



Dear Parents/Carers,

## Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

It is with tremendous sadness that we learned last night of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

I share with you the words of Cardinal Vincent Nichols:

***'Queen Elizabeth II will remain, always, a shining light in our history. May she now rest in peace.'***

Over the next few days the children will take part in assemblies and liturgies to remember our Queen. We will share with you any updates we receive about arrangements which will affect school.

## Welcome

It was lovely to see the children return to school on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. They have all settled in very well into their new classrooms and I have been delighted to see how much work has already been achieved. I would like to welcome all our new Nursery and Reception children and parents to the St. Anthony's community. The children in these classes have shown such enthusiasm about starting school and have already become used to school routines. Well done to all those children and parents – a great start to your St. Anthony's journey. **Class updates** written by your child's teacher will continue to be emailed to you every Friday. These are also posted in the class tab on our school website. The class updates are an excellent source of information for parents. They will inform you about the learning that has taken place during the week, the Wellbeing Activity for the week and it will also advise you of anything you can do at home to prepare your child with forthcoming learning. Please continue to read these every week.

## Thank you

On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you for all the cards, presents and good wishes we received at the end of the summer term. Your kindness and support is much appreciated.

In July our Year 6 leavers' presented the school with a beautiful set of framed personalised St Anthony's images and a fantastic new bench for the prayer garden. These are wonderful gifts to the school and we are very grateful to the parents and children of last year's Year 6.

## Congratulations

On behalf of our school community I would like to congratulate Aimie, our Reception Lisbon class teacher, who celebrated her wedding to Jamie in August. I am also delighted to share the news that Laura, our previous Year 3 Lisbon teacher, gave birth to beautiful baby girl in the summer holidays. We look forward to meeting baby Olive when Laura comes to visit very soon.

## Trim trails and Canopies

I am delighted that two new trim trails have now been installed in both playgrounds and a 4 way shooting post on the back playground. A **HUGE** thank you to our past and present parents/carers for making this possible by donating money to the school through fundraising days and events. **Please** can you remind your children that they are not to use the trim trails before school or after school. This is for safety reasons – thank you.

There have also been two new canopies built to improve our Early Years building. One new canopy has been installed at the front of the building and a new one at the back to improve the outside learning area for

Reception Lisbon. I would like to thank our governing body for ensuring that funding was in place and for arranging the works with our diocesan architects.

### **Attendance**

As you will know from my previous newsletters, each month I report to you the most recent attendance figures across the school. This will start again in my October newsletter. If your child is absent from school please telephone each day to keep the school office informed. A daily return has to be given to the Department of Education; therefore we need to know the reasons why your child is absent. We will also continue to monitor lateness at the beginning and the end of the day. For your information we are in the process of finalising a 'Late Collection from School' policy. This policy will outline action that will be taken for parents who are late on more than one occasion to collect their child after school. This policy will be shared with you in the October newsletter.

### **Summer Reading Challenge**

I have been delighted with the number of children who have visited their local library and taken part in the Summer Reading Challenge 'Gadgeteers'. If your child has not yet brought in their certificate and medal into school please encourage them to do so. Congratulations to the following children who completed the challenge:

	<b>Lisbon</b>	<b>Padua</b>
<b>Reception</b>	Vennilaa	
<b>Year 1</b>	Sandra and Sarah,	
<b>Year 2</b>	Leo, Andria and Sophia,	Evelyn, Lakees, Mika, Yash, Elisha, Olivia, Kaviru and Aadhya
<b>Year 3</b>	Michelle, Laura and Arthur	
<b>Year 4</b>	Clara	Roberta
<b>Year 5</b>	Henry, Emily, Davida and Ephraim	
<b>Year 6</b>		Aadhav

### **Annual Questionnaire**

Many thanks to all the parents/carers who took time to complete our annual questionnaire in the summer term. Children are also being given an opportunity to complete a 'pupil questionnaire'. The results of both questionnaires will be analysed, discussed by the Senior Management Team and results will be shared in the October newsletter.

### **Reminders of safety rules for all children**

- Please can you remind your child that the trim trails are **not** to be used before or after school for safety reasons. Ball games are also a safety risk before and after school as people are arriving/leaving on to the playground.
- It is great to see children arriving at school on their bikes/scooters but please remind your child to dismount once they arrive at school and walk to the scooter/bike shelters. They should **not** scoot or cycle around playgrounds where they can knock into people waiting for school to start/end. Helmets should also be worn for both these methods of transport.
- Can I remind parents that earrings are **not** to be worn by children in school. We have noticed an increase in the younger children wearing hoops and studs in their ears. The children need to take earrings out of their ears for school and put them in again when they return home. This is something we feel very strongly about in school for health and safety reasons. Plasters over the earrings are also not acceptable.

Thank you for your support with these matters.

## **Secondary Admissions**

Please note that the deadline for secondary school applications (current Year 6) is 31st October 2022. St Michael's Catholic High School open evening is **21<sup>st</sup> September** and St Joan of Arc Catholic School open evening is **6<sup>th</sup> October**. I would encourage you to visit these two schools as we would love to see all our St Anthony's children continue their education in a Catholic secondary school. Many of our staff have personal experience of St Joan of Arc and St Michael's and would highly recommend both schools.

