



ALL SAINTS CONNECT



The Church of England
Diocese of Ely



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EAST ANGLIA

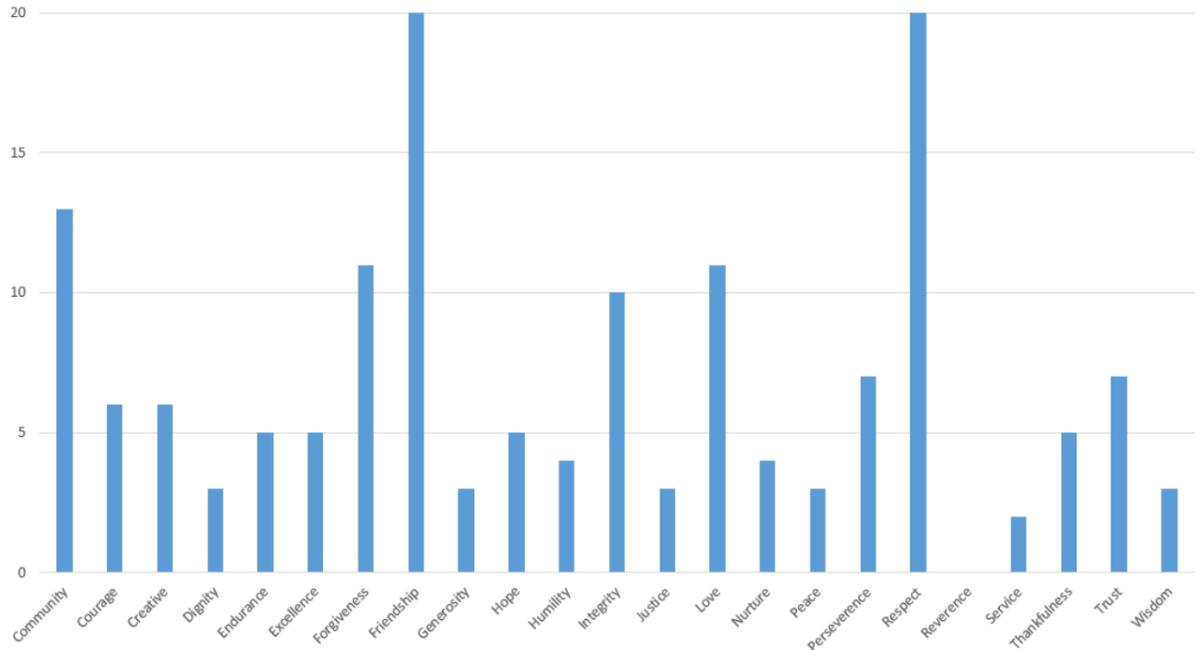
31st January 2025

The All Saints Inter-Church Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (registered number 8454781)

KEY DIARY DATES

14.2.25	Last day of Spring Term 1
24.2.25	Children return for Spring Term 2
26.3.25	Y5 & Y6 The Oaks Residential Trip
4.4.25	Last day of Spring Term 2
23.4.25	Children return for Summer Term 1
18.6.25	Reception Pupil Vision Screening

SCHOOL VALUES UPDATE



If you haven't already, please do participate in our revised school values survey, which will close on Friday 7th February. So far, we've had responses from 27 families covering approximately 15% of our pupil population. We are keen to get the views of all, so do please click on the link and share your views. It takes less than 2 minutes!

