



# St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

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*We Grow and Learn with Jesus*

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

## SEPTEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

### Welcome

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new children and parents and also to the following new staff:

Daniel Getty	-	Y4 Padua teacher
Megan Brogan	-	Y3 Lisbon teacher
Ann Power	-	Y1 Padua teacher
Eva Thomas	-	Y1 Padua and cover teacher
Melanie Weeks	-	Nursery Classroom Assistant
Sally Blasi	-	Reception Padua Classroom Assistant
Domenika McKeown	-	EYFS Classroom Assistant
Rieko Gall	-	Classroom Assistant and Breakfast Club Leader

We also welcome back Helen Sparksman who returns from her maternity leave.

I hope everyone will quickly settle into our school family and enjoy being part of St. Anthony's school community.

### 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.

### 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.

### School Fund

I would like to remind parents about the importance of paying school fund regularly. We have not increased this for well over eighteen years but now feel it would be really beneficial to the school to do this. We therefore 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 contribute to support the school in this way. Families with three or more children at St. Anthony's are only asked to pay 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'.

## Messages

Please ensure that you have arranged who will be collecting your child *before* you drop them off at school in the morning and that your child and the class teacher have been informed. Please also ensure that children have all of the equipment they need for the day with them. It is becoming increasingly difficult to ensure that messages and belongings are delivered by the office staff in time and we can no longer guarantee that this will happen.

## Leavers' Celebration Evening

We would like to thank the parents of our current Y6 class who provided the deserts for our leavers' celebration evening in July. We are especially grateful to those parents who gave up their time after school to prepare the hall and dining room as well as the parents who worked throughout the evening in the kitchen and cleared up afterwards. We hope you will enjoy a similar evening with your child next July.

## 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.

## 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.

## Cleaner required

We currently need a cleaner who is prepared to work two hours each weekday evening in term time, from 3.30pm to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please contact the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.

## Nursery Parents' Meeting

The first of three important meetings for parents of Nursery children will take place on *Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7.30pm*

Session 3 'Preparing for full time school' – *Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 at 7.30pm*.



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## Reception Parents' Meeting

Parents of Reception Lisbon and Padua children are invited to a meeting on *Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> 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. Please reserve these dates in your diaries now.

## Y1 Parents' Meeting

There will be a Parents' information session 'New to Y1' on *Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm*. Please put this date in your diary now.

## Y3 Parents' Meeting

I would like to invite you to a meeting 'Moving to KS2 – the importance of reading in Y3' on *Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 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 classroom 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 *Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 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 12<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm*. Information regarding daily routines and the children's curriculum will be given.

## Welcome Assembly

Parents are invited to one of our Welcome Assemblies:  
*Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September* – all Lisbon classes and Y6 OR  
*Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September* – all Padua classes and Y5.

## Summer Fayre

A huge thank you to all the staff and parents who organised this evening and everyone who supported it. After we received the matched funding from Barclays we made £2,835.95 profit at this event. This is a really fantastic figure. Well done.

## The Rock & Pop Foundation Promotional Assembly

Any parents of children from Y3 to Y6 who are considering paying for group guitar tuition for their children and who do not already do so, are invited to a promotional assembly with the children on *Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 10.15am* in our Activity Studio.

## Annual Questionnaire

Thank you for your responses to the parents' questionnaires I sent recently asking for your views of the school. I have analysed all the replies.

In the light of these the school intends to do the following this year:

- try to ensure a spread of school trips through the year
- publicise the behaviour policy and maintain the good work done in this area
- continue to provide a variety of lunchtime activities for the children
- continue to invite parents to as many occasions as possible, to see the children and their work
- maintain the INCO's weekly surgery sessions, so that parents can raise queries as soon as they arise
- maintain the monthly newsletter
- continue to use the gateway text/email facility for urgent updates
- consider the arrangements for additional parents' information evenings on phonics
- publicise the anti-bullying policy and maintain the significant work done in this area
- consider the communication of information concerning Reception children's learning and raise awareness of this with parents

We also surveyed all of our children from Y2 to Y6 again this year, asking for their views of all aspects of the school, seeking ways to improve it further for them. Their ideas which we will be able to action this year include:

