



July 2025 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

We Grow and Learn with Jesus

school website www.stanthonys.herts.sch.uk

Bluesky @stawatford.bsky.social

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 14th July at 2pm, the Year 6 children's disco is Wednesday 16th July at 5pm and the Leavers' assembly will be Friday 18th 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. 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*.

Cancer Research Fundraising Day

As I am sure many of you are aware Cancer Research is a fantastic charity. It is a charity that is also very close to the hearts for many of our staff as we have seen the impact this vital research has had on our colleagues. We would like to finish this year with a special fundraising day on **Thursday 17th July**. Children may wear their own clothes to school for the day in exchange for a donation to **Cancer Research**. These donations need to be made using our School Gateway.

Parent Questionnaire

If you are able to complete our whole school questionnaire, we would be **very** grateful. The link is below. The date for completion of the questionnaire is **Monday 28th July at 5pm**. Many thanks.

<https://forms.office.com/r/fh3pNcSDN4>

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 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 – Breda, Bella, Manu and Marilda,

Reception Lilies – Ashleen

Reception Poppies – Stephanie

Year 1 Lisbon – Adriana

Year 1 Padua – Laura

Year 2 Lisbon – Dominika

Year 2 Padua – Emily

Year 3 – Nikki B and Rieko

Year 4 – Susanna and Nicky W

Year 5 – Magda and Shannon

Year 6 – Fatim and Shannon

Georgina, Diana, Sinead, Shani and Ireshika will continue to work with individual or small groups of children who have been identified for support.

Jean and Rhiann will continue to support children as our school welfare assistants and will also be supporting children in classes.

Summer Reading Challenge – Local libraries

Hertfordshire Libraries are excited to let you know about this year's exciting Summer Reading Challenge: ***Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors.***

The local libraries challenge children to read six library books (or eBooks/eAudiobooks) between **5 July 2025** and **7 September 2025**. Incentives include a collector folder, stickers, a Medal, a special pencil, and a Certificate. Plus, a chance to win a ticket to an exclusive event!

The Challenge helps broaden reading horizons and maintain reading levels for the next academic year. It's a fun, free family activity that encourages healthy reading habits.

I would encourage all children to take part as reading is so vital over the long summer break. I look forward to seeing many 'Story Garden' Certificates in the Autumn term.

Early Years Information

Please would parents of children in Early Years classes refrain from messaging individual teachers. All messages regarding EYFS children e.g. forthcoming medical appointments or miscellaneous comments must be sent to our school office via an email or a telephone call where it will be forwarded to the relevant staff.

Attendance Update

The whole school attendance has been **95%** from **1st September 2025** until **8th July 2025**.

Please ensure your child arrives at school on time. Children regularly arriving late miss out on vital learning and it is very unsettling for them. As mentioned in previous newsletters we follow County guidelines for all matters related to attendance. We are unable to authorise any absence for holidays/trips/visits/celebrations.

The attendance of all classes is as follows:

Nursery	89%	
	Lily class	Poppy class
Reception	94%	93%
	Lisbon	Padua

Year 1	94%	94%
Year 2	96%	96%
Year 3	95%	95%
Year 4	98%	97%
Year 5	96%	95%
Year 6	95%	95%

Well done to our **Year 4 Lisbon class** who achieved the highest attendance during this time.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 10 th July	Year 6 Transition Day at their new schools Children to meet their next teacher in their new classroom. Open afternoon 3.30pm – 4.30pm– all parents welcome – see details above
Fri 11 th July	Year 4 retreat day to The Friars - Aylesford Priory Year 5 and 6 Sports afternoon 1.30pm – 3.30pm
Mon 14 th July	Year 6 Leavers' mass – 2pm for Year 6 parents and children
Weds 16 th July	Year 6 Disco 5pm – 7pm
Thurs 17 th July	All children to wear their own clothes for Cancer Research Day– Gateway donations welcome.
Fri 18 th July	Leavers' assembly – Year 6 parents invited – 9.15am. School finishes at 1.30pm. INSET for teachers in the afternoon.
Weds 3 rd Sept	INSET Day – school closed
Thurs 4 th Sept	Term begins

Congratulations

It is always lovely to see the children with their Medals and Certificates.