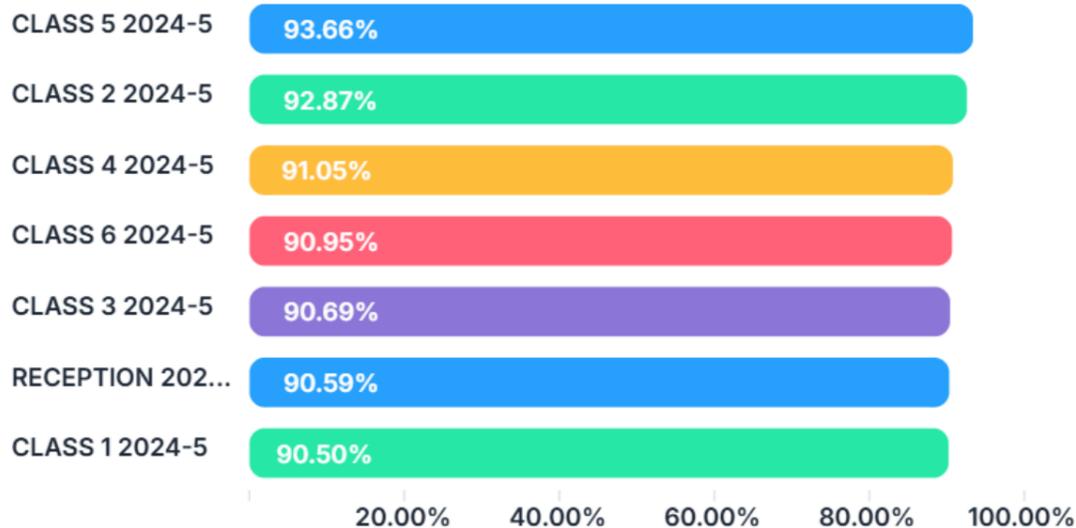
To access the survey, do click on the image below or copy and paste the following URL into your web browser address bar: <https://forms.office.com/e/LjJtmv9KDV>



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

PUPIL ATTENDANCE TRACKING



Pupil attendance across all year groups is somewhat below national expectations and we as a school will be seeking to positively address this with the help of staff, trustees and families.

There is a wealth of evidence highlighting the negative impact pupil absence has upon their academic progress and emotional wellbeing, which is why we are eager to ensure pupils regularly attend school so as to help them achieve their potential.

We will be strictly adhering to the Department for Education statutory guidance and Local Authority Policy and Procedures to bring pupil attendance at least in line with national averages.

Do please ensure children are in class each and everyday the school is open for the entirety of the school day. Instances of absences must be reported and proof of appointments provided. Failure to do so does run the risk of incurring a fine.

YEAR 4 STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

Year 4 have been exploring the properties of shape and materials in Design & Technology this week.

The pupils have made a number of discoveries, including how common materials such as paper can be used in deliver amazing structural properties!

Creating paper cylinders, the children placed various weights to measure the strength of their structure. Leon's cylinder held over 1kg in weights and Mr Crickwood's water bottle!

Some of the children's structures even managed to take the entire weight of Mr Crickwood himself!



Go for a walk around the neighbourhood, and look to see where cylinders are used in structures. Consider:

Where do you see cylinders? How do you know that a shape is a cylinder?

Why do you think someone used a cylinder here instead of a different shape?

What do you think each of the cylinders we saw is made of?

Do you think the cylinder is solid or hollow? How could you find out?

MEET THE SCHOOL TRUSTEES



The school is currently undergoing a number of changes at all levels of leadership, including at the Academy's Trustee Level.

We are keen to ensure parents and cares are kept up to date with developments and introduce you to all of the school's Trustee members.

Over the coming weeks, we will share introductory messages from each of them, starting with our Vice-Chair of Trustees, **Andy Stone**.

'I joined the Trust Board at All Saints in September 2024 and was elected as Vice-Chair in the autumn term. I had already been working with the school in my role as the Director of the Schools' Service in the Catholic Diocese of East Anglia. I have worked in this role since September 2022. Prior to that I was the headteacher of a Catholic comprehensive school in north-east London. I have taught throughout my career having trained initially as a teacher of Sociology and Politics. I completed a doctorate in education in 2003 based upon my experience of working with students in a London sixth form college.

I've spent over 30 years working in Catholic education in the dioceses of Westminster, Brentwood and now East Anglia and am very committed to the wonderful work of our schools. All Saints has a very special faith foundation as an Inter-Church school jointly shared between the diocese of East Anglia and the Diocese of Ely and that ecumenical foundation is really important.

