



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

A Voluntary Academy



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

8th September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back!

Another exciting and inspiring school year lies ahead. I wish a very special welcome to our new children and families throughout the school. We are sure that you will be happy at St. Anthony's and will quickly feel part of our school family.

It was lovely to see all the children on Monday morning, dressed in smart new uniforms, looking happy and ready to start a new school year. The children have certainly had lots of interesting stories to share and it seems that many of you have had a fantastic, fun-filled summer. I do hope that you were able to get some rest and relaxation as well.

This term promises to be a very enjoyable and eventful time. I know you will continue to work with us, so your child can grow in confidence, with a love of learning and a determination to be the best person they can be.

If you have any concerns about your child or their education, please make an appointment to discuss this with their class teacher, in the first instance. We will do all we can to help and support you.

Parent Pay

I would just like to remind parents about the new online payment system for school meals. The system, called SIMS Agora, can be accessed via the school's website under Parent Information. Please contact the school if you need assistance or further information about how to use it.

The cost of school dinners remains the same at £2.20 a day, £11.00 per week and £77.00 for the current half term.

Healthy School

In an effort to provide your children with the healthiest environment we can, we encourage you to provide only healthy snacks and lunches for school. We are a 'Healthy School' and rely heavily on your support to retain this status. Please ensure that all break time snacks are healthy. For those children who have packed lunches, we request that parents follow the well-published guidance on providing balanced and healthy meals. Please do not allow your child to come to school with sweets, chocolate bars, fizzy drinks or, indeed, chewing gum. Infant children are provided with a piece of fruit each day in school.

*"Journeying together with Jesus Christ
We learn to love and love to learn"*

Swimming - Year 4

Swimming lessons will begin next week for our Year 4 children. As with all aspects of Physical Education, it is a very important part of the curriculum and is a statutory requirement. All children should have appropriately labelled kit. Boys should have swimming trunks not shorts. Girls should wear a swimming costume. All children need to wear a swimming cap.

Meet the Teacher Afternoon

We will be holding informal parental meetings during the next two weeks so that parents have an opportunity to meet their child's new class teacher and learn about some of the classroom routines and curriculum content. (Teachers will not be discussing individual pupils and all information will be generic). Your child's class teacher will also provide some written information for those parents who will not be able to attend, or for larger families who are unable to get to all their children's classes. *If you have more than one child in school, my advice is to attend the meeting for your eldest child and collect the written information for the meetings you are unable to attend.*

MEET AND GREET MEETINGS - SEPTEMBER 2016				
	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm
Year	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	12 September	13 September	14 September	15 September
Reception	Miss Gething	Mrs Davies	Mr McCullen	
Year 1	Miss Simmons	Miss Holding	Miss Jones	
Year 2		Mrs Burns	Mrs Sherry	Miss Foulds
Year 3		Mr Knight	Miss Phillips	Mrs Matloob
Year 4		Miss Isbister	Miss Ross	Miss Griffiths
Year 5	Mr Drake	Mr Murray	Mrs Seymour	
	19 September		21 September	22 September
Year 6	Mr Glynn		Mrs Verma	Mr Thirsk

Our annual parents' information meetings will take place on **Thursday 20th October 2016** for all year groups.

Reading

We need to do all we can to encourage our pupils to read, and it is an expectation that your child will spend some time reading with an adult every evening. When you have done this, please sign the reading record book as these are being checked on a daily basis.

Attendance and Punctuality

It is really important that your child attends school regularly and arrives at school on time. Children should be in class at 8:55am ready to begin lessons.

In the same way that children should arrive at school on time, all children must be collected on time at the end of the school day, by the designated parent/carer. Please ensure your Junior child is aware of home time arrangements, i.e., if they are to wait for an adult to collect them or, if they are in Y5 and Y6, you have provided written consent for them to go home

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alone. You MUST contact the School Office if there is a change, i.e., another adult will be collecting your child. (Please refer to the separate letter detailing these arrangements.)

May I remind parents of the statutory guidelines which state that taking children on holiday in term time may incur a fine. No exceptional circumstances for absence will be authorised during assessments, SATS or exams.

Mobile and Internet Safety

As your children become increasingly reliant on the Internet for both schoolwork and entertainment, we must all, as a community, be aware for the need to monitor the sites your child visits. In school, through classroom activities and discussion, we highlight positive uses of technology, but also ways in which we can all keep safe through responsible use of the Internet, mobile phones and social media (e.g. WhatsApp, Facebook Twitter). At home you can ensure the security systems and parental controls on your computers, tablets and mobiles are up to date. Please talk to your child about the dangers of accessing unfamiliar sites, or giving e-mail/Facebook/Twitter, etc., details to strangers.

Updating Information

At this time of year, we need to update the information we hold in school for your child. If you have moved house, changed your telephone number or any other details relevant to the school, please contact the School Office and pass on your information as soon as you can.

School Uniform

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

Parents are reminded that children must wear appropriate black shoes in school, not trainers or canvas shoes. A shirt with a collar must be worn with the school tie and, should you need to purchase a tie, they are now available from the School Office.

PE kit comprises burgundy shorts, maroon or plain black (no print) tracksuit bottoms, trainers, indoor pumps and white sports socks. A burgundy sports jumper is advisable in winter.

Although the weather has been beautiful and warm of late, we have been caught out by a few rain showers so please could parents provide a suitable coat for the children to wear when they play outside.

Reception Playground Equipment

For reasons of safety and to avoid damage, may I ask parents to kindly stop children from climbing on the Reception playground equipment while dropping off or picking up. The equipment is designed for small children to use during supervised activities.

Forthcoming Dates for the Calendar

The school's event calendar for the Autumn Term has not yet been finalised but please keep the following dates in mind. You will be notified of further events and they will soon be loaded on to the website calendar also, under Parent Information.

Some of the clubs will begin this term, e.g., music, dance and some sports, to be followed by a greater variety of clubs organised for after October half term. Further information will be sent out in a few weeks' time.

Wake up Shake up is up and running every Monday to Thursday at 8.30-8.45am (entrance via Junior gate). This is free and open to all pupils from Reception upwards. Pupils can just turn up on the day - no need to request a place.

Monday 19th September will be the start of *Harvest Collection* for tins and dry goods, and there will be a *Harvest Mass and Brunch* on Friday 30th September.

A *Macmillan Coffee Morning* will be held on Tuesday 27th September.

The Dog Trust will visit school on 17th October (Y6), 2nd, 3rd and 4th November (Y5, Y4 and Y3 respectively) when the children will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of exciting and interactive dog-themed workshops.

On Thursday 6th October we will celebrate *Census Day* by having a French theme - dressing up and eating a lunch with a French flavour.

On Friday 14th October the Junior Hall will be transformed into an *art gallery* for the day to exhibit the children's work. Parents are invited to attend the viewing.

Annual Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 20th October after school.

Friday 21st October will be the last day of the current half term and the start of a week's holiday. This day will also mark Father Michael's departure from St Anthony's Church.

Outward Bound week for Year 6 is from Monday 21st to Friday 25th November.

Assessment week will commence on Monday 5th December and, looking well ahead, Y6 SATS will take place in the week beginning 8th May 2017.

Please watch out for more exciting calendar events still to come!

Yours faithfully



Mrs C P Fox
Headteacher