



July 2023 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

We Grow and Learn with Jesus

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you

As we come to the end of this academic year, I would like to say a **huge** thank you to all members of our school community – staff, parents, carers, governors and in particular our fantastic children. It has been lovely to spend another year as part of such a wonderful community.

Year 6 Leavers' celebrations

The Leavers' mass will take place on Monday 10th July, the Year 6 children's disco is Wednesday 12th July at 5.30pm and the Leavers' assembly will be Wednesday 19th July at 9.15am

On behalf of all the staff I would like to wish our Year 6 Leavers every success as they move on to their secondary schools. We are enormously proud of all that they have achieved during their time at St Anthony's. They have been a lovely group of children to work with and we will miss them very much. We look forward to them coming back and popping in to see us in the future to tell us of all their achievements.

Good luck Year 6 – remember to continue to ***Grow and Learn with Jesus.***

RE Questionnaire

Thank you so much to all the parents who recently completed the RE questionnaire – it was incredibly helpful to read your views on RE provision throughout the school. If you have not had a chance to fill in the questionnaire there is still time. The closing date for completing is **Friday 21st July**. Many thanks.

Relationships and Health Education

Recently, John, our Relationships and Health Co-ordinator wrote to all parents to consult with them about the Ten Ten programme we use for RHE. He would like to thank the parents who responded to this consultation. The updated policy is on the school website.

Forest School

I am very excited to announce that '**Forest School**' will begin every Monday in the Autumn term. Due to the generosity of our parents/carers through previous fundraising activities we are able to entirely fund this new program. We feel it will be a very exciting opportunity for your child to experience nature and learn outdoors.

At Forest School your child will learn from first hand experiences and develop skills like: perseverance, resilience, responsibility, independence, inquisitiveness and social skills. Your child will also be able to practise and use their literacy, speaking and listening and numeracy skills. Two members of staff from **Forever Green Forest School**, will run the sessions every Monday, supported by one of our teaching assistants. Sessions will take place in the grounds of St Anthony's school. More information will be sent to current Year 2 parents this week as their children will be the first classes to experience Forest School in Year 3. The classes will rotate each half term so we can ensure many children will benefit from this experience.

Swimming Lessons

It is vital that your child can swim by the time they leave primary education. This is a National Curriculum requirement but more importantly an incredibly important life skill. We have noticed a large number of

children entering into Year 6 without being able to swim a length (25 metres). This number has increased since the time Covid affected swimming pools opening. However, now that pools have been fully open for some time, we would ask all parents to ensure their child receives swimming lessons from local pool providers and not leave it until Year 6 to start swimming when we take them to William Penn pool. It is fantastic when children throughout the school show us their swimming achievement medals and certificates. We would like to see a lot more children achieving the 25 metre standard and beyond.

Staffing

As promised in the last newsletter below is the **teaching assistant** staffing for September.

Nursery – Sally, Diana, Daniella and Breda.

Reception Lisbon – Dominika

Reception Padua – Steph (Daniella on Weds)

Year 1 Lisbon – Emily

Year 1 Padua – Adriana

Year 2 Lisbon – Laura

Year 2 Padua – Caitlin

Year 3 – Nicki and Shannon

Year 4 – Carole and Rieko

Year 5 – Magda

Year 6 – Fatim

Susanna and Sinead will support our children in receipt of Pupil Premium funding. Georgina and Lisa will continue to support individual and small groups of children. Marilda, Susie and Jean will continue with their role as School Welfare assistants. Alessia is currently recovering from an injury, but we are hoping she will be back on the team very soon.

New to Year 3

Parents of children in **Year 2** are invited to a New to Year 3 meeting in the school hall on **Thursday 13th July** at 9am.

Mental Health Support Team

We would like to introduce you to Sam Mariott who will be based at St. Anthony's every Wednesday next academic year. Sam is an Education Mental Health practitioner – please see **attachment** for further details.

Summer Reading Challenge – Local libraries

Hertfordshire Libraries are excited to let you know about this year's exciting Summer Reading Challenge: Ready, Set, Read! The challenge aims to address a dip in reading levels that can often occur during the summer holidays. Ready, Set, Read is a sports and games themed challenge that aims to keep children's minds and bodies super active over the summer break. After reading **six** books and completing the challenge children will receive a personalised certificate, a medal and a finishing gift. Your children can sign up for free with a library card at any Hertfordshire library from 8th July, with a completion date of Saturday 2nd Sept.

I would encourage all children to take part as reading is so vital over the long summer break. I look forward to seeing many 'Ready, Set, Read' certificates in the Autumn term.

