



# NOVEMBER 2024 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

*We Grow and Learn with Jesus*

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

twitter/X

@watford\_st

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **November – the month of Holy Souls**

Our Holy Souls display is now in the main entrance (see image below). Children from all classes have added names of family/friends who have passed away. These names will be included in our prayers throughout November.



## **CAFOD**

**Thank you** so much for your generosity in contributing to our **CAFOD** collection which was held as part of our multi day before the half term break. We were delighted to have raised **£503** for **CAFOD**.

## **Remembrance Day**

Children have been taking part in Remembrance Day activities and an assembly this week. They observed the 2-minute silence so respectfully on Monday. Well done children.

## **Staffing**

We were very sorry to say goodbye to Daniella McNulty before half term. Daniella has been a teaching assistant with our Early Years classes. We will all miss Daniella and thank her for all her hard work.

We were pleased to welcome two new After School Club leaders, Olivia and Libby. They joined the team in September.

## **Watford Foodbank**

The October collection was amazing – thank you so much for your generosity! The next collection is **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November**.

## **Southwest Herts Partnership Family Support Service Appeal**

Please see a letter attached to this newsletter from Martin, our Assistant Headteacher, regarding an appeal for Christmas gifts.

## **Nursery and Reception Nativity Performance**

This performance will take place on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 11am** for Nursery and Reception parents.

## **Years 1 and 2 – Nativity Performance ‘Prickly Hay’ Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

For the Year 1 and Year 2 performance there will be an afternoon performance (2.30pm) and an evening performance (6pm).

Numbers for the evening performance will need to be restricted so we will be sending home two tickets for each family in Years 1 and 2. **Please organise babysitters in advance as all children who attend our school as well as pre-school children will not be able to come into the evening performance. It is very upsetting for parents to miss their child’s performance because they have not made appropriate arrangements. And it is also very difficult for staff who have to turn them away.**

The afternoon performance will not be ticketed. Children below school age should be brought to the afternoon performance and not the evening performance.

### **Community Afternoon and Class Assemblies.**

Our community afternoon was very well attended by grandparents and senior citizens from the local community/parishes. 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.

### **Before and after school**

Just a reminder that it is difficult for teachers to talk at length to parents at drop off time or collection time as they are busy watching out for their class of children. If you have anything that needs to be discussed, please let the office staff know and a mutually agreed time can be made with the class teacher.

### **Attendance Update**

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time in the morning and is collected from school at 3.30pm.

The whole school attendance is **96%** from **1<sup>st</sup> September** until **13<sup>th</sup> November**. The attendance of all classes is as follows:

<b>Nursery</b>	93%	
	<b>Lily class</b>	<b>Poppy class</b>
<b>Reception</b>	96%	94%
	<b>Lisbon</b>	<b>Padua</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	93%	94%
<b>Year 2</b>	98%	97%
<b>Year 3</b>	95%	96%
<b>Year 4</b>	98%	98%
<b>Year 5</b>	97%	97%
<b>Year 6</b>	94%	95%

Well done to **Year 2 Lisbon** and **both Year 4 classes** who achieved the highest attendance during this time.

### **Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day**

On **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** the children will be able to have a Christmas lunch as one of their choices on School Grid. It is very helpful to our kitchen staff if you have made your order for this by Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November as then they know the numbers for ordering the special Christmas lunch food items. **All children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper on this day.** They can wear this with trousers or a skirt instead of their usual school uniform.

### **Christmas Raffle**

Thank you to all the parents/carers who have already purchased raffle tickets. These are still on sale until the 9<sup>th</sup> December. The draw for prizes will be the 13<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Year 5 Bikeability course**

Congratulations to all the Year 5 children who recently completed their Bikeability course. They were praised by the course leaders for their enthusiasm and sensible behaviour. Well done children.

## **Considerate Parking**

Please continue to park safely outside the school and with respect for our neighbours in the Holywell community. We have received more complaints recently about residents having their driveways blocked by parents.

## **Earrings - reminder**

Can I please remind all parents that children may **not** wear earrings to school, they also must not be taped over. Children who wear earrings will be asked to remove them. This is due to health and safety. If your child would like their ears pierced the best advice is to do this at the start of the summer holidays so they can be removed in time for the September start.

