



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

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We Grow and Learn with Jesus

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

DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

EYFS Nativity Play

On **Friday 1st December** at 11.00am the Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) will be performing 'A little bird told me' in the hall and their parents are welcome to attend.

This performance will be crowded and admission will be by ticket only. Two tickets per family will be sent home in advance.

Young children will need to sit on your lap and, if it is possible to have them cared for, it may be sensible not to bring them with you on this occasion.

We also ask that you are considerate to others with your use of photography. Large cameras and lots of flashing lights do distract the children, who have practised hard for this occasion. Taking photographs may also obstruct the view of other parents in the audience who are watching their children.

KS1 Nativity Play

The KS1 (Y1 and Y2) Nativity Play will take place on **Tuesday 5th December** at 2.30pm and 6.00pm. In the evening **all Year 1 and Year 2** children are expected to return to school by 5.30pm wearing their school uniform.

The evening performance will be crowded and admission will be by ticket only. Two tickets per family will be sent home in advance.

As **all** children in the school, including Reception and Nursery, will have seen the play we ask that you **do not** bring them again to the evening performance. Children below school age should be brought to the afternoon performance and **not** the evening performance. All pushchairs need to be left outside the hall for safety reasons.

NB. Babies and children below the age of 11 will **NOT** be able to attend the evening performance.

Please make sure you organise baby sitters in advance as **all** children who attend our school as well as pre-school children, will be refused admission. It is very upsetting for parents to miss their child's performance because they have not made the appropriate childcare arrangements and also for the staff who have to take this action.

Thank you for your co-operation in this.



Staffing

Christina Olivant has now retired from the staff. We were sorry to lose her and thank her for all she has done for our children and families. I am sure you all join us in wishing Christina all the best for her retirement.

Emergency school closure

The school has registered to a new scheme that enables us to contact you directly via text and email in the event of a school closure. In order for this to be possible you need to register your name, phone numbers and email address by following the link below.

member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489

In the event of a school closure, for example due to severe weather, we will alert you via text and email on the morning of the school closure. This information will also be available on our school website and local Heart radio (96.6FM).

We advise you to register as soon as possible.

February '18 INSET day

I am writing to give a further reminder that our child protection training for all staff is due in February and as we now have fifty-four staff it has been difficult to organise this and fit in with the trainer's availability. It has therefore been arranged that this very important and statutory training will take place first thing on the morning of Monday 19th February 2018. This is the day that the children return after half term. On this occasion, school will begin at 11.30am. The gates will be opened at 11.25am and the children will have one lesson before lunch. Children who have a school dinner will have chosen from the menu before half term. I do apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our speed stacking club who came 5th out of 18 at a recent inter-schools competition.

St Albans Abbey

Congratulations to our Y5 classes who performed so well at St Albans Abbey last Thursday evening. It was lovely to see our children performing for the first time at this prestigious venue. I am including a letter we received from Rufus, our conductor, who has been working with us over the last two months.

Dear Francesca,

I have enjoyed my experience at St Anthony's so much – thank you for spearheading this with such efficiency and good spirit.

I have never been made to feel so welcome as a regular visitor at a school and am already sorry that I won't be with you again next week. There is an extraordinary friendliness to the school at all levels and the results on the performance and happiness of the children is plain to see. I wish that I lived nearer so that I could apply for a place for my son.

Please do thank the children for their wonderful performance – I really did push them but they rose admirably to the challenge, I am most grateful to the staff for their unceasing support of the project and I hope that our paths do cross again before too long.

With best wishes,

Rufus

Christmas Parties

Again this year we are asking parents of Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 children to send in an individual party meal for their own child, rather than a plate of food to share.

Parents of KS2 children will be asked to contribute to a shared buffet as usual.

Further information for all classes will be given in a class update.

Please could I ask all parents to avoid sending in any food which contains nuts as we have children in school who have nut allergies.

Children will be allowed to wear their own clothes to school for their party on Monday 18th December

Reception cribs

The cribs that our Reception children have made with their families will be blessed by Fr. Joseph. Parents are invited to view these in the Practical Room on **Friday 15th December at 3.30pm.**

Children in Need

Thank you for your support for the EYFS charity. The children really enjoyed the pyjama day and raised £506.86 for Children in Need.

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following children:

Y2 Lisbon

Ruaraidh M who achieved the ASA 15m distance award for swimming

Year 2 Padua

Teigen C who won footballer of the week trophy

Jerome J who received a certificate and medal from Syro Malabar Catholic Eparchy for first place in the catechism final exam.

Year 3 Lisbon

Esme BA who received a star of the day certificate for Street Dance. She also achieved Stage 2 of the ASA Learn to Swim Award.

Filip S who achieved the ASA 15 distance award for swimming

Neenumaria M who received a medal and certificate for coming second in the Syro Malabar Catholic Eparchy catechism final exam.

Year 3 Padua

Ronny A who achieved the ASA 15m distance award for swimming

Ellie P who achieved the ASA 15m distance award for swimming

Nicola P who received a medal for good behaviour in dance class

Year 5 Lisbon

Angel B who achieved her ASA 20m distance award for swimming. She also received a medal and certificate from the Syro Malabar Catholic Eparchy for coming second in the catechism final exam.

Jasmine A who received a certificate for her performance in a musical concert

Year 5 Padua

Graeane P and Imogen P who both achieved Grade 3 of the ASA Water Skills Award.

Cruz C who won a man of the match football trophy

Year 6

Anjumaria M who received a certificate and medal from Syro Malabar Catholic Eparchy for first place in the catechism final exam.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri	1 st Dec	EYFS Nativity Play for parents at 11.00am
Tue	5 th Dec	KS1 Nativity Play for parents. Performances at 2.30pm and 6.00pm
Wed	6 th Dec	Watford Colosseum carol concert Y6 choir
Thurs	7 th Dec	Y6 Science Master class with other Primary schools in conjunction with the University of Hertfordshire Home football match v. Laurance Haines. 3.30pm. PFA MUFTI DAY – children to bring in a tombola prize
Fri	8 th Dec	Christmas Fayre PFA 3.30pm
Wed	13 th Dec	Christmas lunch
Fri	15 th Dec	Guitar concert for parents Reception parents to view children's cribs in the Practical Room at 3.30pm
Mon	18 th Dec	All class parties. Details to follow
Tues	19 th Dec	End of term Carol Assembly for Padua classes and Y6. Parents welcome – 9.15am
Wed	20 th Dec	End of term Carol Assembly for Lisbon classes. Parents welcome – 9.15am Term ends at 2.30pm
Thurs	21st Dec –	Christmas holidays
Wed	3rd Jan	
Thurs	4 th Jan	School resumes
Mon	15 th Jan	Y6 visit to the Houses of Parliament
Wed	24 th Jan	Y3 classes visit the British Museum
Thurs	25 th Jan	Nursery parent information session 2 at 7.30pm KS2 Disco – 7.00pm – 9.00pm

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