



FEBRUARY 2022 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

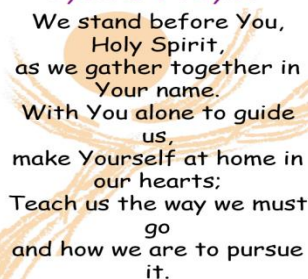
Synodal Pathway

As mentioned in my December newsletter the Catholic Church has been asking for Catholic schools to share their views/thoughts on the synodal process. Martin and Ann, our RE Co-ordinators, led the school with this recently. The children looked at the four headings of Reaching Out, Showing Love, Listening and Including. They took part in special assemblies that discussed what a Synod is and there were meditations linked to the Holy Spirit. The results of our views were sent to Westminster Diocese and they were very impressed with the responses from our children.

Below is the Synod prayer you can share as a family:

Journeying Together

Synod Prayer



We stand before You,
Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in
Your name.
With You alone to guide
us,
make Yourself at home in
our hearts;
Teach us the way we must
go
and how we are to pursue
it.

COVID-19

Before half term we saw a big spike in Covid positive numbers amongst children and adults. This resulted in both Year 3 class bubbles reverting to home learning for one day. I would like to thank all the Year 3 families for being so supportive during this time. We are hoping that we can revert back to normal operating procedures very soon and not have class bubbles.

Mufti Day

On Friday 11th February £335.90 was raised for the school. Thank you for your generosity.

Early Years Garden Project

Katy Laws, our Early Years Co-ordinator, has been very busy trying to create a vegetable patch in our Early Years garden. She has had plans drawn up and has written to parents to ask for help. I would like to thank the parents who have already volunteered their help with this project. The garden is taking shape and it will be very exciting to see St Anthony's fruit and vegetables growing in the new wooden beds and a new garden shed in place to house new garden tools. If any other parents would like also like to help with this on-going project Katy would love to hear from you.

PFA (Parents and Friends Association)

I know many parents are keen to see the PFA up and running again in order to raise vital funds for our school. Due to the Covid restrictions this has not be possible for some time. If you would be interested in finding out more information about the PFA and how you could become involved there will be an initial information meeting on **Monday 21st March at 5.30pm** in the school hall (please no children).

Attendance Update

The whole school attendance has been **93%** from 2nd September until 9th February. Unfortunately, this is still below the **96%** minimum target set by the Government. Class attendance can be seen below.

Nursery	88%	
	Lisbon	Padua
Reception	91%	89%
Year 1	94%	93%
Year 2	93%	94%
Year 3	94%	93%
Year 4	96%	96%
Year 5	95%	94%
Year 6	94%	92%

A particular well done to **Year 4 Lisbon and Padua** who achieved the highest class attendance during this time.

We still continue to have some children being collected very late. This has an impact on our staff when they have to stay with a child, they end up missing out on after school meetings or training.

Parent Support Programmes

We have been informed of two fully funded parental support programmes to assist with anxiety and resilience, carried out by **Bounce Forward**. These are delivered online and there are a number of dates and times available. Please contact Melanie via the office for more details.

Dogs

Please can I remind all parents that dogs are not able to come on to the school grounds before or after school.

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following children:

Year 2 Lisbon

Lucas S achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 2 Award.

Year 2 Padua

Elsie O'S was part of a Cheerleading Team who came first in an ICC competition.

Year 3 Padua

Lutho F achieved the Learn to Swim Stage 3 Award.

Leo B has achieved Level 5 of the Gymnastic Proficiency Awards.

Year 4 Lisbon

Joy C has achieved Level 8 of the Gymnastic Proficiency Awards.

Year 5 Lisbon

Jeremy O achieved a yellow belt in Karate.

Year 6 Lisbon

Perrin M broke the County best time record for 400m freestyle. In the Herts County Championship (10/11 age group) Perrin won gold medals for freestyle, backstroke and butterfly. He also won silver for the individual medley and bronze medal in boys medley team relay.

Year 6 Padua

Dylan J was awarded Grade 1 for a Rock and Pop Guitar Exam.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tues 1st March	Shrove Tuesday. Year 3 Lisbon visit Hudnall park for Rocks and Soils Study day – more details to follow
Weds 2nd March	Lent begins. Ash Wednesday Mass and prayer services for the children throughout the day.
Thurs 3rd March	Year 3 Padua visit Hudnall park for Rocks and Soils Study day – more details to follow
Fri 4th March	Police visit for Reception Padua linked to People who help us Topic. Reception Lisbon visit will be after Easter.
Tues 8th March	Parents Evening for all classes 6-9pm. More details to follow.
Weds 9th March	Parents Evening for all classes 3.50 – 6.30pm. More details to follow.
Weds 16th March	Class photographs
Weds 23rd March	Year 5 classes to take part in Micro-Bit workshops. More details to follow.
Mon 28th March	Year 3 Lisbon performance to parents of Jonah and the Whale 2pm. Tickets to follow.
Tues 29th March	Year 3 Padua performance to parents of Jonah and the Whale 2pm. Tickets to follow.
Weds 30th March	Year 4 Lisbon performance to parents of Jonah and the Whale 2pm. Tickets to follow.
Thurs 31st March	Year 4 Padua performance to parents of Jonah and the Whale 2pm. Tickets to follow.
Fri 1st April	End of term – 2.30pm finish for Year 1- Year 6 2.25pm finish for Reception classes.

Thank you for your continued support.

God bless and take care,

Elaine Harrold