## **Break Time Healthy Snacks and allergy advice**

Children in Year 3 - 6 are able to bring in a healthy snack for morning break time. This must be either pieces of fruit or vegetables. Free fruit and vegetables are provided each day for our Reception and KS 1 pupils. Please remember that we are a nut-free school and therefore do not send your child in with any snacks or lunchtime food which contain nuts. We would also remind you not to send your child in with glass bottles for a lunch time drink.

## **Congratulations**

It is always lovely to see the children with their medals and certificates. We have very many talented children! Our congratulations also go to the following children:

### **Year 1 Lisbon**

Annabelle C won a gold medal in a gymnastics competition

Vennilaa P received a certificate for finishing a year at the Jigsaw Performing Arts School.

### **Year 2 Lisbon**

Caelyn H was awarded a certificate for Bollywood Dance.

Sebastian C was awarded a Duckling Stage 3 certificate for swimming.

Tola D-A was awarded a medal from the Watford Gym Club.

### **Year 2 Padua**

Aadhya P achieved 3 medals and 1<sup>st</sup> place for a year end exam, thirukkuval competition and essay writing in Tamil from the Tamil Community School.

Lakees M was awarded 2 medals for recital from the Tamil Community School.

Ernie B was awarded a competition medal from Watford Gym Club.

Freya K was awarded Stage 2 of the Learn to Swim Awards.

Jayron K was awarded a Star Performer certificate from Xtra Time.

Leo M was awarded Rainbow Swim Award for swimming 15m.

### **Year 3 Lisbon**

Lorcan M received a Star performer medal from Xtra Time.

Laura B received a swimming certificate for swimming 10m.

Hannah M was awarded Stage 3 of the Learn to Swim Awards.

Anah O was awarded Stage 2 of the Learn to Swim Awards.

Arthur M achieved level 5 of the Gymnastic Proficiency Awards and he was also awarded the 100m Rainbow distance award.

#### **Year 4 Lisbon**

Bobby N was awarded a Rainbow distance award for swimming 20m.

Hanna T was awarded a Water Skills 2 certificate.

#### **Year 4 Padua**

Maia L completed Grade 2 of the Skate Excellence programme.

Sophie A was awarded a RSL level 1 award in music Performance in drums which she passed with merit.

Leo B was awarded a competition medal from Watford Gym Club

Riordan L was awarded a trophy from Croxley Green FC for their U8's tournament.

#### **Year 5 Lisbon**

Natalia G has been offered and accepted a place in the Watford Football Club Emerging Talent Centre for U10's.

Igor M was awarded a Rainbow distance award for swimming 15m

Sophie A was awarded a Rainbow distance award for swimming 15m

Dauida B was awarded a Water Skills 2 certificate.

Lana L was awarded a medal and a trophy from Watford Gym Club for being 1<sup>st</sup> in her group and most improved U16's gymnast.

Kayleigh L achieved 6<sup>th</sup> place in the Championship for Watford Gym Club.

Henry D achieved a Diving Award 1 for diving from poolside.

Tai D-A was awarded 2 medals from Titans FC.

#### **Year 5 Padua**

Emily S achieved 6<sup>th</sup> place in the Championship for Watford Gym Club. Emily also raised **£514** for the Little Princess trust for donating her hair.

Emma J was awarded Stage 2 of the Learn to Swim Awards.

Timmy A was awarded a Watford Angling Fishing Award.

#### **Year 6 Lisbon**

Emmanuel A received a certificate for taking part in the Beginners First Concert at the Watford School of Music. He was also awarded a medal from Xtra time for being a positive sports person.

#### **Year 6 Padua**

Aadhav P achieved 3 medals and 1<sup>st</sup> place for a year end exam, thirukkuval competition and essay writing in Tamil from the Tamil Community School. Aadhav was also awarded Stage 5 of the Learn to Swim Awards. He also received a certificate for Tang Soo Do 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Gup gradings.

Natalia S was awarded a Football Award medal from Wisla Krakow Football team.

Eryk M received a trophy for his basketball skills.

**WHOLE SCHOOL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Mon 12th Sept	Y6 Padua swimming lessons begin.
Weds 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Holy Rood Feast Day  Welcome Assembly for Key Stage 2 (Year 3,4,5 and 6) <b>Padua</b> only Parents welcome- 9.15am start  Welcome Assembly for Key Stage 2 (Year 3,4,5 and 6) <b>Lisbon</b> only Parents welcome- 3pm start
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	New to Year 3 meeting for parents in the school hall – 9.15am  School Council shop for Years 5 and 6.  Reception parents 'Introduction to Phonics' workshop – led by our school staff - 3pm  Year 5 Information evening for parents – 5.30pm
Fri 16th Sept	After School Football Club begins Years 1 – 6 (First Touch)
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 4 Parents' Information Evening – 5.30pm.
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	9:15am Reception Padua and Years 1 and 2 Padua Welcome Assembly – Parents Welcome  3:00pm Reception Lisbon and Years 1 and 2 Lisbon Welcome Assembly – Parents Welcome
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	European Languages Day - children to take part in activities throughout the day.  Year 6 Parents' Information Evening – 5.30pm.
Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Cassiobury Farm to lead an assembly for Y4 children.
Weds 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Individual/family photographs of children - all classes
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	School Council shop for Years 3 and 4.  Year 1 Parents' Information Evening – 5.30pm.
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Black History Month begins
Weds 5th Oct	Year 2 Parents' Information Evening – 5.30pm
Thurs 6th Oct	Year 4 visit to Cassiobury Farm – more details to follow.

God bless and take care,

*Elaine Harrold*

Headteacher

