



April 2023 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

We Grow and Learn with Jesus

Dear Parents/Carers,

Yellow Day for the Catholic Children's Society

Many thanks for all the donations to our charity day, we raised **£324.10** for the Catholic Children's Society. It was lovely to see all the children wearing Easter colours. The Easter hats and gardens were wonderful. We really enjoyed looking at them all – we have some very talented children.

May Procession

We will be celebrating Our Lady's month on Ascension Day (**Thursday 18th May**) with our annual May Procession. This will take place at 9.15am and parents are welcome to join us. Each child will carry a flower and process from the Key Stage 1 playground round to the Key Stage 2 playground, singing a hymn dedicated to Mary. We will then gather round the statue of Our Lady where each year group will sing a special hymn and lay flowers at the foot of Our Lady's statue. Our RE Group will lead us in our special prayers.

In order for us to make this occasion special it would be lovely if you could provide your child with a single flower so that they can lay it at the foot of Our Lady's statue.

Parents are very welcome - If you would like to join us for this celebration, please wait in the Key Stage 2 playground on the morning of the procession.

Reminder of staff training day – school closed

On **Monday 22nd May** there will be a training day for staff so school will be closed for the day. We will re-open on **Tuesday 23rd May**.

Coronation Celebration Day

On **Friday 5th May** we will be celebrating the King's Coronation with a day of Coronation activities. The children can wear party clothes or royal dressing up clothes for this special day. Weather permitting, the children will go outside for class picnics in the afternoon. The children can bring their own food for the picnic. Details of food the children may bring in will be in the Friday weekly class update. EYFS classes have received a separate email regarding their arrangements.

Year 3 and Year 4 Production – The Three Trees

Our Lower Key Stage Two performance was a great success. Well done to all the children and staff who worked so hard to produce such a wonderful play. I would like to thank the families and friends who attended the performances for their generosity. They donated **£300.21** towards school funds, which is fantastic.

Thank you

The Art Project which was described in the January newsletter has now been completed. It is a wonderful piece of artwork and runs along the corridor next to our Year 3 classrooms. I would like to thank Victoria Culf for all her hard work in producing this. The children throughout the school all took part and contributed to the final piece. Next half term we will send details of an open afternoon when you may like to come into school and view the artwork, children's classrooms, and our newly refurbished school chapel.

I would also like to thank Mr and Mrs Orphanides for visiting our Reception classes recently to share information about being a nurse and police officer. The children thoroughly enjoyed this as it supported their learning with the 'People who help us' topic.

Parents Fundraising Information

We are delighted that a new group of parents has been formed to support the school with fundraising and organising activities for the children. A letter will be sent out next Wednesday from the group with further information.

Bikes and Scooters

Please ensure your child gets off their bike or scooter before they enter the school grounds. This is **very** important for the safety of our school community.

Police Community Support Officer

We have recently received a visit from our Police Community Support Officer who is very keen to ensure the Holywell community is a safe place for everyone. One of the concerns they have is the parking issues that have arisen at drop-off and collection time. Please continue to be considerate to the residents of the local community if you park nearby.

Attendance Update

The whole school attendance has been **94%** from 2nd September to 27th April. Unfortunately, this is still below the 96% minimum target set by the Government.

Requests for holidays/days out cannot be authorised. It is vital that children are present in school every day. Good attendance is linked to high academic performance.

Nursery	89%	
	Lisbon	Padua
Reception	93%	91%
Year 1	92%	92%
Year 2	95%	94%
Year 3	95%	95%
Year 4	94%	93%
Year 5	96%	95%
Year 6	97%	95%

Well done to **Year 6 Lisbon** who achieved the highest attendance during this time.

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following children:

Reception Lisbon

Mille K received a Learn to Swim Stage 1 certificate

Belle R received a Learn to Swim Stage 1 certificate

Year 1 Padua

Rhys M received a Football medal from Letz Play Sports and a certificate from Watford Swim School.

Henry P received a Water Skills 1 certificate for swimming

Ruairi R received a trophy for Football medal from Letz Play Sports

Year 2 Lisbon

Sophia H achieved a Level 4 Gym Proficiency Award certificate

Year 3 Lisbon

Riya P achieved Water Skills Stage 3

Hannah M achieved a Rainbow Distance for 50m for swimming

Year 3 Padua

Samanyu P achieved a Learn to Swim Stage 2 certificate

Year 4 Lisbon

Christina S achieved a Learn to Swim Stage 2 certificate

Year 5 Lisbon

Henry D for achieving a Stage 9 certificate for Diving from Swim for England.

Kayleigh L received a bronze medal for bars from a Herts County Gymnastics competition

Dates for your diary

Thursday 27 th April	Year 6 Padua visit to Watford FC The Ark Farm visit – EYFS classes
Monday 1 st May	Bank Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 2 nd May	Nursery, Year1 Padua and Year 5 Padua classes closed due to Strike Action
Friday 5 th May	Coronation Celebration Day
Monday 8 th May	Bank Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 9 th May – Friday 12 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Wednesday 17 th May	Y4 Fundraising day for the Lemur Project – more details to follow Isle of Wight meeting for Y6 parents at 7.00pm
Thursday 18 th May	Ascension Day and May Procession Parents welcome –see above for details
Monday 22 nd May	INSET day – school closed
Wednesday 24 th May	Years 3,4,5,6 Padua Sports Day 1.30pm-3.30pm Parents Welcome
Thursday 25 th May	Food Bank donations Years 3,4,5,6 Lisbon Sports Day 1.30pm-3.30pm Parents Welcome
Friday 26 th May	Half term finishes: 2.25pm EYFS 2.30pm – KS1 & 2
Sunday 28 th May	Pentecost
Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June	HALF TERM
Monday 5 th June	Term begins