



Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal**

A huge thank you to all our families for their generosity on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Our final total from the Mufti Day was **£1890**. This has been sent directly to the Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal. We will continue to use our class worship times and whole school assemblies to pray for peace. Below is the CAFOD prayer you may like to share at home together.

Loving God,  
We pray for the people of Ukraine,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,  
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world  
that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity  
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways  
so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine  
and for all the world.

Amen.

## **World Unite Day**

We have organised a World Unite Day on **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**. We would love to see all the children attend school in either their national costume or colours from a flag which is significant for their family. This is not a fundraising day but a day to take time to appreciate the diversity that exists in our school community. This diversity is the reason why the staff love working at St Anthony's and why many families choose to send their children to our school. The children will take part in many global activities throughout the day.

## **Lent**

On Ash Wednesday Fr Alex came into school to celebrate Ash Wednesday mass with Key Stage 1 and 2 classes. He also led an Ash Wednesday service in the morning for our Early Years classes. The children were anointed with holy ashes. We are very proud of all the children as they behaved so calmly and sensibly throughout the day.

## **Pyjama Day**

On **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April** we have organised a fun pyjama day for all classes - £1 donation. We are continuing to raise money for resources throughout the school. Children may wear their pyjamas/onesies to school for the final day of the Spring term.

## Fair trade raffle

I would like to thank Ann, our Year 1 Padua teacher and RE co-ordinator, for organising a Fair trade raffle. I would also like to thank the staff who have donated all the Fair trade goodies. Stephanie, our Reception Lisbon TA has created lovely hampers using all the goodies. Thank you to all the children who have bought raffle tickets. The raffle has raised £590 for Fair trade which is fantastic. The winning tickets will be drawn from the raffle drum during our whole school assemblies on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

## School Lunches

Please remember that meal choices using the School Grid must be made in advance. There are children coming into school not having made a meal choice for the day which creates a lot of issues for the office and kitchen staff. Herts Catering have had to increase the cost of the price for a school meal with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. From this date the meal price for Year 3 upwards will now be £2.80 per day.

## Staff Training Day – school closure

On **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July** there will be a training day for staff to implement a new systematic synthetic phonics teaching programme. This training is vital for staff and the training requires a whole day. Therefore, school will be closed for all children. The school will reopen for children on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

## Year 3 and Year 4 Production – Jonah and the Whale.

We are very excited that for the first time our Year 3 and 4 classes will be involved in their own drama production. The staff are working very hard with the children and are looking forward to performing to an audience. We have decided to spread out the performance dates as we are still experiencing Covid cases among staff and children, therefore, each class will have a separate performance day. Please see the dates for diary section below for the list of dates. Parents will be issued with two tickets for the performance. These will be issued to Year 3 and 4 children on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

## Parents' evenings

I was delighted to see so many parents last week. These were very positive evenings. We are so pleased with the work the children have produced so far this year. They continue to be enthusiastic and proud of their learning which is great to see.

## Attendance Update

A new Attendance Policy is now available on our school website under the key documents tab. The whole school attendance has been **94%** from 2<sup>nd</sup> September until 11<sup>th</sup> March. This has increased from last month but it is still below the **96%** minimum target set by the Government. Class attendance can be seen below.

Nursery	87%	
	<b>Lisbon</b>	<b>Padua</b>
Reception	91%	89%
Year 1	94%	94%
Year 2	94%	94%
Year 3	95%	94%
Year 4	96%	96%
Year 5	96%	95%
Year 6	95%	92%

A particular well done to **Year 4 Lisbon and Padua and Year 5 Lisbon** who achieved the highest class attendance during this time.

## Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following children:

## Reception Padua

Rhys M was awarded a football medal from 'Letz play Sports'

## Year 1 Lisbon

Sophia H was awarded Level 7 of the Gymnastic Proficiency Awards.

## Year 1 Padua

Isabella K won a trophy for dodgeball and football at an activity camp.

## Year 2 Lisbon

Lorcan M was awarded a football medal from Xtra Time Club.

## Year 2 Padua

Benjamin J took part in a Catechesis exam and achieved 94%.

## Year 4 Lisbon

Lana L achieved a 10m Rainbow Distance Award for swimming.

## Year 5 Lisbon

Stefan P was awarded a medal for winning a mixed Martial Arts competition.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Fair trade raffle
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Class photograph day.
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Electric Umbrella Musical Group to visit and lead performances for Y1 to Y6.
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	PFA Initial Information meeting – 5.30pm in school hall.
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Unite Day
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Microbit Workshop – Y5
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Lisbon performance to parents of Jonah and the Whale 2pm.
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 and 6 Space Dome Day. Year 3 Padua performance to parents of Jonah and the Whale 2pm.
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Lisbon performance to parents of Jonah and the Whale 2pm.
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Year 4 Padua performance to parents of Jonah and the Whale 2pm.
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Pyjama Day £1 donation for school fundraising. End of term 2.30pm finish for Year 1- Year 6 2.25pm finish for Reception classes.
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer term begins. Living Eggs experience for Early Years classes.

Thank you for your continued support. God bless and take care,

*Elaine Harrold*