Our congratulations go to the following talented children:

Nursery

Kayal M passed Puffin Level in swimming

Hans E received a Certificate for Water Safety

Reception Lily

Aoife K received a Learn to Swim Stage 3 Certificate

Ruby A received a Performance Award Certificate from Theatre Train for her performance in Musicals at the Movies

Year 1 Lisbon

Dorian D received a Learn to Swim Stage 2 Certificate

Daniel J received a Certificate of Participation from Syrian Orthodox Sunday

Joseph O was awarded Ducking 2 Swimming Award

Cora L and **Dev G** received a Certificate in Karate for best kicks

Anna M achieved 5 metres Rainbow Distance in swimming

Millie P achieved Level 1 in swimming – jumping in the pool

Divyen S received a Certificate for completing one year with JigSaw Performing Arts School

Anna M was awarded a Medal and Certificate from Watford Gym Club for level 4 Vault

Year 1 Padua

Airen H was awarded a Medal from Watford Gym Club for level 5 Vault

Year 2 Lisbon

Millie K was awarded a Trophy and Medal from Watford Premier Netball Club for being Coaches Player along with a Medal for Gaelic football for the All Britain Competition she also was awarded a Certificate for 10m Backstroke from Kings Langley Swim Club

Year 2 Padua

Reece E was awarded a Medal for taking part in the Cassiobury Park Watford Junior Challenge and a Medal for a rounders match

Sedrick C awarded a Medal and Certificate from Watford Gym Club for level 5 Vault

Year 3 Lisbon

Annah S received a Water Skills Stage 2 Certificate and badge

Rebecca P was awarded a Medal for 4th place in a gym competition from Acrotrix

Vicky G was given a Certificate from Karate for excellent behaviour

Year 3 Padua

Vennilaa M passed her 5km swimming level

Eliana S was awarded a Medal from Watford Gym Club for level 5 Vault

Matas D received a Certificate and Medal of Achievement for White/Black Belt Ju Jitsu

Maria S received a Medal and Certificate for completing three years with JigSaw Performing Arts School

Arabella A received a Performance Award Certificate from Theatre Train for her performance in Musicals at the Movies

Year 4 Lisbon

Anah O received a Learn to Swim Stage 6 Certificate

Serah J, Sophia H and Andria F played the piano at the Summer Celebration held at Watford School of Music

Caitlyn H received a winners trophy and Medal for Bollywood Level 4

Grace W received a Learn to Swim Stage 2 Certificate and badge

Abel C was awarded a winners Medal and trophy for a football tournament with We Make Footballers Club he also received a Certificate from the Royal Schools of Music for passing the Initial Grade Piano with Merit

Ria D received a Medal from LD Dance for dancing so well in a performance of Peter Pan

Sophia H received a Learn to Swim Stage 5 Certificate

Year 4 Padua

Aiden D was awarded a tournament winners Medal from basketball club

Demi C was awarded a Medal and Certificate for Outstanding Performance from Acrotrix

Zach was given 4 Medals from London Colney FC for trying very hard in tournaments

Freya K was awarded a Medal for 4th place in a gym competition from Acrotrix

Year 5 Lisbon

Abbey K received was awarded a Trophy and Medal from Watford Premier Netball Club for being Coaches Player and

A Medal for Gaelic football for the All Britain Competition and

A Certificate for 10m Backstroke from Kings Langley Swim Club and

Most Improved Player trophy and Medal for Netball and a Medal for a Gaelic Football Tournament

Year 5 Padua

Jotham G was awarded a winners Medal from Titan FC for the St Joseph's tournament

Benjamin J was Players Player of the Year for Croxley Green and also received a 3rd place Medal for a Catechist Exam

Andrea L received a 1st place Medal for a Catechist Exam

Year 6 Lisbon

Aoife K received was awarded a Trophy and Medal from Watford Premier Netball Club for being Coaches Player and

A Medal for Gaelic football for the All Britain Competition and

A Certificate for 10m Backstroke from Kings Langley Swim Club and

A Trophy and Medal for Netball and a Gaelic Football Tournament

Year 6 Padua

Riordon L was given 2 trophies from Croxley Green FC, one was for being Player of the Season

Noah O was Player of the Season Street 2 Pro Shield

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