



Headteacher: Mrs Katrina Straker, BA English (Hons.) PGCE. NPQH.



St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School

'Children in our heart, Christ at the centre'
'We love, we learn and we live'

Creating kind leaders of the future

Newsletter Issue 09 - 07 November 2025

Note from the Headteacher

Dear families

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term, one of my favourite terms of the school year as we prepare for Advent with nativities, a carol service and then our exciting final week of festive fun.

Thank you to Fr Ansel, Steven Pringle, Jonathan Yates and our Head Pupils, who kindly led yesterday's Remembrance Service. With a growing number of military families at our school, it continues to be an important event in our school diary and was made all the more poignant by the live rendition of The Last Post to mark our two minute silence.

Fireworks tomorrow: The PSA and firing team have been on site today to begin the preparations for tomorrow's fireworks spectacular. I am so grateful to them for the hours they have already given up on top of their busy jobs. Congratulations to Rosie and Marley who will be launching tomorrow's display!

School car park: I'd like to remind everyone of the protocols when using the school car park.

- 1) The drop off zone is for Y1 children and above, who have the independence to open the door nearest to the school to get out swiftly and walk in. Please do not use the drop off zone if you need to get out to help your child.
- 2) The visitor bays are for preschool parents only to walk the very youngest children in our school (who are still potty-training) to their classroom.
- 3) If you wish to walk your child to the classroom, please park at the Waypoint Church and walk the short distance to the school's back gate. This is much safer than parking on Primate Road.
- 4) If you are a preschool parent and all visitor bays are taken, please drive slowly around the 1-way system until a space becomes available. Please do not park in a teacher's space because you are preventing staff from reaching classrooms in the morning.
- 5) In the afternoon, please do not park in the drop off zone. We need to keep it free for emergencies. Please park at the Waypoint Church or on Primate Road. Staff bays continue to be used by staff who are arriving for after school clubs and we've had issues with some staff being delayed because they are unable to park.

Please can you share these protocols with any relatives who also help with school drop-off and pick-up.

Trim trails: You will have noticed that our trim trails have been repaired this week and we look forward to reopening them to the children next week.

Christmas Decoration Competition: With today's newsletter, please see the details for a Christmas decoration competition being a launched today by Mrs Adams.

With best wishes for the weekend and I hope to see many of you tomorrow night!
Mrs Straker

Working together to improve attendance:

Attendance figures for the week commencing 20th October:

Whole School 96.8%

Year R 94.6% **Year 1** 98.3% **Year 2** 95.4%

Year 3 92.5% **Year 4** 96.2% **Year 5** 100% **Year 6** 100%

An attendance rate of 95% or above is considered good by the DfE.

An attendance rate of 90% or below is categorised as 'persistent absence' by the DfE.

Important Dates:

Saturday 8th Nov, 4.30 - 7.00pm
St Anthony's Fireworks Spectacular!

w/c 10th November
Friendship & Inclusion Week
"Power for Good"
Preschool Parents' Evenings

Wednesday 12th November
Y3 Trip to Historic Dockyards

w/c 17th November
Whole School Road Safety Week

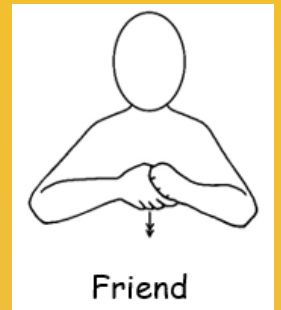
Friday 21st November
YR Jolly Christmas Postman Trail
Y5 Trip to London

Wednesday 26th November
ELSA drop-in for parents

Friday 28th November
Preschool Jolly Christmas Postman Trail

Weds 3rd & Thurs 4th December
Preschool & YR Nativity, 10.00am

Our Sign of the Week:



Useful emails:

2nd hand uniform email:
uniform@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk

Guinea Pig waiting list email:
guinea.pigs@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk



