



NOVEMBER 2022 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

November – All Saints and All Souls

Thank you for all the effort you put in to the children's outfits for All Saints Day. It was lovely for them to be able to share their chosen saints with the rest of their class.

On All Saints Day Fr Alex celebrated mass with Year 2 and 5. This was a lovely occasion. We have planned for many more masses to take place throughout the year for all classes to attend.

We have an All Souls Day display in the main entrance. If any parents would like to add names of anyone who has passed away that they would like included in our prayers throughout November please add their names to the sheet on the display table.

Remembrance Day

The Royal British Legion have sent us some poppies and poppy related stationery to sell. This will be on sale before school on **Tuesday 8th November** on the front and back playgrounds.

On Friday 11th November, all children will take part in special class liturgies to mark Remembrance Day. All children will also take part in a two minute silence at 11am.

Watford Food Bank –Thursday 10th November

We had an incredible response to our Foodbank donations in October. Many thanks. I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Kelly, two grandparents, who very kindly volunteered to help me to take all the food over to the Foodbank. The donations were weighed and the amount was 150kg – which the Watford Foodbank were delighted with. Our next donation day is **Thursday 10th November**. Please contribute if you are able to. The boxes will be placed outside the main entrance, Nursery door and St Francis building door. Below is a list of the food needed:

- Long-life milk
- Long-life fruit juice
- Tinned meat + fish
- Jars of jam/ honey/ peanut butter/ chocolate spread
- Tinned fruit
- Instant mashed potato
- Tinned tomatoes
- Bags of sugar (especially 500g bags)
- Tinned rice pudding/custard
- Packets of jelly or sponge puddings
- Tinned vegetables
- Jars of pasta sauce
- Little chocolate bars and sweet treats

If there are any more volunteers who can offer to take the donations over to the Foodbank it would be much appreciated.

CAFOD

Thank you so much for your generosity in contributing to our CAFOD collection last month. We were delighted to have raised **£409.78** for CAFOD. The children attended assemblies which were led by Jeffrey Pratley, a CAFOD representative, he explained how the money will be distributed to people in need around the world.

Electric Umbrella

We were delighted to welcome back Electric Umbrella Musical Group last Thursday. Electric Umbrella led two assemblies for all the children from Nursery to Year 6. They also led a workshop for Year 4 children in the afternoon. Electric Umbrella create amazing, live interactive music experiences with learning disabled people. Our children love watching them perform and they left the assembly singing their songs with all the actions. We were delighted to present Electric Umbrella with a donation of £120 from our school community.

Community Afternoon and Class Assemblies.

Our Community afternoon was very well attended by grandparents and senior citizens from the local community/parishes. Our hall was packed, it was lovely to welcome so many visitors. The children really enjoyed taking part in the entertainment and we received so many lovely comments from our visitors about the atmosphere in the school and the children's behaviour. It has been lovely to see our class assemblies for parents so well attended, the children have also enjoyed taking part in an activity in the classroom with their parents after the assembly.

Netball and Football

On Friday 7th October our Year 6 children took part in a Catholic Primary Schools' tournament at St Michael's High School. The children really enjoyed the day.

Below is a report from our football and netball captains are Edwin, Zayne, Kiki and Florence.

'We really enjoyed our tournament at St Michael's. We met lots of children from other Catholic schools. Our football team won the first match and then lost the next two matches but they were very close results. Our netball team won all our heat matches, won the quarter final and the semi-final. In the final we beat St Catherine of Siena 2-1. We brought home the Winners' Cup back to St Anthony's'.

We are very proud of all our Year 6 children who took part and behaved impeccably - Well done Year 6.

World Cup Mufti Day

To mark the start of the World Cup we invite children to wear sports clothes to school on **Friday 18th November**. There will be no donation needed on this day.

Uniform Reminders

As it is now coming into the winter months some of the girls are choosing to wear trousers to school. These need to be school trousers **not** stretchy type leggings as these are not part of our uniform list. We were very pleased to receive such generous donations towards the recent 2nd hand uniform sale at parents' evenings. The donations raised £120 which have been added to school fund to purchase resources for the children.

Anti-bullying Week

The week beginning **Monday 14th November** is Anti-bullying week. To celebrate that we are all unique, we ask that children wear **odd socks** to school on Monday 14th November. The children should wear their normal school uniform to school but replace their red socks/tights with odd socks! They could wear odd socks over their tights if the weather is cold.

PFA – After school Christmas Fundraiser –Thursday 15th December

This year we thought it would be a lovely idea to get the whole school involved in an after school fundraising event before Christmas. Each class will organise a fundraising Christmas activity in their classrooms. The school will be open from 3.30pm to 5.30pm for children/parents/carers to walk around the school visiting all the classrooms and taking part in various activities/stalls. Each class teacher will be asking for parental help to enable this to happen. PLEASE sign up to help your class – if everyone gets involved it is not left for just a few willing volunteers to organise. You may help by purchasing items/ helping

on the day to set up/ helping after school/ clearing up etc.. More details of this important event will be in your child's Friday update in the upcoming weeks.

