

Newsletter

Friday 23rd January 2026

Diary Dates

30th January

Y5 Trip to Windsor Castle

11th February

Y4 Residential to Minstead

16th–20th February

Half-term

23rd–24th February

Bikeability Year 5

25th February

Class photos

18th March- TBC

Easter Service at St Mary's Church
1.30pm all year groups

20th March

Year 1-6 school reports out to parents

23rd March

Pop in parents evening

25th March

Listen to Me concert
Year 3 at 11:00am

27th March

INSET day

Monday 30th

**March-Friday 10th
April**

Easter Holidays

Inset Day

Dear Parents and Carers,

January can feel like a really long month and the weather at the moment is not helping. We are trying to get the children outside at every opportunity and are utilising the front playground more for KS2 whilst we cannot use the field. Thank you to Mrs Webb for brightening our day on Monday with Brew Monday and for the generous donation from Twinings of the tea bags.

A few reminders today: Please provide your child with a PE kit so they can fully participate in this important part of the curriculum. We do have a stock of good quality second hand uniform should you need. This kit can come into school on a Monday and stay all week, going home to be washed on a Friday. We will be sending home letters when children do not have appropriate PE kit to support this.

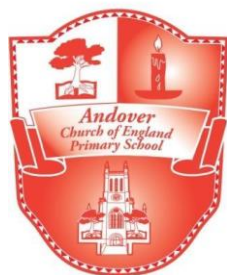
There has been an increase in children being collected early from school. Whilst we understand sometimes this is unavoidable, the statutory school day finishes at 3.10pm for KS1 and 3.15pm for KS2. If a child is leaving at 2.30pm or 2.45pm they are missing a significant part of their education and these minutes count. This absence is unauthorised. We will be requesting evidence of appointments for the children moving forward. Should you need support for child care after school, our very popular ACES wrap around care is available to book through SCOPAY once you have registered. The children are provided with a light tea and lots of fun activities with staff from school.

There are a few children being collected late from school which impacts on class teachers' planning and marking time and meetings which are after school. If you are late after 3.25pm the children will go to ACES wrap around care which will be chargeable to your SCOPAY account.

We are currently planning our club's run by school staff after school. These will run for the whole of the long summer term. Information will be coming out about the choice of clubs and booking onto these in the next couple of weeks.

We are currently reviewing our First Aid policy which includes administering non prescribed medication such as calpol. For now until this review is complete, we cannot administer calpol unless it is prescribed by a doctor or a discussion has taken place with myself.





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01.06.2026

I am delighted to say we have been awarded a very generous grant from the Royal Horticultural Society to develop greenspaces in the school grounds. The Eco Council are busy planning how to spend this money. We will be looking at replacing the bamboo screening at the front of school as one of the development areas. Watch this space!

Mrs Fiona Tickle
Headteacher

All about Year 5s Learning

In Year 5, we have been writing an alternative ending all about the terrifying battle of Narnia. When we were planning this epic adventure, we wrote in key words with Miss Barrett, and we also included information about the characters. Later that week, we published and wrote out the great battle of Narnia. We also used describing words and lots of parentheses.



In our History lessons, we have been learning about Kings and Queens, which has helped us look at it from a different perspective. Next week, we are going on an amazing school trip to The Windsor Castle.

In Art, we are creating people in lots of poses. In Maths, we have been learning about factors, prime numbers and multiplying.

Written by Savannah & Lydia Y5, checked and edited by Kate & Anna Y4

House points

This week's house points - Well done to Saxons who are leading the way!

Danebury	Viking	Normans	Saxons
233	200	184	245

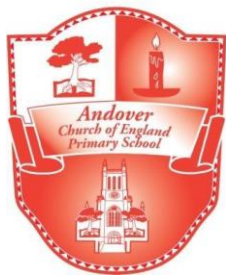
Attendance

Every Day Counts!

Did you know?

A child is considered **persistently absent** if their attendance drops to **90% or below**. This means **missing just one day every two weeks** adds up to **almost four weeks of learning lost** over the school year.

The Impact of Poor Attendance



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- Lower Attendance often leads to lower achievement.
- Children who miss lessons can find it harder to keep up and feel less confident.
- Regular attendance builds good habits for future education and work.

How Parents Can Help

- Encourage good routines: early bedtimes, on-time mornings.
- Book appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.
- Contact school promptly if your child is unwell or facing difficulties.

Our Message

Every day counts – every lesson matters.

Let's work together to give every child the best possible chance to succeed.

Or contact FAO FSW adminoffice@andover-pri.hants.sch.uk

We work in line with Hampshire County Council policy and do not authorise holidays during term time unless it is due to an exceptional circumstance. Should you choose to take a holiday of 5 days or more, you will be issued with a Penalty Notice.

WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Leads straight away.

The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leads for Andover Church of England Primary School:-

- Mrs Fiona Tickle
- Miss Chelsea Barrett
- Mrs Charlotte Down
- Mrs Claire Webb

They can be contacted through the school office via email (adminoffice@andover-pri.hants.sch.uk) or telephone on **01264 352322**

Safeguarding Governor:- **Mrs Nicky Parker**

For a copy of the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, please visit our school website or ask at the school office.