



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

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We Grow and Learn with Jesus

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

SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Staffing

We were sorry to lose one of our 'Early Years' Classroom Assistants at the end of term. Breda left to start a new career in holistic therapy. We wish her the best of luck in her new venture and thank her for everything she has done for the children at St. Anthony's.

We are also sorry to be losing Bob, our caretaker, at the end of this month. We wish him well in his retirement and thank him for all he has done for our school.

Welcome

A big welcome to all our new children and their families. We also welcome Laura and welcome back Shannon, two new teachers. We hope they all will soon feel part of St. Anthony's School community.

Congratulations and well done

Congratulations to Hannah (Y1 L teacher) who completed her Catholic Certificate of Religious Education (CCRS) qualification last term.

Congratulations are also due to the school and staff and children of St. Anthony's who achieved the Gold School Games Mark for the first time last year. We thank Aimie (Y3 P teacher), our PE coordinator, for leading us in our commitment, engagement and delivery of Competitive School Sport in 2017-2018.

I am also pleased to inform you that the school also received re-accreditation of our Healthy Schools Award and enclose an excerpt from our letter of confirmation from County.

Dear Aimie and Team,

I am delighted to inform you that your school has achieved Hertfordshire Healthy School status! Your whole school review is a fantastic accolade to all the work you have and are undertaking to promote health and wellbeing across the school. It was wonderful to hear about all the amazing work being undertaken at St. Anthony's Primary School. I have to say a huge thank you to you Aimie for all your hard work. You thoroughly embraced the programme right from the initial launch meeting and continually responded by deadlines and got back to me immediately whenever I asked for additional

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information or evidence. You, your action group and staff have completed the whole school review with good impact evidence. The review really provides the reader with a great understanding of your whole school approach to healthy schools and shows how health and wellbeing for children, families and staff is central to the school's purpose. The actions that you identified in your plan have either been fully met already or are targeted for the forthcoming academic year.

Many congratulations to you and your school community!!

I am delighted that St. Anthony's School has achieved Herts for Learning, Healthy Schools Status! Many congratulations.

I am very proud to announce that our team of pupils from St. Anthony's were clear winners in the Inter Schools' Spelling Challenge. Each of our four Y6 children – Silvia S, Mark K, Adam O and Theo L achieved a certificate and medal and were awarded the winner's trophy. Silvia S was also the individual, best spelling competition winner.

Thank you

The staff would like to say thank you for all the good wishes, cards and gifts they received at the end of last term. Your kindness is appreciated.

Welcome Assembly

Parents are invited to one of our Welcome Assemblies at 9.15am on:

Monday 24th September – all Lisbon classes
Tuesday 25th September – all Padua classes.

Tissues

As usual at the beginning of the school year, we would be grateful for donations of boxes of tissues. If each family could send one box into school, it will enable staff to deal quickly with minor emergencies and allow the school's resources to be spent on other essentials for the classrooms. Thank you.

PFA

A big thank you to our PFA for all their hard work last year. The Summer Fayre made £2,920.00 profit. This includes the matched funding from Barclays Bank. Thank you to all our parents for supporting our events. The PFA would welcome new members to help with this vital fundraising.

Job Vacancies

We are currently advertising for a part time early years classroom assistant (8.45am – 12.00 daily) who has a Level 3 qualification.

We also require a full time (37 hours/week) Caretaker to work a split shift, from 7.15am to 9.05am and 1.20pm to 7.00pm Monday – Thursday and 6.30pm on Friday. This role involves site security,

cleaning, portage, ordering supplies, supervising cleaning staff and completing safety checks as required all year round. Please inform the office if you know of anyone who may be interested.

We are also looking to appoint a new cleaner to work for two hours each weekday, after school. Please let us know if you can help.

Questionnaires

Thank you for your responses. All questionnaires have now been analysed and as a result the school intends to do the following:

Children's views:

- Retain our inclusive ethos as we expand
- Maintain our focus on sport opportunities and sports clubs at school
- Retain our insistence on good behaviour in lessons and around the school
- Continue to maintain the improved level of school trips
- Maintain the increased level of security and continue to monitor all aspects of safety
- Raise awareness of bullying and reporting it, through assemblies and work in class
- Maintain good teaching, providing sufficient challenge for all children
- Reinforce with the children that there are many adults who they can choose to talk to, at school, if they are worried.