Sea Scouts

If parents are looking for an activity group for their child, the 6th Rickmansworth Sea Scout Group has contacted us to say they would welcome new members. Please contact Group Scout Leader - Chris Doran. Tel: 01923 776035 / 07792 103736 Email: info@6thrickyseascouts.org.uk

SAFG – St Anthony’s Fundraising Group

A huge thank you to our SAFG for organising the sale of ice creams on Fridays. There will be more fundraising events in the new academic year so please speak to any member of SAFG if you would like to get involved in raising vital funds for your child’s school.

Attendance Update

The whole school attendance has been **94%** from 2nd September until Monday 10th July. Unfortunately, this is still below the **96%** minimum target set by the Government. Class attendance can be seen below. Well done to Year 6 Lisbon who achieved the highest attendance during this time.

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 10 th July	Year 6 Leavers’ mass - 2pm Year 2 Padua visit Wenzel's to experience baking.
Tuesday 11 th July	Year 4 retreat day to Aylesford Priory Year 2 Lisbon visit Wenzel's to experience baking.
Wednesday 12 th July	Year 3 Lisbon visit to Watford Museum Summer Reading Challenge librarian assembly for children Year 6 Leavers’ disco 5.30 - 7.30pm
Thursday 13 th July	Year 6 transition day at their new school New to Year 3 meeting - 9am Whole school ‘Meet your new teacher and classroom’ morning
Monday 17 th July	Reception Padua visit Hudnall Park
Tuesday 18 th July	Reception Lisbon visit Hudnall Park
Wednesday 19 th July	Leavers assembly for Year 6 families – 9.15am School finishes for summer Y1-Y6 2.30pm finish. Reception classes 2.25pm finish
Friday 1st September	INSET day (school closed)
Monday 4 th September	Term begins for children

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to the following children:

Reception Lisbon

Katie O was awarded the stage 1 certificate by Learn to Swim

Bianca C won a medal for coming 3rd in a gymnastics competition

Millie K won a medal for taking part in a gymnastics competition

Belle R won a medal for taking part in a gymnastics competition and was awarded a Learn to Swim stage 2 certificate

Reception Padua

Tessa G won 2 medals for a running race.

Year 1 Lisbon

Anna S achieved a Rainbow Distance 5m award

Rebecca P won a medal for coming 6th place in a gymnastics competition

Year 1 Padua

Harrison K was awarded a medal from Letz Play Sports for playing really well in football

Year 2 Lisbon

Grace W received a medal for taking part in the Colour Fun Run for the Peace Hospice.

Year 2 Padua

Olivia M was awarded a medal and certificate for dancing

Elisha P A was awarded the stage 3 certificate by Learn to Swim

Ameya R was awarded a certificate from Explore Learning for having mastered 200 skills

Aadhya M won several medals, trophies, and certificates for her exceptional Tamil language skills

Year 3 Lisbon

Evie W was awarded the stage 3 certificate by Learn to Swim

Abbey K won a trophy and certificate for Junior Freestyle 2023 from Croxley Dance Academy

Year 3 Padua

Benjamin J was received a tournament medal from Croxley Green FC and a trophy for Mangers' Player.

Lorcan K won a medal when he played an Evergreen tournament for Croxley Green FC

Jotham G won a medal when he played a tournament in Ickenham for Titans FC

Year 4 Lisbon

Riley B won Player of the Year and Teams Player of the Year from Everett Rover FC

Bobby N won Most Improved Player trophy from Titans FC.

Year 4 Padua

Amy D won a medal for coming 1st place in a gymnastics competition

Laura P received a certificate and medal for coming 3rd place in a gymnastic competition

Riordon L won a certificate and trophy for Positive Attitude from Croxley FC

Alexander Z received a Rainbow distance certificate for 20 metres

Year 5 Lisbon

Natalia G was awarded Players' Player trophy from Cassiobury Rangers FC

Emily O received a Rainbow distance certificate for 100 metres and a certificate for completing 1 year of Jigsaw Art School

Tai D won an end of season trophy for Titans U10

Year 5 Padua

Lorenzo M won a trophy and medal from Croxley Green FC for playing in a tournament

Jotham G won an end of season trophy for Titans U10 along with a Players' Player trophy along with a medal when he played a tournament in Ickenham for Titans FC

Timmy A won a Quad Bike racing medal

Asher N won a Quad Bike racing medal

Emily S won a medal for coming 1st in a gymnastics competition

Ellen L won a medal for coming 1st in a Gaelic Football competition

Year 6 Padua

Aadhav M won several medals, trophies, and certificates for his exceptional Tamil language skills

I wish you all a wonderful summer - I hope you will find time to relax and spend time with your loved ones.

I look forward to seeing you all in September for a new school year.

God bless,

Elaine Harrold

Headteacher