- continue to purchase a variety of playtime equipment
- maintain the improved level of school trips
- purchase football goal posts
- to retain our inclusive ethos as we expand
- to increase sports opportunities and clubs at school
- to raise awareness of bullying and reporting it, purchasing more books on the subject
- to maintain good teaching

## **Congratulations**

Our congratulations go to the following children:

### **Year 1 Lisbon**

Ruaraidh McL and Xavier R who achieved their ASA 5m Distance Award for swimming.  
Daniella F who achieved the ASA Puffin Award for swimming.

### **Year 1 Padua**

Eve M who won three medals in an Irish Dancing Feis.  
Sammy B who achieved the ASA Duckling Award 5 for swimming.  
Celine B who won a trophy and two medals in an Irish Dancing Feis.  
Olivia D who won four medals in an Irish Dancing Feis.  
Dahlia C who won a trophy and a champion sash in an Irish Dancing Feis. She also received a trophy for passing her Under 6 Dance Test 1 in ballroom dancing.

### **Year 2 Lisbon**

Nicole F who achieved the ASA 2m Distance Award for swimming.  
Esme BA who achieved the ASA 5m Distance Award for swimming.  
Taylor W and Lucas BN who each won a trophy for winning the Croxley Green U6 football tournament.

### **Year 2 Padua**

Ava H who won two trophies and five medals in an Irish Dancing Feis.  
Ronny A who achieved the ASA 5m Distance Award for swimming.  
Laurence M who achieved Red Stripe Belt in Kung Fu.

### **Year 3 Lisbon**

Kallan FP who won two trophies and eight medals in an Irish Dancing Feis.

Mia I who received a certificate for a stage performance.

Maylene M who won two trophies and two medals in an Irish Dancing Feis.

Freya R who achieved the ASA 10m Distance Award for swimming. She also achieved white belt in Kung Fu.

Alex B who achieved yellow belt in Kung Fu.

### **Year 3 Padua**

Mia F who won a 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophy in a freestyle dancing competition.

Ceylon P who achieved Stage 1 of the ASA Learn to Swim Award.

### **Year 4 Lisbon**

Mariella C who won eight medals in an Irish Dancing Feis.

Dominik G who achieved the ASA 10m Distance Award for swimming and Stage 3 of the ASA Learn to Swim Award.

### **Year 4 Padua**

Libby H who won two trophies and five medals in an Irish Dancing Feis.

Amber B who won a trophy and four medals in an Irish Dancing Feis.

Graeanne P and Imogen P who achieved the ASA 15m Distance Award for swimming.

Amber B who achieved the ASA 10m Distance Award for swimming.

Haydan E who won a football trophy and a medal for participation and coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in a tournament.

### **Year 5**

Lucia F who received a certificate for achieving the Bronze Award in the Junior Language Challenge for learning Romanian.

Silvia SB who achieved full marks in all aspects of her behaviour and learning at her Supplementary Spanish School.

### **Now Year 7**

Mervil B who won two tennis trophies for the U13 singles and doubles.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Mon</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	<b>Staff INSET – school closed</b>
Tues	6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	New school year starts
Fri	23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	Guitar lessons – promotional assembly
Mon	26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Welcome assembly for Lisbon classes and Y6 at 9.15am. Parents welcome
Tue	27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Welcome assembly for Padua classes and Y5 at 9.15am. Parents welcome
Wed	28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Y1 Parents' meeting - 'New to Year 1' at 7.30pm
Fri	30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Individual and family group photographs
<b>Mon</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	<b>Half term – school closed</b>
Wed	5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Y3 Parents' meeting – 'Moving to KS2-the importance of reading in Y3' at 7.30pm
Wed	12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Y5 Parents' meeting at 7.30pm
Thur	13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Reception Parents' meeting – 'Phonics' at 7.30pm Y4 Parents' information meeting at 7.30pm
Thur	20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Nursery Parents' Meeting – 1 <sup>st</sup> session at 7.30pm
Mon	31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	School resumes

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