Parents' views

- Continue to invite parents to as many occasions as possible, to see the children and their work
- Maintain the weekly surgery sessions with the INCO so that parents can raise queries as soon as they arise
- Publicise the comments we receive about the children's good behaviour
- Publicise the behaviour policy and maintain the good work done in this area
- Continue to provide as many sports clubs and out of school activities as possible, giving as much notice as we can
- Publicise and monitor the homework policy
- Maintain the weekly class updates introduced two years ago as a result of this survey
- Continue to provide the additional information about children's progress in literacy and maths assessments, that we introduced this year.

Harvest Festival Mass

This will take place on *Tuesday 2nd October* with Mass at 10.00am.

Please remember that all parents are welcome to the Harvest Mass even if you have a young child who will not be attending but taking part in a class worship or liturgy instead.

A special collection for CAFOD will take place as it is the School's Harvest Charity. Please send your child to school with a donation, in an envelope, marked for CAFOD, on Tuesday 2nd October.

Grandparents and Community Afternoon

On Wednesday 10th October at 1.30pm the children will welcome, entertain and serve tea to grandparents and residents from River Court and the Chase Nursing homes. Please put this date in

grandparents' diaries now and inform the school office if they are able to attend so that we know how many to cater for.

Morning assemblies at 9.15am have been arranged so that parents see their child's class entertainment as follows:

Thursday 11 th October	-	Y2 and Y3 classes
Friday 12 th October	-	Y1, Y5 and Y6 classes
Monday 15 th October	-	Reception and Y4 classes

School Fund

I would like to remind parents about the importance of paying school fund regularly. We ask for a contribution of £2.00 a week per child.

School fund enables us to buy materials for the children to use to support their learning, making it fun and interesting. We also subsidise visits and speakers. We use this money to buy things that our budget will not stretch to.

Please will all parents try and support the school in this way. Families with three or more children at St. Anthony's are only asked to contribute for the first two children.

Please send cash or cheques in a named envelope. Your child should place these in their class box at registration on Monday morning, if possible. Please make cheques payable to St. Anthony's Primary School. You can also pay via the 'Gateway' if you have already registered with the school office.

Surgery Sessions

If you wish to raise any concern or query with Jennie, our inclusion coordinator (INCO) she will be available to meet with parents on a weekly basis by appointment. If you have any worries at all about your child's progress or behaviour she will try to help. Jennie will be able to work with you to help bring about improvement.

Nursery Parents' Meeting

The first of three important meetings for parents of Nursery children will take place on *Thursday 11th October at 7.30pm*. We will explain learning in the Foundation Stage and cover what and how the children are taught at school. There will be ideas to help you to support your children's learning at home.

Session 2 'Early Reading and Writing' – *Thursday 24th January 2019 at 7.30pm*

Session 3 'Preparing for full time school' – *Thursday 20th June 2019 at 7.30pm*

Reception Parents' Meeting

Parents of Reception Lisbon and Padua children are invited to a meeting on *Thursday 11th October at 7.30pm*. This is an important meeting to help you understand how your children learn to read and enable you to help them, using fun activities. There will be a second meeting on *Thursday 31st January 2019*, focusing on how children learn to write and how you can support them at home. Please reserve these dates in your diaries now.

Y1 Parents' Meeting

There will be a Parents' information session 'New to Y1' on *Thursday 27th September at 7.30pm*. Please put this date in your diary now.

Y2 Parents' Meeting

This will take place on *Wednesday 23rd January 2019 at 7.00pm*. Teachers will explain the statutory assessments that the children will do in May and how we can support their learning at home.

Y3 Parents' Meeting

I would like to invite you to a meeting 'Moving to KS2 – the importance of reading in Y3' on *Wednesday 19th September at 7.30pm*. The aim of the meeting is to let you know what is expected of the children's reading in Y3 and how you can continue to support them at home. I hope you will be able to join us. This important meeting will be in the classrooms and should take around an hour. Please keep this date free.

Y4 Parents' Meeting

Year 4 teachers will hold an information meeting for parents on *Tuesday 25th September at 7.30pm*. They will explain our expectations for the children and go over class routines and the curriculum for the year. We hope you will be able to attend.

Y5 Parents' Meeting

A meeting will be held for parents of Y5 children on *Wednesday 26th September at 6.30pm*. Information regarding daily routines and the children's curriculum will be given.

