



# March 2024 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

*We Grow and Learn with Jesus*

school website [www.stanthons.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stanthons.herts.sch.uk)

twitter/X @watford\_st

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Children with Cancer Charity Day and Watford Foodbank

**Thank you** to all our families for their generosity towards the Children with Cancer charity day which took place on World Book Day. A total of **£502.50** was raised which is fantastic! Our Year 3 staff are very grateful as this was their chosen charity for this year. The children looked very comfortable all day with their pjs/onesies on.

A **HUGE** thank you to the generosity of our school community for the **126kg** of food that was donated last Thursday. When I arrived at the Watford Foodbank with all your donations, they were so delighted as they had run so short of food the shelves in the foodbank were very empty. They asked me to pass on their thanks for all your generosity especially during these difficult times. The next dates for donations are:

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April**  
**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

## World Book Day- message from Megan and Corinne our English Co-ordinators

Throughout the school the classroom doors were decorated with some of our favourite books! Well done everyone they look **incredible**. The children were given a voting slip to vote for their favourite door and the winners were Reception Lisbon and Year 5 Lisbon. Their doors are below:



Pictures of the other doors are posted on the main page of our website under twitter/X tab. We hope you will enjoy seeing the doors during parents evening this week.

## Yellow Day – Friday 19th April

On **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April** we have our annual 'Yellow Day' where the children are invited to wear yellow/white clothes to school for the day with a £1 donation via The Gateway to the Catholic Children's Society.

## Staffing News

Laura Sugrue is currently continuing her maternity leave with beautiful baby Annie who was born last term.

Our School Bursar, Monique Jowers, is retiring in April. Monique has been working in our school for over 15 years. She comes into school every month to oversee our school budget and works very closely with our office staff, Governors and Senior Management Team. We will miss Monique greatly as she is always so cheerful and has offered us a huge amount of expertise and experience. Charlotte Cooper will be our new Bursar starting after Easter. We look forward to welcoming Charlotte to the St Anthony's Community.

Lisa Grant one of our 1:1 SEND Teaching Assistants is leaving this Friday as she has taken up the offer of working in her children's school much nearer to home. Lisa has been a fantastic teaching assistant. We will miss her calm, gentle approach. We wish her every success in her new role.

## School Lunches – Price Increase

Herts Catering have had to increase the cost of the price for a school meal with effect from **15<sup>th</sup> April 2024**. From this date the meal price for Year 3 upwards will now be £3.40 per day.

## Year 6 SATS

Year 6 children will be taking part in the Year 6 National SATs week - **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May**. They have been working very hard in class and during booster sessions to prepare for this important week. Complimentary breakfast will be offered to children in Year 6 who would like to come into school at the earlier time of 8.10am that week. Staff provide a range of tasty goodies to keep up their energy levels. This will take place in our Activity Studio. More information will be sent to Year 6 parents.

## Water Bottles

Please ensure the water bottle you send in with your child has a sports cap not a screw on lid. These need to be plastic reusable bottles, no glass please. There are some expensive water bottles that have been brought into school - I would advise you avoid these as children get very upset if they are misplaced or are dropped. A cheap, replaceable water bottle is best.

## Vaping

A reminder to all adults entering the school grounds that vaping is not permitted anywhere on the playgrounds. Thank you.

## Attendance Update

The whole school attendance has been 95% from 2<sup>nd</sup> September until 8<sup>th</sup> March.

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

A big **WELL DONE** to **Year 3 Lisbon** and **Year 6 Lisbon** who again achieved the highest attendance during this time.

## STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Day

Year 5 took part in a STEM day this week. They worked with Roseanna, an industry volunteer, and were challenged to construct a bulldozer using Connex. They were not given any instructions. At the end of the session winning pairs were selected from both classes. The Lisbon winners were Noah and Abigail and the Padua winners were Leo and Imogen.

*Noah and Abigail said:*

*'We really enjoyed the day. We had 5 minutes to plan and 60 minutes to construct. We looked at the word STEM and realised we were focusing on the 'T' for technology. We could be engineers when we are older'.*

*Imogen and Leo said:*

*"It is not usually something we thought we would be really good at but we surprised ourselves and really enjoyed it. We would like to use construction resources again in the future".*

I would like to thank Rachel from our teaching team for organising this day.

## 2024-2025 Term Dates

Please find attached to this newsletter the term dates for 24-25.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 Alien day
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 2 Lisbon and Padua visit Knebworth House
Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Padua parents' Lenten assembly 9.15am
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Year 5 Padua visit to WFC for 'Show racism the red card' event
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Year 5 Lisbon Stations of the Cross retreat day at St Michael's Church.
Weds 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Lisbon parents' Lenten assembly 9.15am
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 Lisbon and Padua Stations of the Cross assembly for parents – 9.15am <b>Term ends at 1.30pm</b>
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Term begins
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3 Lisbon visit to Reveley Lodge -details to follow
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception Easter retreat day in school
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3 Padua visit to Reveley Lodge-details to follow Year 5 visit to Mountfitchet Castle Food Bank Donation Day
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Yellow Fundraising Day</b> – see above for details

## **Congratulations**

Our congratulations go to the following children:

### **Nursery**

Isabella H was awarded a certificate for level 1 for Pre-skills gymnastics.

### **Year 1 Lisbon**

Lola S was awarded Star of the Day for cheerleading.

Darcie-Leigh M was awarded a certificate for level 4 Floor work from Watford Gym Club.

Amelia F was awarded Star of the Day for cheerleading.

### **Year 1 Padua**

Khaleesi D achieved the Stage 1 of the Learn to Swim Awards.

Keela L-R achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> place for her reel, 1<sup>st</sup> place for light jig, 1<sup>st</sup> place for single jig, 2<sup>nd</sup> place for slip jig and 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the Championship for Irish dancing.

Filip V was awarded a certificate for swimming 12.5 metres.

### **Year 2 Lisbon**

Rebecca P achieved level 4 for vault from Watford Gym Club

### **Year 2 Padua**

Natalia M achieved certificates and medals for Core Skills 1 and an Apparatus award from Rise and Explore Gymnastics

Ruairi R won a trophy for football from Letz Play Sports.

Antonia I achieved certificates and medals for Core Skills 1 and an Apparatus award from Rise and Explore Gymnastics

### **Year 6 Lisbon**

Aiden K was awarded a medal from Fullerians Under 11s Rugby for taking part in a 'Minis Festival' at Beaconsfield RFC.

*Thank you for your continued support.*

*Have a wonderful Easter break with your family and friends.*

*God bless and take care,*

*Elaine Harrold*