



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

Croxley View, Watford, Hertfordshire. WD18 6BW

Tel: 01923 226987

admin@stanthonys.herts.sch.uk

www.stanthonys.herts.sch.uk

We Grow and Learn with Jesus

Headteacher: Mrs. P.M. Wilson M.A.

JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Covid-19 Update

We are currently still open to children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 as well as continuing to accommodate vulnerable children and children of key workers. Over the last few weeks we have had to increase the numbers of small group classes to eleven, in order to be able to take in the numbers of children from key worker families that have applied. We do not have sufficient staff to open further to any more children.

We are currently planning for our return, after the summer holidays, in September. Hopefully then, we will be opening to all children as normal. We have needed to organise our transition arrangements, for Nursery and Reception children differently this year. Visits and meetings have been arranged for September and parents of Nursery and Reception should all have received letters about this. Please let the school office know if you have not received yours. For the two mornings of the first week back, our current Reception teachers will be going to Year 1 classes with these children to help welcome them back and make sure they are settled in their new classrooms.

Parents of children in other classes should watch out for a letter for their child from their next class teacher, which will be emailed to you. We hope that this will provide some reassurance and help your child begin to create a connection ready for a new start in their next class in September. Obviously we are unable to carry out any of our usual transition activities this term.

I had hoped to be able to give you all some clear information, before the end of term, on how we will be able to resume in September. Unfortunately this doesn't look possible at the moment. We are still waiting to receive the government guidance that has been promised. Whilst we are anticipating that all children will be back in school full time, it seems unlikely that larger gatherings such as assemblies or clubs of any kind can be reintroduced straight away. It is likely that we will need to arrange staggered start days and arrival and collection times for different classes. We have insufficient information at present to plan arrangements for lunchtimes. It is therefore important that you continue to check your emails and the website for any updates that will be posted nearer September. There are likely to be changes that we will need to make, prior to starting back on Thursday 3rd September and the school will be closed throughout the holiday.

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Staffing

We are very sorry that Debbie, our Nursery teacher, will be leaving us this July. We are really grateful for all she has done for the children at St. Anthony's and wish her all the best for her retirement.

We are also sorry to be losing both Angela and Linda this summer. They have worked at St. Anthony's for a very long time and will be really missed. We appreciate all their hard work and loyal commitment to the school over the years and all that they have done for our staff and families. We wish them both all the best for a happy, fulfilling and well-earned retirement.

The governors are very pleased to welcome Corinne Bygrave to our school family. Corrine is a very experienced teacher who will this year be taking one of our Year 3 classes.

In September the organisation of classes and teachers will be as follows:

Nursery	-	Katy Laws
Reception Lisbon	-	Aimie Peacock
Reception Padua	-	Abbie Clark
Year 1 Lisbon	-	Frankie Fairlie
Year 1 Padua	-	Ann Power
Year 2 Lisbon	-	Amy McMahon
Year 2 Padua	-	Megan Brogan
Year 3 Lisbon	-	Laura Whooley
Year 3 Padua	-	Corinne Bygrave
Year 4 Lisbon	-	Shannon Kelly
Year 4 Padua	-	Sarah McCabe
Year 5 Lisbon	-	Natalie Grimshaw
Year 5 Padua	-	Frances Nicholson and Catherine Elliott
Year 6 Lisbon	-	John McGinn
Year 6 Padua	-	Martin McDermott

Cover for teachers' PPA time, continuing professional development and co-ordinators' release will be provided by Rachel Smith, Eva Thomas, Katy Laws and Catherine Elliott.

Elaine will be responsible for helping to raise standards through the school and supporting teaching and learning. She will therefore not have a class responsibility but will spend time working closely with all classes.

Jennie Martin, a member of our Senior Management Team, will continue in her role as Inclusion Co-ordinator (INCo) also without any class responsibility.

Melanie Brimicombe, a member of our Senior Management team will be spending time working with classes, as KS1 coordinator, to support teaching and learning. She will also be continuing in her role as Inclusion Coordinator (INCo), alongside Jennie.

Uniform Purchase

We will no longer be selling any uniform from the school office on Wednesday mornings.

Sweat shirts, polo shirts, PE shorts and tops must now be purchased online from Essential Schoolwear. Details are on our school website www.stanthonys.herts.sch.uk under the 'parents' tab and then 'uniform'. You will see the link there for online ordering. This link will take you to the correct page to register. Once registered, please follow the instructions from point 2-6 below

Alternatively if you do not use the link on the school website you can simply follow the instruction below.

Go to: www.essentialschoolwear.com

1. Click on the Blackboard
2. Register (or log-in if already registered)
3. Click on 'HOME'
4. Click on your school
5. Select uniform to purchase
6. Checkout.

Book bags, P.E bags and red socks still need to be purchased from the school until further notice. However, you will need to send the money or cheque with your order, and give it to your child to place in their morning class register box. The office will process the orders each week and send these home to you, with your child.

Summer Reading Challenge

Even though libraries across Hertfordshire may still be closed, children can still take part in the Summer Reading Challenge. This year it is called 'Lets Get Silly'.

This will be a virtual challenge and has already started! It is free to take part in. There are short videos to watch, silly readings and family themed activities.

Children are encouraged to read six books and there is an online Borrow Box library.

Please log in to www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk to take part.

Annual written school reports

As, unfortunately, we will not be seeing all our children this school year we have arranged a day when you can collect their reports from school.

Reports for Nursery children and children in all Padua classes should be collected at any time between 9.00am and 3.30pm on Thursday 9th July.

Reports for children in all Lisbon classes should be collected between 9.00am and 3.30pm on Thursday 16th July.

If your child is due to attend school on that day, their report will be given to them.

If parents wish to discuss any aspect of their child's report – please contact the school office in September and we will arrange this for you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 9 th July	Nursery and Padua class reports are available for parents to collect between 9.00am and 3.30pm
Thurs 16 th July	Lisbon reports are available for parents to collect between 9.00am and 3.30pm
Fri 17 th July	School closes at 2.30pm for Summer Holiday
Wed 2nd Sept	INSET day – school closed
Thurs 3 rd Sept	School year begins
Fri 2nd Oct	INSET day – school closed