## **Congratulations**

It is always lovely to see the children with their medals and certificates. We have very many talented children!

Our congratulations go to the following children:

### **Year 1 Lisbon**

**Anna M** took part in the Cassio Park Run half Marathon

### **Year 1 Padua**

**Eyoel S** received a Maths certificate for his ordering skills.

### **Year 2 Lisbon**

**Millie K** received a special trophy for Gaelic Football

**Bianca C** was Star of the Day in Cheerleading, Gymnast of the day with Watford Gym Club and received a certificate for this. She was also awarded a certificate and medal for Gym Proficiency

**Rita J** was 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Oxford Regional Bible Reading and received a trophy and certificate

**Amelia F** was awarded 2 medals at Buckinghamshire Championship for Irish Dancing

**Aliah P** was Star of the Day in Cheerleading and received a certificate and badge for Stage 2 from Learn to Swim

**Rosie A** was Star of the Day in Cheerleading

### **Year 2 Padua**

**Nicholas G** achieved Gymnastics Level 4 from Watford Gymnastics Club

### **Year 3 Lisbon**

**Rebecca P** was awarded a medal and certificate for Level 5 Floor from Watford Gym Club and received a letter from the Head of Royal Correspondence for writing a letter to the King

**Sandra R** was Player of the Week with Get Set 4 Tennis

### **Year 3 Padua**

**Arabella A** was awarded a certificate from Royal Schools of Music for passing her Initial Grade in Piano

**Harrison K** won a trophy for being Player of the Match for Bram FC Youth Team and a medal from Sports Camp for trying his hardest.

**Jeremiah J** received a certificate from Church group for good behaviour

**Dev K** achieved Level 3 with Learn to Swim and completed the Summer Reading Challenge

#### **Year 4 Lisbon**

**Abel C** received a certificate for completing Level 2 piano

#### **Year 4 Padua**

**Isabella K** was awarded a trophy for Gymnastics

#### **Year 5 Lisbon**

**David J** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Riley E-B** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Ethan W** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Lucas S** achieved the Stage 4 from Learn to Swim certificate

**Elieen E** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Levi D** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

#### **Year 5 Padua**

**Jack D** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Samanyu P** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Noel L** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Lorcan K** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Benjamin J** was 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Oxford Regional Bible Reading and Costume Competition he was also awarded Afterschool Football Club Player of the Day

#### **Year 6 Lisbon**

**Louis C** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Dorian P** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Gianni M** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

#### **Year 6 Padua**

**Noah O** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Tristan K** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Emil K** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

**Maia L** was awarded a Stage 5 certificate and badge from Learn to Swim

**Imogen R** was awarded a Stage 5 certificate and badge from Learn to Swim

**Antonio T** received a certificate from Afterschool Football Club for being Player of the Day

	<b>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</b>
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Odd Socks day for Anti-bullying week – see information in the email sent out
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	<b>Foodbank donation day</b>
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	<b>INSET Day – school closed</b>
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Year 1 Advent Retreat day in school
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Year 2 Advent Retreat day in school
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	<b>First Sunday in Advent</b>
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Reception and Nursery Nativity performance for parents – 11am
Weds 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Parents' Reading morning in the Activity Studio 8.25am – 8.45am- all classes welcome
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 1 and 2 classes Christmas performance for parents – 2.30pm and 6pm. See above for details.
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Mini Vinnies Choir to sing at Holy Rood Church – details to follow
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last Forest School for Year 4 and last swimming lesson for Year 6 Padua
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 6 visit Bletchley Park for WWII visit.
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Lunch and Christmas jumper fundraising day – more details to follow.
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Foodbank donation day</b>
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 4 Romans Day – more details to follow
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 2 visit Watford Palace Theatre for Aladdin Pantomime - details to follow
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Class parties – details to follow in class updates.
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Term ends at 1.30pm for the Christmas holidays.</b>
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2025	School resumes.

***Thank you for your continued support.***

***God bless and take care,***

*Elaine Harrold*

Headteacher