



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

A Voluntary Academy



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Headteacher: Mrs C Fox, B.Ed., M.Sc., NPQH

16th December 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

I have now completed my first year at St Anthony's and I would like to thank parents for their support and positive comments during this time. I have, at times, been overwhelmed with your appreciation of what we do for your children at St Anthony's and it is really encouraging to all the staff when you acknowledge their commitment to your child's wellbeing and education. Thank You!



It was lovely to see so many of you at the Christmas Fair, the staff worked very hard preparing in order to make it a success. I hope you all found something to enjoy at the event. There are a few tombola prizes which are still to be collected.

The autumn term is my favourite time in school. It is always extremely busy but it starts with a buzz of excitement with new classes and challenges for everyone and changes into a magical time, when everyone is preparing for Christmas and the holiday. Here are a few of the highlights: the Art Gallery, St Anthony's Bake Off, Firework display, the Panto which was again generously funded by Manchester Airport, Year 6 enjoying themselves at Outward Bound in the Lake District, the Year 5 Enterprise Project at Wythenshawe Market, the Christmas Café, all the Christmas shows and Bussy Malone, as well as the Year 4 Awe and Wonder days with the Chaplains.

On behalf of the staff and myself, we wish you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas!

God bless

Mrs C P Fox
Headteacher



Reception Class News

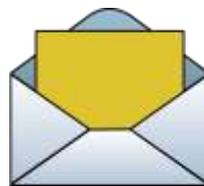
We have been ever so busy in our *Read, Write Inc.* sessions, learning new sounds, doing Fred Talk and reading stories, and writing, too! We are doing very well and everyone loves it!

Road Safety Week: we learnt lots about staying safe on the roads and children made their own mini lollipops for crossing the roads!

The Christmas Fair was a great success and many Reception children took part in *St Anthony's Bake Off* creating some delicious cakes!!!! Well done!

Nativity: we rehearsed lots for our Nativity performance. We worked really hard and were so excited to don our costumes to perform it on Friday 9th December to an appreciative audience.

In class our topic was *Magical Moments* and we learned all about the Christmas story. We also wrote long letters to Father Christmas.



hats to wear at the on Thursday which was great by all of us!



We made an array of party Christmas Party 15th December, fun and enjoyed

Year 1 News



During *Road Safety Week* Year 1 went on a road safety walk. We learnt how to cross the road safely, looking both ways and listening carefully for traffic.

We also learnt about three different types of road crossings that we can use near our school.

In Science, we have particularly enjoyed learning about Isaac Newton's discovery of Gravity. We have been working scientifically taking part in experiments, making slime and testing different forces.

We had many delicious entries in the *Christmas Bake Off*. Lots of Y1 children proved to be fantastic bakers. We were very proud of Daisy Myott who won a special award for her incredible Christmas tree design cake.

Year 3 News

It has been a thoroughly enjoyable half term in Year 3. The children have been working extremely hard writing stories, poems and play scripts in English. They have also been practising their times tables and learning how to tell the time.

On Tuesday 22nd November the children had a visitor, 'Little Mo' the dog from *The Dogs Trust* who taught the children all about how to care for dogs and how to behave when approaching them. All the children thoroughly enjoyed their time with Mo.

Last week, the Year 3 children learnt lots about *Road Safety* and how to cross the road safely, then they used these skills when walking to the forum to watch the pantomime!!!

Year 4 News

It has been an exciting first term for Year 4.



Our visit from *Olaf the Viking Warrior* was a huge success. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a battle with swords and shields.

Congratulations to all the children who have already achieved their 25 metres

during our weekly swimming sessions - we could be looking at future Olympic swimmers!

We have also entered a "crazy creature" writing competition so good luck to everyone!

Year 5 News

For five weeks, Year 5 became entrepreneurs as they took up the challenge to develop their own business ventures to make as much money as they could from an initial loan of £5 each. They did this as part of an event sponsored by Virgin



Money. The children formed teams, came up with some brilliant group names, began to understand the importance of effective teamwork and spent the last half-term designing, marketing

and selling products in a bid to make a profit.

The children developed their skills in school by selling cakes, sweets and drinks as well as hosting events such as a lunchtime disco and movie night. Their scheme culminated in a fantastic opportunity to run stalls on Wythenshawe Market on Friday 9th December.

Selling handmade Christmas cards and decorations, the Year 5 children brought a festive cheer to the market. To encourage customers, the children sang



songs from their Christmas show whilst the school choir sang in ASDA and children packed bags, directing people to visit the market. Special guests to the market included the Lord Mayor, Fred the Red, Mike Kane MP, the Fianna Phadraig Pipe Band and local councillors.