Attendance Update

A reminder to all parents that time off school for visiting overseas relatives for a length of time will **not** be authorised. Children must attend school every day. Any days of absence have a big impact on children's progress. Children who have an attendance percentage below 90% will be receiving a letter as these children are considered persistent absentees.

The whole school attendance has been **96%** from **2nd September** until **7th November**. The attendance of all classes is as follows:

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

Christmas Lunch

On Wednesday 14th December the children will be able to have a Christmas lunch as one of their choices on School Grid. Please be aware on this day there will only be two options. There will not be a jacket potato or school packed lunch option. You may need to look at School Grid if you have already ordered in advance prior to the Christmas meal option being loaded on to the system. The deadline for ordering the Christmas lunch is **Thursday 17th November**.

Parents' Courses

Attached to this newsletter is information about helpful courses for parents and families. These courses can be booked online.

Parking

Please continue to park safely outside the school and with respect for our neighbours. We have received further comments from the Holywell community which outline some of the issues of inconsiderate parking created by some of the parents of St Anthony's which is a shame.

May Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation

An extra Bank Holiday has just been announced for the UK to mark the coronation of King Charles III next year. It will be **Monday 8th May 2023**. All schools will be shut on this day.

Training day - Date for Diary

School will be closed on **Monday 20th February 2023** due to essential first aid training for all staff.

New Website

We are currently working closely with a website designer to update our school website. As soon as the new website goes 'live' I will email all parents.

	DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Mon 7 th Nov	Year 5 Bikeability course begins Year 3 Cross County at Fullarians
Tues 8 th Nov	Poppies to be sold before school on front and back playgrounds. Year 4 Class assembly for parents – 9.15am Reception Radlett Theatre trip ‘Smartest Giant in Town’
Weds 9 th Nov	Year 3 Class assembly for parents – 9.15am
Thurs 10 th Nov	Year 1 Class assembly for parents – 9.15am Watford Foodbank donations
Fri 11 th Nov	Reception Class assembly for parents – 9.15am Day of Remembrance.
Mon 14 th Nov	Anti-bullying week ‘Odd Socks’ Day Year 3 Padua Retreat day – details to follow.
Tues 15 th Nov	Year 5 Class assembly for parents – 9.15am
Weds 16 th Nov	Year 3 Lisbon Retreat day – details to follow.
Fri 18 th Nov	World Cup Mufti Day- wear sports clothes to school for the day –no donation of money.
Mon 21 st Nov	Year 1 Advent Retreat day in school
Tues 22 nd Nov	Year 2 Advent Retreat day in school
Fri 25 th Nov	Occasional Day – school closed
Sun 27 th Nov	First Sunday in Advent
Weds 30 th Nov	Year 6 WWII Evacuee Day in school. Details to follow.
Tues 6 th Dec	Nursery and Reception classes Nativity Performance for Parents – 11am. Details to follow.
Thurs 8 th Dec	Year 1 and 2 classes Christmas performance for parents – 2.30pm and 6pm. Details to follow
Mon 12 th Dec	Year 3 British Museum visit- Details to follow
Tues 13 th Dec	Year 5 visit Radlett theatre for Jack and the Beanstalk
Weds 14 th Dec	Christmas Lunch and Christmas jumper fundraising day – more details to follow.
Thurs 15 th Dec	PFA After School Christmas Fundraiser 3.30pm to 5.30pm – more details in upcoming Friday class updates.
Fri 16 th Dec	Year 6 visit Bletchley Park for WWII visit. Reception parents invited to view the children’s cribs after school.

Mon 19 th Dec	Class parties – see Friday class updates for more details.
Weds 21 st Dec	School closes at 2.30pm for the Christmas holidays
Thurs 5 th Jan 2023	School resumes.

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following children:

Rec Lisbon

Millie K was awarded a Duckling 4 swimming certificate

Belle R was awarded a Duckling 4 swimming certificate

Year 1 Padua

Rory K was awarded a Learn to Swim Stage 1 swimming certificate

Year 2 Lisbon

Sereh J was awarded a Stage 3 swimming certificate for swimming 5 metres.

Year 3 Lisbon

Storm D was awarded a football medal from Watford Community Trust.

Evie W was awarded Level 8 of the Gymnastic Proficiency Awards

Hannah M was awarded Level 8 of the Gymnastic Proficiency Awards

Year 3 Padua

Neel S was awarded a Learn to Swim Stage 2 swimming certificate

Year 4 Lisbon

Gianni M was awarded Man of the Match by Cassiobury Rangers FC

Bobby N was awarded Man of the Match by Bushey Rangers FC

Year 5 Lisbon

Sophie A was awarded a certificate for 5th KUP Taekwondo 'Blue Tag'

Henry D took part in a diving competition and received a medal for 2nd place from Amersham Diving Club.

Year 5 Padua

Hannah M was awarded Player of the Week from the Let's Go Tennis Club

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

Elaine Harrold