



ANN EDWARDS CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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"Learning and achieving in a caring community."

Do to others what you would want them to do to you- Matthew 7:12

**RESPECT**

**PERSEVERANCE**

**SERVICE**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Newsletter No 13

- Headteacher's Welcome
- Reading for Enjoyment, reading for Life
- Bicentenary Outdoor Concert
- Pick-up Punctuality
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- Staffing Update
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Dear Parents and Carers

Happy Friday! Strangely, due to the INSET day and bank holiday, we have reached the end of our first five-day week in school since 8<sup>th</sup> April, and our third of this half term already with only two left to go. Already this half-term we have enjoyed an amazing Art Week (more on that later), a trip to the Cheltenham Jazz Festival, a return to collective worship all in the hall together, packed lunches under clear blue skies on the field and hot dinners all together inside. Of course, it goes without saying that wonderful things happen in each and every classroom each and every day and it's been lovely to see the children engaging so well in their new topics. On that note, please make sure you've read the topic letters that went out at the start of term, which detail, as ever, everything from curriculum information to routines to homework.

Next week, Year 2 and 3 are going the popular trip to Badminton so, if you have a child in those year groups, keep an eye out for updates on Class Dojo at the end of next week. Also, on Tuesday we are taking 55 children to Young Voices at the Resorts World Arena in Birmingham, which should be a fantastic opportunity for something central to what we do here at Ann Edwards: singing. It will be my first visit and I'm really looking forward to it.

Back to this week: we have been really impressed with how our amazing Year 6s have conducted themselves throughout their four days of Key Stage 2 SATS. They sat two papers on Monday (Grammar and Punctuation then Spelling), one on Tuesday (Reading – which included three texts), two on Wednesday (Arithmetic and Maths Problem Solving and Reasoning) and one yesterday (Maths PSR again). They have been a credit to our school and to their families – well done one and all! This afternoon they will be letting off steam and draining the local reservoir with a well-deserved celebratory water fight!

Reading for Enjoyment, Reading for Life

Along with singing, reading is such a central part of what we do here at Ann Edwards Church of England Primary School. Here are a couple of excerpts from the National Curriculum to provide more information:

The overarching aim for English in the national curriculum is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written language, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. The national curriculum for English aims to ensure that all pupils:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage

It is essential that, by the end of their primary education, all pupils are able to read fluently, and with confidence, in any subject in their forthcoming secondary education

*National curriculum in England: English programmes of study, 2014*



I would like to focus on the phrase 'Reading for Enjoyment' mentioned above. This is both a motivation for children to want to learn to read then to become fluent, and also a huge pay-off for their ever-developing reading skills. Our teachers' Language and Literacy group recently met and came up with lots of ideas to really enhance reading for enjoyment at school and in our community. We would really like to have more reading volunteers in school; if you or someone you know is interested the please consider one of these three ways to contribute:

- hearing children read
- reading to children
- helping to keep our amazing library bus organised and tidy

For those reading to children, this could be one-to-one or a very small group, please don't think you would have to entertain a whole class! However, if that's your thing then we would love that too. Although this is genuinely open to everyone, it would be great to have some male reading role-models to come in and do this too.

Please do help us by hearing your children read at home at much as possible – remember there are rewards for achieving certain amounts of reads. Also, reading to your child is always important and will certainly help with reading for enjoyment – even when they're catching you up in height!

Mrs Connolly is communicating with the local library with the aim of a librarian being able to come into school more often.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to Natasha Baines, who has been helping us with the library bus these last few months. Natasha is now unable to continue due to starting a new position, but has been a real help to us with this.

If you or someone you know is willing to volunteer in school to help us with any of this important work, please contact our new school business manager, Emma Jones (in school, using the school number or by emailing [SBM@annedwardsprimary.co.uk](mailto:SBM@annedwardsprimary.co.uk)).

### Bicentenary Outdoor Concert

As you know, our school turned 200 in 2020 but we were obviously unable to celebrate it then. Just a reminder about the Outdoor Concert taking place on the school field on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, midsummer's eve. (I'm keeping everything crossed for the weather). We are hoping to offer food outlets and have already booked 'portaloo' toilets - what else could you wish for?! My hope is that you will be able to enjoy a picnic or food as a family and then hand your child/ren over to sit in their classes for 4.45 ready for the performance to start at 5.00. We are aiming to finish between 6.00 and 6.15. Nearer the time, class teachers will let you know about any costume requirements; don't worry, we are going to keep them simple (although some children will require a costume change if they are performing with their class as well as a club). More details to follow!