CLUBS AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 10/11/2025

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	YEAR GROUP	COMMENTS
Monday	French Club	12.30pm - 1.00pm	Yr1 and Yr2	<i>helen@butterflylanguages.co.uk</i>
Monday	Art and Craft Club	3.00pm - 4.00pm	YrR - Yr6	<i>sarah_silvestri@hotmail.co.uk</i>
Monday	Football with CM Sports	3.00pm - 4.15pm	Yr1 - Yr6	<i>info@cmsports.co.uk</i>
Tuesday	Drama	3.00pm - 5.00pm	YrR - Yr6	<i>superstarsportsuk@gmail.com</i>
Tuesday	Drawing club	3.00pm - 4.15pm	Yr 5 and Yr6 ONLY	<i>FoxArtTeaching@outlook.com</i>
Wednesday	French Club	12.30pm - 1.00 pm	Yr2 - Yr4	<i>helen@butterflylanguages.co.uk</i>
Wednesday	Gymnastics	3.00pm - 4.00pm	YrR - Yr6	<i>superstarsportsuk@gmail.com</i>
Wednesday	School Football Team	3.15pm - 4.15pm	Yr4 - Yr6	Mrs Marshman via the school office
Wednesday	School Netball Team	3.15pm - 4.15pm	Yr4 - Yr6	Mrs Read via the school office
Thursday	French Club	12.30pm - 1.00 pm	Yr5 and Yr6	<i>helen@butterflylanguages.co.uk</i>
Thursday	ComputerXplorers	3.00pm - 4.15pm	Yr1 - Yr6	<i>computerexplorers.co.uk/portsmouth/book/</i>
Thursday	Jamz Street Dance	3.00pm - 4.00pm	YrR - Yr6	<i>jamzdance@live.co.uk</i>
Thursday	Singing Stars	3.00pm - 4.15pm	Yr3 - Yr6	Ms Reid via school office
Friday	Dodgeball Club	3.00pm - 5.00pm	Yr2 - Yr6	<i>Dodgeball_club@outlook.com</i>

Catholic Life - our Parish and our Diocese

News from St Margaret Mary Parish:

Repository - Please call in and see the range of Christian gifts and cards available. We now have a selection of boxed Christmas cards and individual cards as well as nativity sets, snow globes, advent calendars and candles. Please come and have a look

CAFOD Produce Sale - On Sunday 9th November there will be a jam and preserve sale after all three Masses. All proceeds will go to the work of CAFOD. To read about their work and see their latest news, please visit the website at cafod.org.uk There is an option on the DONA machine to donate.

The Catholic Bishop Conference of England and Wales have released a Pilgrim Prayer book which can be downloaded from the Diocese Jubilee year website <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year-2025>

Diocesan e-news

[Portsmouth Diocese e-News Issue 509](#)



Starting School in September 2026

If you have a child who will be 4 years old between 1st Sept 2025 and 31st Aug 2026 the application for schools will open on Saturday 1st November 2025: www.hants.gov.uk/admissions

If you are applying to St Anthony's, you will also need to fill in a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) as well as the online form.

The closing date for school applications and SIF submissions (including relevant evidence) is Thursday 15th January 2026.

For more details or to arrange a school tour, please call 01489 579100.



Weekly Certificates

None this week

Reminders:

Drawing club:

There will be no Drawing Club next Tuesday

Individual Photo orders:

Closing date for orders is Tuesday 14/11/2025

Recycled Christmas Tree Decoration Competition:

All entries are to be returned to Mrs Adams by no later than Monday 1st December 2025

Christmas Jumper Day / 2nd hand Christmas Jumpers - can you help?

We will be inviting children to come to school on Friday 19/12/25 wearing a Christmas Jumper to raise money for Save the Children.

As Christmas jumpers are yet another financial outgoing and a single-use item we would like to invite you to participate in a secondhand Christmas Jumper Sale.

If you have any old children's Christmas jumpers at home that you are happy to donate, please can you wash them, label them clearly with the age/size and leave them in the box just outside the school office.

Some of our Year 6 pupils will sell these donated jumpers for £2 each and the proceeds will be put towards the Save the Children charity. Sales will happen on Thursday 27/11/2025 and Thursday 04/12/2025 after school in the KS2 playground.

Thank you for your continued support

St Anthony's PSA

Saturday 8th November 2025 - St Anthony's Fireworks Display

PSA email address: stanthonyspsa2025@gmail.com

If you would like to order any 2nd hand uniform please contact the PSA 2nd hand uniform store via their email on:

uniform@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk

2nd hand uniform volunteer(s) needed - The PSA are looking for 1 or 2 people to take over the running of the 2nd hand uniform. This involves checking and replying to emails, collating orders and delivering them to the school office. This brings in a substantial amount to the PSA so any help is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support!

Supporting our school library

If you would like to commemorate your child's birthday by contributing to the reading culture within the school, please consider our Amazon [wishlist](#) of titles that we currently don't have in our library but would love to provide the children with. Any books bought from our [wishlist](#) will have an insert added to the front cover, recognising the family and/or child who has purchased it for our school.

Thank you for your continued support!

Supporting our local food bank

If you are able to help, the following items have been particularly requested: Cereals, biscuits, jams, tea, coffee, pasta sauces, tinned vegetables (especially tomatoes and sweetcorn), tinned fruit/puddings, rice, sugar, tinned soup, tinned tuna.

Please place any donations during the autumn term in the boxes in our entrance foyer.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