He have experience in school governance in both the Catholic and community school sector and I am the chair of governors at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary in Swaffham and also a director of a MAT Board in east London. I'm a great believer in volunteering, a life-long learner and like to keep busy

Outside of school I enjoy travel, sport, both playing and spectating, reading and walking in the great outdoors. I have one son who is at university and who had the dubious experience of my being his headteacher at secondary school!



Free Healthy Relationship courses for parents

All relationships have their ups and downs, but if parents are regularly arguing in front of their children, it can have negative and lasting consequences. Help is available for parents who want to communicate in a healthier way. Family Hubs are running courses to support parents who would like to improve the relationship with their partner or ex-partner. Courses bookable directly via the QR code.

2025 workshop booking form



ONLINE: Improve the communication with your partner to support your children (Arguing Better). Online Via Teams Tuesday 4 February and Tuesday 11 February, 6.30pm to 7.30pm

FACE TO FACE: Improve the communication with your partner to support your children (Arguing Better). Cambourne Soul, Back Ln, Cambourne CB23 6FZ Monday 10 February, 1pm to 2.30pm

FACE TO FACE: Improve the communication with your ex-partner to support your children (Getting it Right for Children). Cambourne Soul, Back Ln, Cambourne CB23 6FZ Monday 10 February, 6.30pm to 8pm

FACE TO FACE: Improve the communication with your ex-partner to support your children (Getting it Right for Children). Huntingdon Youth Child and Family Centre PE29 7AF Wednesday 12 February, 10am to 12noon

ONLINE: Improve the communication with your ex-partner to support your children (Getting it Right for Children). Online Via Teams Wednesday 26 February and Wednesday 5 March, 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Although the Arguing Better course is most beneficial when attending as a couple, there's no requirement to both attend.

**Please note these courses are not suitable if there has been any historic or current domestic abuse. If this is your situation and you would like help on where to find domestic abuse support, please contact rplead@cambridgeshire.gov.uk **



Education Inclusion Family Advisor Newsletter February 2025



Hello, I am Beatrice Dark the Education Inclusion Family Advisor for school. I can offer advice and support on a range of issues and challenges that can affect family life. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of support

Parenting Top Tip - Anxiety

Anxiety is an unpleasant feeling of fear, panic or worry. So how can you help your child with managing their anxiety?

Worry time - Having specific time set aside to worry can help with clearing thoughts.

Worry box/monster - Use a box or toy monster to add any worries to. This is especially helpful if your child is a nighttime worrier.

Worry balloon - Blow a balloon up, put all your worries in and let it go.

Find positives - If a child worries about something try to think and find the positives.

Problem solving - Think about all the solutions to the worry and then break down the steps.

Feelings diary - Record or draw things that have worried you during the day and add at the end: "How I managed it" & "What helped me."

If you'd like more information about these ideas, keep an eye out for our Supporting Your Child with Feelings of Worry online workshop we run regularly.



Another Resource

Have a look at this NHS webpage which looks into understanding anxiety in further detail: [Anxiety - Every Mind Matters - NHS](#)



Activity Idea - Fizzy Lava Lamp

While we're stuck indoors due to the poor weather, this is a fun science-based activity you can try.

You will need:

-An empty jar, sunflower oil, water, food colouring, bicarbonate of soda & a torch.

Instructions:

1. Add the sunflower oil to the halfway point of the jar.
2. Add some drops of food colouring too.
3. Top up the rest of the jar with water.
4. Switch on your torch & rest it so it is shining through the jar.
5. Put in a spoonful of bicarbonate of soda and quickly screw on the lid.
6. Watch the 'lava' fizz and bubble around inside the jar.
7. Next you can try using different jar & bottle shapes as well as different food colours to create a whole set.

Does your child have, or potentially have, an additional need or disability? Pinpoint (www.pinpoint-cams.org.uk) have lots of information, advice and tips. For Cambridgeshire's Local Offer go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer



Contact me directly beatrice.dark@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

YEAR 1 RECOUNT FOREST SCHOOL EXPERIENCE



This week, Year One have been writing a recount of a personal experience, and what better experience is there than Forest School?

After putting on our wellies and waterproof clothes, we headed out to the Wild Area to make wands, explore the outdoors and make s'mores.