We will need all children to be part of this special evening and rehearsals are already starting in some classes so I'd hate for anyone to miss out. I am hoping that you have all had sufficient notice of this event to make the necessary arrangements.

### Pick-Up Punctuality

Thank you once again for helping with the real improvements made to punctuality at morning drop-off. Can I now please ask that you are here at school ready to pick up for 3pm. I know that sometimes we can be late out for a variety of logistical reasons but we will work on this from our side too. You do need to be aware that teachers have other duties on various nights so uncollected children will have to wait in the 'airlock' in the front entrance. Also, if they are particularly late then – space permitting – they may have to be placed in Chilzone and you may be charged.

Life is busy and complex so, if you are running late, please let us know beforehand. However, if this is becoming a regular occurrence please give some thought to how this could be resolved.

### Sports Day

Some of you have contacted the office to ask for timings on Sports Day in order to book time off work. The PE and Sports Team are looking at this now and we will confirm timings within the next week. This is a slightly tricky area because after last year's event we carried out some 'pupil voice', which we regularly do on all sorts of subjects, and the feedback from children was that they preferred sports day being a 'closed' event. The reasons given were that many felt more relaxed just competing in front of children and staff – like they do in PE lessons, play and lunchtimes – because there wasn't so much pressure on them (self-imposed or otherwise) and they were clear about expectations, eg staying with their classes and being in school, rather than unsure if they were under the jurisdiction of school staff or family.

It seems a real shame to not invite families in this year following the effect of Covid over the last couple, but we will be speaking to pupils again and drawing up some really clear expectations for how the day will work best for the enjoyment of all.

### Art Week

And finally...although you will have seen some posts on Dojo celebrating our recent 'Out of this world' Art Week, we thought it would be nice to celebrate this on our website too. Mrs McLoughlin has explained what the week involved, sharing some pupil voice and a lovely selection of pictures, all available here: <https://annedwards.gloucs.sch.uk/art-week-out-of-this-world/>



### Staff Update

We said goodbye to Mr Parker last Friday having welcomed Mrs Emma Jones as our new school business manager on 29<sup>th</sup> April. Emma has had three children go through our school and still has a child in upper key stage two now. She is very excited to be working in our community and will be an asset to our team.

### **Did you know?**

You can find out more about curriculum areas such as Reading and Art by visiting the curriculum section on our website: <https://annedwards.gloucs.sch.uk/information/curriculum-information/>.

Yours Sincerely



Ian Moore  
Headteacher

### Key Dates,

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Young Voices concert (Birmingham)                                 | Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May  |
| Head and Chair Surgery, 9.00-10.30                                | Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May  |
| Yr2 and Yr3 Badminton Trip  | Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> May   |
| Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations                             | Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – to include a special lunch: menu on ParentPay         |
| Last day of term  | Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May (3pm finish)  |
| Half Term   | 30 <sup>th</sup> May – 4 <sup>th</sup> June   |
| First day of term   | Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June   |
| Year 6 Leavers Service at Gloucester Cathedral                    | Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June   |
| EYFS New parents'/carers' meeting                                 | Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June, 5.45   |
| Bicentenary Evening Outdoor Concert                               | Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June, 5-6pm: all children performing (details to follow)   |
| Ann Edwards Armed Forces Day                                      | Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June  |
| AE 200 <sup>th</sup> celebration exhibition at All Hallows Church | Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> June                          |
| AE 200 <sup>th</sup> celebration service at All Hallows Church    | Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> June, 3pm   |
| Bicentenary Evening Outdoor Concert backup date                   | Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June: all children performing if inclement weather 21.6.22 |
| Sports Day  | Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July  |
| Year 6 Kingshill Induction Day                                    | Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> July   |
| Year 6 afternoon performance                                      | Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July   |
| Year 6 evening performance  | Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July  |
| Yr5 and Yr6 RAF Fairford Trip                                     | Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> July  |
| Year 6 Leavers Service  | Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 1.30pm  |
| Last day of term  | Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July (1.30pm finish)                                      |

2022/3 term and holiday dates are now available at <https://annedwards.gloucs.sch.uk/calendar/>.