



St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

A Voluntary Academy



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

12th February 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you!

I can't believe I have already completed my first half term at St Anthony's. Thank you to all of those parents who have welcomed me so warmly. Your continued support is much appreciated.

Sacramental Programme

A lovely Mass was held in Church last Sunday for Year 3 children who enrolled on the Sacramental Programme.

The next Mass will be Acceptance on 28th February.

SATs

SATs are only ten school weeks away! It is really important for all children to be in school on time, but it is particularly important for Year 2 and Year 6 children. If they miss days they miss important learning which cannot be caught up before the test.

School Sports Update

We've had a very busy and exciting half term. Our swimmers performed fabulously well with the boys' team finishing joint third overall. With such strong performances we're already looking forward to next year's event.

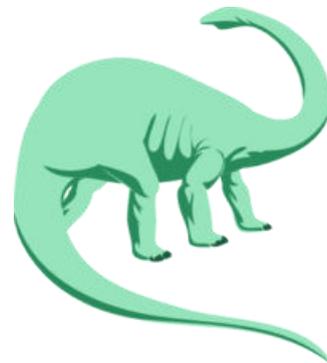
Our basketball teams enjoyed plenty of court time over two nights with fantastic displays of individual skill and finesse.

Both our teams progressed to the top group to fight it out for a place in the Citywide finals. All the great effort paid off with one of our teams moving forward to the finals on Wednesday 24th February at the Amaechi Centre. We wish them all the best.

Next term we will have gymnastics, girls' futsal and hockey competitions to look forward to.

Year 2 School Trip

In March Year 2 are visiting Manchester Museum where they will find out about dinosaurs.



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

School Attendance

Did you know Ofsted will only award outstanding school status if pupil attendance is above 96%?

As Head of St. Anthony's, I have responsibility for ensuring that our excellent attendance record remains consistent to give your child the best chance to achieve their full potential. This newsletter aims to provide as much information as possible regarding your child's attendance.

The Department for Education tracks attendance carefully and each year St. Anthony's just about makes our attendance target. I have every confidence that we can improve this to become more consistent and this academic year we have set ourselves an annual attendance target of 96.0% (4.0% absence rate).

The vast majority of our families achieve an attendance level of at least 96%. However, where families do not achieve a satisfactory level of attendance, we will discuss this with you and see how we can support you to improve.

We do appreciate that children get ill from time to time. We hope you can support us in achieving our target - we can only do it with your support! I am happy to answer any questions that may arise across the year regarding attendance so please do not hesitate to contact me or make an appointment through the Office.

Dinner Money

School dinners cost £11 per week and dinner money needs to be paid weekly in advance. Those families who prefer to pay half-termly, the next half term payment will be £52.80.

Parents' Evening

Year 6 and Year 2 parents' meetings have been well attended. If, for any reason, you were unable to speak with your child's teacher, please arrange an alternative time to discuss your child's progress.

Parents' Evening for the rest of the school will take place during the week beginning 29th February. Please make sure you book an appointment – a separate letter with the details has already been distributed to parents.

World Book Day

The school will be celebrating World Book Day in March and children will be able to dress up as their favourite book character.

In addition, we will be welcoming visitors from Manchester Airport who will work with our children during an afternoon of fun activities!

Finally, on behalf of all staff at St Anthony's I would like to wish everybody a pleasant half term break.

School starts again promptly at 8.45am on Monday 22nd February.

Yours faithfully



**Mrs C P Fox
Headteacher**

