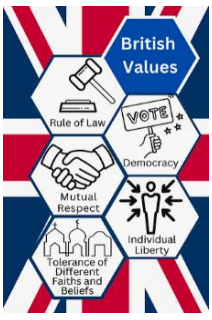
This is the penultimate newsletter of 2026. I can't believe how fast 2026 has flown by.



Thank You

Over the past two weeks, children have represented our school in a football competition and we've also had a number of visitors (two head teachers from other schools) and supply staff in school. **All** have commented on how well our children behave, what lovely manners they all have, how kind they are and how well and enthusiastically they talk about our school. Please would you pass on my thanks to all of our children. We have a great school and I am a very lucky head teacher. The children are a credit to all of their parents and carers.





Collective Worship

We've been continuing to focus on Trust this week and what it means to be trustworthy ourselves (Proverbs) We've been listening to woodwind instruments, particularly in extracts

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from Sergei Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf. Next week, our preparations for Christmas begin in earnest!



Nursery and Reception – End Of Day Collection

We have made a few changes to the way we hand over our Nursery and Reception children at the end of the school day. These changes are designed to ensure our collection arrangements remain as safe and secure as possible. We completely understand that everyone is keen to collect their children and get home, and we really appreciate your patience and understanding while staff take the time to ensure every child is handed over safely.

We would also kindly ask that, if you have something important you would like to discuss with a member of staff, you arrange an appointment rather than trying to catch them at home time. This is a particularly busy part of the day, and we want to make sure we can give you our full attention and the time your conversation deserves. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and cooperation.



Parliament Week

Year 2-6 children have been involved in our annual Parliament Week this week where children will prepare for a Parliamentary style debate held tomorrow in front of our MP Michael Wheeler. Children have been given the opportunity to compose a speech, listen to the views and opinions of others, provide supportive and counter arguments and eventually vote on which arguments are the most persuasive. It's always a lively and enjoyable morning for our children. Learning to create an argument with supportive evidence, listening to the views of others, responding thoughtfully and respectfully and coming to a considered decision are essential skills – our children can show the House of Parliament a thing or two!

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Parents are not invited to this event as we can't fit everyone in once the 'House of Parliament' is created.



PTA

Thank you to everyone who have been attending our PTA meetings. They have been very well attended and there were lots of interesting ideas shared and discussed. I look forward to seeing the impact of our new amazing team. The next meeting is 4th December at 10.00 here at school.





Wear What You Want Day – 11th December for the Christmas Raffle/Christmas Disco

Children and staff are invited to wear their own clothes 11th December. Please could each child bring a small donation that can be put into Christmas Hampers which will be raffled on the last day of term (18th December) As usual, please see Mrs Birkett for tickets and further information.

Our next disco is scheduled for 17th December, straight after school at 3.20pm. Children with tickets will be able to go straight from school into the disco. Thursday 17th December is the day of our Christmas Parties where children are invited to come to school in their party clothes so children will already be dressed and ready to dance!



Sad news

Our amazing and lovely Mrs Bradford will be leaving us at the end of term. Mrs Bradford has worked here at St Andrews in a variety of roles since 2003, including SENDCO and a member of our pastoral team. She is a favourite with children and staff. Our school will be a little heavier and darker without her. Like me, I'm sure that you will all wish her well as she enjoys more time with her family, particularly her grandchildren.

Mrs Bradford is going to enjoy a well earned break but may come back from time to time in a different capacity to support our children. So it's farewell for now.

And on behalf of us all, you will be missed Mrs Bradford.

By everyone.

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Mathematical Thinking – Explaining, Convincing & Proving

EYFS and KS1

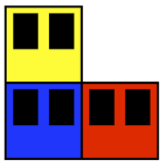
A City of Towers

In a certain city houses had to be built in a particular way.
There had to be 2 rooms on the ground floor and all other rooms had to be built on top of these.
Families were allowed to build just one room for each person living in the house.
So a house for 2 people would look like this:

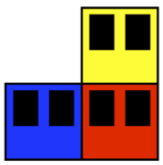


but a house for 3 people could look

like this



or like this.



There are some families of 7 people living in the town.
In how many different ways can they build their houses?

Autumn Term 2026 Key Dates for Parents (subject to change)	
23.11	Parliament Week
December	
01.12	Full Governing Board Meeting
02.12	EYFS Panto KS1&2 Panto
07.12	Last week of clubs
08.12	EYFS Christmas production 2pm
09.12	EYFS Christmas production 10am PM: Y5 and Y6 Carol Concert with Salford City Academy
11.12	Own Clothes Day for the Christmas Raffle
14.12	KS1 Christmas Production 2pm
15.12	KS1 Christmas Production 9.30am
17.12	Christmas Parties and Christmas Disco
18.12	Close For Christmas

God bless,

Mrs Bladen-Kay
Head Teacher

KS2

Three Neighbours

5, 6 and 7 are three consecutive numbers. They add up to 18.

14, 15 and 16 are also three consecutive numbers. They add up to 45.

Take other sets of three consecutive numbers and find their total.

What do you notice?
Do the totals have anything in common?

How can you be sure that what you have noticed will always be true?

Mathematicians aren't usually satisfied with a few examples to convince themselves that something is always true.
Have you been able to provide an argument that would convince mathematicians?

On the next page are some different ways of thinking about this activity. Have a look at these three methods and see if you can work out how each person convinced themselves that the things they noticed would always be true.

Once you've done that, you might start to wonder 'what if...?'

What happens when you add five consecutive numbers? Seven consecutive numbers? ...



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