Ride and Stride

Don't forget that we have an arrangement with the Premier Inn at the bottom of Whippendell Road, Holy Rood Social Club on Tolpits Lane and the new Morrison's Store. You can apply to school for a permit to leave in your car windscreen enabling you to park in either, free of charge, while you walk the children to school at 8.45am and when you collect your children at 3.30pm. This not only helps to keep the children healthy, but also reduces traffic congestion outside the school at peak times.

Parking

We have had reports that some parents are parking inconsiderately in residents' private car parking spaces behind blocks of flats in Croxley View. Please respect our neighbours privacy and use the spaces provided on the road itself.

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following children who were in these classes at the end of last term:

Reception Lisbon

Daniella B who achieved the Duckling 3 Award for swimming.

Melisha G who achieved the British Gymnastics Proficiency Award for Level 8, the ASA Learn to Swim Award Level 2 and a Speech and Drama exam certificate which she passed with 'Special Merit'.

Reception Padua

Veronica J who received a 'Star Performer' certificate for Multi-Sports.

Year 1 Padua

Matei C who received a 'Star Performer' certificate for Multi-Sports.

Year 2 Lisbon

Kasia B who received two certificates and medal for Performing Arts.

Hannah McK who received a certificate for taking part in a Speech and Drama competition.

Daniella F who achieved the ASA 5m Distance Award for swimming.

Sam McN who received a certificate of Achievement for Dancing.

Year 2 Padua

Sammy B who completed the Peace Hospice 5k Night Light Walk.

Beau LP who won a 2nd place tournament medal from Chalfont Saints FC.

Year 3 Lisbon

Marcus AW who received a 'Star Performer' trophy for Multi-Sports.

Taylor W who received two football trophies, for participation and Players Player.

Nicole F who achieved her ASA 50m Distance Award for swimming.

Choobwe K who received a medal for winning a football tournament.

Year 3 Padua

Ronny A who achieved the ASA 20m Distance Award for swimming.

Daniel S who received an 8th Kyu, Orange Belt, trophy for Tae Kwon-do.

Year 4 Lisbon

Dougie F who received a trophy from Evergreen FC for participation.

Year 4 Padua

Eva MD who completed the Peace Hospice 5k Night Light Walk.

Year 5 Lisbon

Mariella C who won a trophy and eight medals in an Irish Dancing Feis. She also won three trophies and two medals in another Irish Dancing Feis.

Jessica W who passed her Classical Ballet Exam 1 with Merit.

Year 5 Padua

Amber B and Eva S who completed the Peace Hospice 5k Night Light Walk.

Eva S also achieved the British Gymnastics Proficiency Award, Advanced Level Bronze in Floor, Vault and Rebound, Apparatus and Hand Held Apparatus.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 3rd Sept	Staff INSET – school closed
Tue 4 th Sept	School year starts
Wed 12 th Sep	Y6 Padua Retreat day at Holy Rood Church
Fri 14 th Sep	Holy Rood Feast Day
Wed 19 th Sep	Y6 Lisbon Retreat day at Holy Rood Y3 parents' meeting at 7.30pm
Thur 20 th Sep	Y4 parents' meeting at 7.30pm
Mon 24 th Sep	Welcome assembly – Lisbon classes. Parents welcome at 9.15am
Tue 25 th Sep	Welcome assembly – Padua classes. Parents welcome at 9.15am
Wed 26 th Sep	Individual and family group photos Y5 parents meeting at 6.30pm
Thu 27 th Sep	Y1 parents' meeting at 7.30pm
Tue 2 nd Oct	Harvest Festival Mass – KS2 classes, 10.00am. All parents welcome
Thur 11 th Oct	Assembly – Y2 and Y3 classes – parents welcome at 9.15am Nursery parents' meeting at 7.30pm Reception parents' meeting at 7.30pm
Fri 12 th Oct	Assembly – Y1, Y5 and Y6 classes – parents welcome at 9.15am
Mon 15 th Oct	Assembly – Reception and Y4 classes – parents welcome at 9.15am
Tue 23 rd Oct	Late Parents' Evening 6.00pm – 9.00pm. All classes
Wed 24 th Oct	Early Parents' Evening 3.40pm – 6.30pm. All classes No Irish dancing club
Fri 26th Oct	School closes for half term at 2.30pm
Mon 29th Oct – Fri 2nd Nov	Half term – school closed
Mon 5 th Nov	School resumes
Thu 22 nd Nov	Flu vaccinations Reception – Y5 classes

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