The children made over £1900 profit as part of



Virgin Money's 'Make £5 Grow' project which will be used to enhance their learning experiences.





Year 6 News

Year 6 have had a very busy half term. As well as working incredibly hard, there have been lots of exciting things we have taken part in: Outward Bound, Road Safety Workshops, a great pantomime, and trips to Manchester Christmas Markets and The Museum of Science and Industry.



Outward Bound was a massive success, with all the children and staff having a fantastic, fun-filled week! We visited the beautiful Lake District and had some great

experiences together, such as canoeing, gorge walking, hill climbing and some lucky children even got to have a go at the 'Leap of Faith'!



It was a great chance to relax and enjoy ourselves before the hard work starts again next term.

Sporting Highlights



As always, the dark nights have put a halt to our competitive edge. However, our sports coaches Shooting Stars provide a competitive element in sports over the lunchtime which the children participate in and thoroughly

enjoy, and the football teams have started their season. We hope to resume a whole schedule of sporting events in the new term.

Other News and Notices

In the early weeks of term the school proudly took possession of our first minibus which has been in great demand ever since.

Halloween Family Fireworks Spectacle

It was great to see so many of our families join us for the Halloween disco! There were some amazing costumes and lots of fun and laughter. The grand finale of the evening was a spectacular display of fireworks which lit up the whole of Wythenshawe!

Advent Carol Service

Wythenshawe Catholic Schools came together for a beautiful and thought-provoking Advent Service at St Anthony's Church. It was wonderful to see our Catholic schools unite for this very special event, and our thanks go to the Chaplains for making it such a success. Thanks also to Cathy Johnson for coaching our school choir. Well done to all who took part!

Christmas Dinner

A very big and well deserved thank you to our fantastic and hard-working kitchen staff who cooked dinner for 700 children as well as dozens of staff. That was a tall order! The traditional celebration meal was enjoyed by all to the accompaniment of Christmas music and the popping of crackers.

Wall Art

The school invested in a quantity of picture frames which are being used to display pupils' art along the corridors, and a new mural has been painted near the main entrance to brighten up the area.

Staff News

It is a great pleasure to announce that one of our Reception Class teachers Miss Gething is getting married on Saturday 17th December! On her return in January she will be known as Mrs Enright.

Mrs Delves will be going on maternity leave in January.

Every Minute Counts

If a child is five minutes late every day, they will have accumulated three days of absence by the end of the year. Ten minutes would be 6½ days, 15 minutes would be ten days, and missing 30 minutes a day would add up to a surprising 20 days or four weeks of absence.

School starts at 8:55am, NOT at 9:00am!!!

Cashless Payments

We kindly remind parents that in the new year the school will be moving on to cashless payments. If anyone has difficulties in using the cashless payment system SIMS Agora, please contact the Main Office for assistance. This payment method can now be used to pay for school trips as well as for school dinners.

Thank You!

The *Christmas Fair* proved to be another great success with £3,700 raised. This will go a long way towards buying a second school bus which we are saving for with a view to being able to take out whole classes on school trips to save on transport costs.

The *Book Fair* also raised a respectable £685.

A huge thank you again to everyone for your dedication and selfless support for the school.

Dates for the Diary

Parents are kindly reminded that the school calendar is displayed on the website where you will be able to access up to date information.



The calendar has undergone an overhaul and will look more colourful from now on. Early in the new year parents will be able to download calendar items directly from the web calendar on to computers and mobile phones to track children's activities more easily.

- School is back on Wednesday 4th January!
- There will be a whole school Mass on Friday 6th January at 1:45pm to celebrate Epiphany.
- A letter about Reading was sent to parents a few days ago and, just to remind you, Reading Workshops will be held in school on 11th January.
- 13th January Y1 Assembly, Miss Simmons.
- 20th January Y6 Assembly, Mr Glynn.
- Enrolment Mass will be on Sunday 22nd January.
- 27th January Nursery Assembly, Mrs Coffey.
- On 1st, 2nd and 3rd February we have Maths puzzles and workshops in school.
- Parents' Evening will be on 9th March.
- Acceptance Mass will be celebrated on 12th March.
- Palm Sunday is on 9th April.
- First Holy Communion will be on 6th May.

Please do look at the website calendar also.

The spring term will commence on Wednesday 4th January 2017 at 8:55am.

School Uniform

Boys	Girls	PE
Burgundy V-neck jumper	Burgundy V-neck jumper or cardigan	Burgundy shorts and black jogging pants
Long grey trousers	Grey skirt or pinafore	Sky-blue polo shirt
Sky-blue shirt	Sky-blue shirt	Grey or black pumps and trainers
Black shoes	Black shoes	
School tie	School tie	
	Plain grey tights or grey socks	