

Newsletter

Friday 11th September 2025

Diary Dates

Friday 26th September

Macmillan Coffee
afternoon in the hall
2.30-3.15pm

Monday 6th October

Flu clinic for all
children

Friday 10th October

Wear Yellow for
Mental Health
Awareness

Monday 13th October

Parents Evening

Wednesday 15th October

Harvest at the
church 1.30pm

Wednesday 15th October

Parents Evening

Wednesday 22nd October

School Photos

27th-31st October

Half term

Monday 3rd November

INSET day

Dear Parents and Carers,

There is always so much information at the start of term, I find myself writing another newsletter!

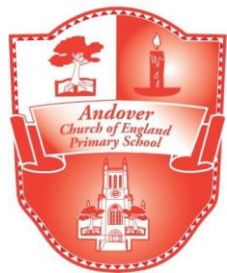
We have had discussions about homework as a school team and with many parents about what is manageable for all. We don't want homework to become a battle at home so we have reviewed our homework policy, including the use of Google Classroom. For now, we are pausing our use of Google Classroom. Children in KS1 should read every night and practice their keywords. Year 3 and 4 should continue to read every night at home with the addition of weekly spellings and Times Table Rock Stars. Log ins will be sent home. Year 5 and 6 children should be independently recording when they are reading at home, but with parents overseeing this please. Times Table Rock Stars and weekly spellings plus additional homework set by the class teacher when needed, for example SATS revision will begin after half term.

Year 6 - Secondary school applications are open and the deadline is 31st October 2025. The open evenings information has been sent out, should you need to visit. If you need support to complete the application, please speak with Mr Bown or Mrs Webb.

Year 5 - We would recommend taking the opportunity to visit the local secondary schools this term. This helps you start to learn about what each secondary school offers. The children had an amazing day learning all about the Vikings. Thank you for all the efforts with costumes. The children looked amazing!



Year 4 - Letters about the Spring term residential will be coming out shortly with details of payment plans and key dates. The children will also be having swimming lessons in the Spring Term.



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Thursday 20th November

Lunch for service children

Monday 1st December

INSET day

Tuesday 9th December

KS1 Nativity at the church 10.30am

KS2 Carols at the church at 1.30pm

Friday 19th December

Break up for Christmas holidays at 1.30pm

Monday 5th January 2026

Start of the Spring Term

Year 2 and 3 - Lots of change moving into these classes with more structured learning, but the children have all taken this in their stride. Details of trips later in the school year will be coming out soon.

Year R and 1 - The children have all settled so well and are already busy with their learning. We have changed our phonics scheme this year to Little Wandle and there is an information afternoon on 25th September at 2.45pm to find out more.

Information about clubs will be coming out at the start of next week for you to sign up using SCOPAY. We start Year R clubs in the Spring term.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Fiona Tickle
Headteacher

Music Lessons and Choir

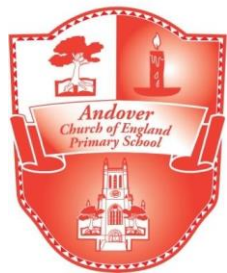


As you know I am very passionate about music opportunities for all children. We have nearly 20 children now learning to play an instrument in KS2. There are spaces for keyboard and brass for this year. The children have lessons outside of their normal Listen2me lessons and we also offer a band opportunity where they learn to play together. We are the only primary school in Andover who offers this! We also run a lunchtime choir for Years 3 - 6. The children sign up for choir with their teachers. Please ask the office for more information about instrument lessons.

Spanish



This year we move to teaching Spanish as our Modern Foreign Language. This is in response to our feeder secondary school only teaching Spanish and German, but also Spanish is more well used over the world. Our children are really excited by this change and all KS2 children will access weekly lessons. Teachers have received appropriate training. If you are able to speak Spanish and would like to support in School please get in touch about becoming a volunteer.



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Wrap Around Care - ACES

Miss Webb and Mrs Bonam are running our after school club provision every day from 3.15pm-5.45pm. We have spaces available on most days.

Please register with the office and then you will be able to book using Scopay. Childcare vouchers can be used and we are in the process of our application to be able to use military vouchers as well.

The children are provided with a snack and have a range of activities based in the hall and outside. The set-up is very different from school which the children need after a busy school day!

Benefits of using our wrap around care:

- The children know the school staff
- Onsite so hand over from class teachers and pick up for parents is easy
- Children can do normal clubs and then transfer at 4.15pm into ACES!

Please come and talk to us for more information!

Snacks

Please can you provide your child with a healthy snack for morning play, such as a piece of fruit or snack bar.

Children cannot have bags of crisps, sweets or large chocolate bars in school. We are a nut free school so no products can contain nuts.

We are working towards our Healthy Schools award and look forward to working with you on this.

Christmas

It is never too early to plan Christmas events! I hope by having all the dates it makes planning your diaries at home easier!



Craft Afternoons - come and join your child in class to create a Christmas craft and sing a Christmas carol. 2.15pm-end of the school day.

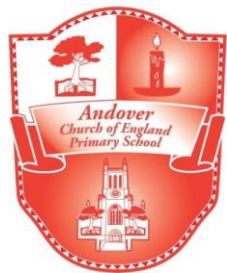
Year R- Friday 12th December
Year 1- Friday 5th December
Year 2- Wednesday 10th December
Year 3- Thursday 11th December
Year 4- Thursday 4th December
Year 5- Wednesday 3rd December
Year 6- Monday 8th December

Christmas Lunch and jumper day- Wednesday 17th December

Church services- Tuesday 9th December

KS1 Nativity at St Mary's church 10.30am

KS2 Carols at St Mary's church at 1.30pm



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Family Support Worker

The first two weeks of school establish a routine with attendance and set the tone for the rest of the term. Starting the term on time allows students to reconnect with friends, build new relationships, and feel a sense of belonging.

Missing school, even for a short period, can lead to gaps in learning and make it harder to catch up. Research shows that students who miss school in the first week are more likely to be persistently absent throughout the year.

In summary, attending school regularly and arriving on time, especially in the first two weeks of term, is vital for students' success. We look forward to working with you to continue to improve our school attendance for all.

Direct phone number: 07513 105230

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



**Monday 15th Sept
9-10 in The Nest**
A friendly space for ACE parents/
carers to connect over a cup of tea
or coffee.
Drop in for a chat, support or sign posting

New Year R Open Days

Tuesday 7th October 2025 1.30pm

Thursday 16th October 2025 1.30pm

Wednesday 12th November 2025

9.30am

Tuesday 18th November 2025

1.30pm

Inset Days

Monday 3rd November 2025

Monday 1st December 2025

Friday 27th March 2026

Monday 1st June 2026