



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

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We Grow and Learn with Jesus

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

NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

Harvest Festival

Thank you for your donations to CAFOD. The school raised £291.25 for this charity.

Our elderly visitors really enjoyed your children's entertainment and tea party. Thank you to Y5 and Y6 parents for the cakes and biscuits you sent in.

It was great to see so many of you at each of our three assemblies.

Y6 Deanery Sports Tournament

I am very pleased to inform you that our football team were the joint winners of this tournament receiving a trophy for the school and a medal each. Our netball team reached the semi-finals. All children enjoyed this occasion and were, as always, very well behaved. Congratulations to them all.

Hagden Lane School Crossing

Please be aware that our crossing patrol has left to transfer to another site. HCC are in the process of recruiting a new patrol which we have advertised via our pupils. We are grateful for the work she has done and wish her well in the future.

Parents' Consultation Evenings

There will be an early Parents' Evening on *Wednesday 8th November* and a late Parents' Evening on *Tuesday 7th November*.

Sheets have been available outside classrooms from 3.30pm on Wednesday 18th October. Please sign for an appointment to meet with your child's teacher either on *Wednesday 8th November* between 3.40pm and 6.30pm or *Tuesday 7th November* between 6.00pm and 9.00pm.

Nursery sheets have also been available in the Nursery cloakroom from Wednesday 18th October.

Book Fair

Thank you for your support at our recent Book Fair. We raised £612.80 for the school. This will be used to purchase some titles for our class libraries.

School Trips

We are pleased with the excellent reports we have received from other visitors and providers when our children have been on trips. The Anglo Saxon workshop at Chiltern Open Air Museum told our staff "these are the best children that I have had all year".



Y5 Performance at St Albans Abbey

On Thursday 23rd November, our two Year 5 classes will go to St Albans Abbey to perform the songs that they have been learning individually and also together with two other school and choristers from St Albans Abbey under the direction of a talented musician from the Hertfordshire Music Service.

The concert will take place at 5.00pm and last for approximately an hour. Parents are welcome to attend the concert and admission is free.

This is a fantastic opportunity to perform with over 250 children at St Albans Abbey.

Birthday Books

As St. Anthony's is committed to being a "Healthy eating school it is not possible for children to bring in sweets or cakes to celebrate their birthday. However, we are continuing to promote the 'Birthday Book'. Children bring in a new book to add to the school library. This is shared with their class and a sticker placed inside the book detailing your child's name and the birthday they are celebrating. The children enjoy borrowing books their friends have recommended, thus creating further enjoyment of reading. Please consider donating a non-fiction book or a fiction book, suitable for the age of your child, to celebrate their next birthday.

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.

Staff INSET

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.

PFA

The next meeting is on Monday 6th November at 7.30pm. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Impending Closure of Laurance Haines Specific Learning Difficulties Base

You may or may not have read in the local press about the plan to close eight SpLD bases in the area. We will definitely feel the impact of losing our local provision at Laurance Haines. The staff there are highly trained and regularly conduct training courses for our teachers and our classroom assistants as well as visits to update us, loaning resources to try out, assessing individual children and being on hand to research particular issues.

The school has enjoyed a close positive relationship with Laurance Haines Base and has benefitted from their advice, resources and training for staff over many years. There is a consultation process which closes on 20th November 2017. If you would like to comment the easiest way is by completing the online form on the website at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/consultations or email hertsdirect@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following children:

Y1 Padua

Matthew C who received a trophy for goal scoring at football

Year 2 Padua

Aiden B who achieved stage 2 of the ASA Learn to Swim Award

Dalia C won received a trophy, two gold and one silver medal for winning a ballroom dancing competition.

Aleksija W.P who achieved two well done certificates for English and Maths.

Year 3 Lisbon

Lucas B.N who received a 'Man of the Match' football trophy

Lara M who received a Star of the Day certificate for Cheer Leading

Anthony M who achieved Stage 3 of the ASA Learn to Swim Award

Year 4 Lisbon

Lina G and Mia I who each won a medal for winning a Muay Thai competition

Year 4 Padua

Gabriella A who received a certificate for outstanding achievement in Geocaching

Year 5 Lisbon

Olivia B.N who received a medal for winning a football tournament.

Year 5 Padua

Ruo U who received a football certificate for 'freestyling'

Year 6

Kelly O who received a certificate for 'Performer of the Week'

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed	1 st Nov	All Saints Feast day. Mass at 10.00am. All parents welcome
Mon	6 th Nov	Nasal flu vaccinations for children in Rec to Y4 classes PFA meeting at 7.30pm at school. All parents welcome
Tues	7 th Nov	Y5 cross country competition at Fullarians Late parents' meeting 6.00-9.00pm for all classes
Wed	8 th Nov	Early parents' evening 3.40 to 6.30pm. All classes (No Irish Dancing club tonight)
Fri	10 th Nov	PFA EYFS and KS1 Disco 3.45 – 5.30pm
Sun	12 th Nov	Remembrance Sunday
Tues	14 th Nov	Y1 Padua – Advent retreat session Y6 Basketball competition at Queens' school Y2 Padua Advent retreat session
Wed	15 th Nov	EYFS charity day for Children in Need (details to follow)
Thurs	16 th Nov	Y6 visit to Bletchley Park Y2 Lisbon Advent retreat session Y1 Lisbon Advent retreat session
Fri	17 th Nov	Y3 Lisbon 'Jesse Tree' Advent retreat session at St Bede's
Mon	20 th Nov	Y3 Padua 'Jesse Tree' Advent retreat session at St Bede's
Wed	22 nd Nov	Toy Museum visit to Y1 classes
Thurs	23 rd Nov	Y4 speed stacking competition
Fri	24 th Nov	Occasional day. School closed
Tues	28 th Nov	Football Home Match v. Field School – 3.30pm
Fri	1 st Dec	EYFS Nativity Play for parent 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
Fri	8 th Dec	Christmas Fayre PFA
Wed	13 th Dec	Christmas lunch
Fri	15 th Dec	Guitar concerts for parents
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. 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
Thurs	25 th Jan	Nursery parent information session 2 at 7.30pm KS2 Disco – 7.00pm – 9.00pm

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