



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 19 - 30 January 2026



Note from the Headteacher

Dear families

Although January might seem a long month for many of us, this term seems to be flying by and I can't quite believe we only have two weeks until half-term.

I am very proud of many of our Key Stage 2 pupils this week, who have participated in some additional sporting challenges. Please see Mrs Marshman's report below.

Reminders for Friday 6th February:

We warmly invite any families to our parish Mass on Friday to celebrate the Presentation of the Lord. Mass will start at 9.00am and will be led by our Year 4 pupils.

Children can also dress down and wear a number to school on this Friday as we celebrate the NSPCC Number Day. Donations of £1 for the NSPCC are welcomed and we're looking forward to some Maths fun that day.

The PSA school discos will follow on after school so Friday will be a very busy day! Consent forms are attached with today's newsletter, please bring them with your child to the disco on Friday.

Recruitment for an LSA: Mrs Rawson, our Year 5 LSA, will be going on maternity leave after the Easter holidays so we are currently advertising a part-time LSA position in Key Stage 2. If you know anyone who may be interested in applying, please encourage them to visit our [website](#).

For those who have sporting commitments at the weekend, I hope that waterlogged pitches are not leading to too many cancellations. Sometimes, a cancellation can be a blessing and allows us all some precious family time without the pressure of being on time somewhere. Whatever your plans are, I hope you find some time to rest.

With best wishes for the weekend, Mrs Straker

St Anthony's Sporting Stars

A huge well done to our dodgeball A-Team who took part in another competition this week. They played brilliantly from start to finish, storming through their matches and losing only four sets across six games.

In a very close final, they were just edged out by the team currently ranked third in the country for primary school dodgeball!

Our athletes have also been busy this week as twelve runners from Years 4 and 5 represented St Anthony's at a cross country event hosted by The Gregg School, joining pupils from other local primary schools. Although we didn't come away with a top placing, every child ran with determination, positivity and real team spirit.

Both sports teams showed exactly what makes St Anthony's special: outstanding sportsmanship, wonderful teamwork and exceptional behaviour. We are so proud of them all!

Yours in sporting, Mrs Marshman

Working together to improve attendance:

Attendance figures for the week commencing 19th January:

Whole School 96.0%

Year R 95.0% **Year 1** 95.7% **Year 2** 99.3%

Year 3 97.7% **Year 4** 94.1% **Year 5** 93.8% **Year 6** 96.1%

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:

Tues 3rd February

Y3 trip to the Gurdwara

Y6 SATs Information Meeting, 7.30pm

Thurs 5th February

Y3 Egyptian Dress Up Day

Fri 6th February

Presentation of the Lord Parish Mass,
9.00am, led by Y4 - all welcome

Whole School NSPCC Number Day
Dress down and wear a number to
school (£1)

PSA School Discos

YR, 1 & 2 4.00-4.45pm

Y3, 4, 5 & 6 5.00-6.00pm

Tues 10th February

Safer Internet Day

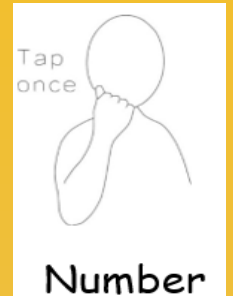
YR trip to St Margaret Mary Church

Thurs 12th February

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Races

Y1 & Y5 Trip to Science Museum

Our Sign of the Week:



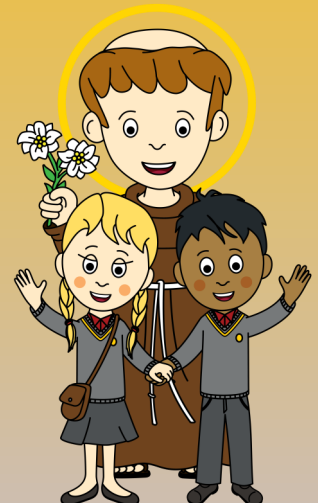
Useful emails:

PSA email address:

stanthonypsa2025@gmail.com

Guinea Pig waiting list email:

guinea.pigs@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk



CLUBS AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 02/02/2026

| 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 | 3.00pm - 4.15pm | Yr4 - Yr6 | Mrs Marshman via the school office |
| Wednesday | School Netball Team | RETURN TBC | Yr4 - Yr6 | Mrs Marshman 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 | Drawing club | 3.00pm - 4.15pm | Yr 3 and Yr4 ONLY | <i>FoxArtTeaching@outlook.com</i> |
| 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:

Advance Notice: the Parish office will be closed from Thurs 12th Feb - Weds 18th.

Friday Coffee Morning - Join us for coffee morning in the Paray room after morning Mass. All welcome.

Vinnie's Drop-in Café - Saturday 31st January from 2-4pm in the Parish hall. Come along for a friendly chat and cup of tea. All welcome.

Lenten Fundraising: St Patrick's Night Celebration on Saturday 21st March at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Could you contribute to the entertainment for this celebration? Can you sing, play and instrument, dance or tell a story? If you would like to be involved please contact Kathleen Mercer at kathleen.mercer@btinternet.com or the parish office at office@stmargaretmary.co.uk

Tickets £10 with all proceeds going to the Lenten Charity (to be confirmed)

Diocesan e-news

[Portsmouth Diocese e-News Issue 519](#)



Laughalots bookings

Breakfast and after school club booking forms have now been sent out, please can we remind you that these need to be returned to the school office no later than Monday 9th February at 9am.

Thank you for your support



Weekly Certificates

Headteacher's Awards:

None this week

Year 6 Exemplary Pupil of the week:

Betty For being quietly brilliant in all she does, always trying her best and being a wonderful role model to others

St Anthony's Mission Stars:

| | | |
|--------|----------|---|
| Year R | Mia | For showing God's love by being a caring and thoughtful friend |
| Year 1 | Oliver | For allowing the Holy Spirit to guide him to be a kind member of our school |
| Year 2 | Isabella | For sharing her love and kindness with others, just like Jesus did |
| Year 3 | Sofia | For always trying her best, approaching everything with a positive attitude and kindness |
| Year 4 | Lucas | For building new, positive friendships in the class. |
| Year 5 | Harry | For showing kindness every day and living out our Catholic values through his friendliness and warm heart |
| Year 6 | Jay-Jay | For letting the Holy Spirit shine through him by being kind and consistently choosing to do the right thing |

St Anthony's Awesome Learners:

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Year R | Sofia | Year 4 | Annabelle |
| Year 1 | Arya | Year 5 | Kian |
| Year 2 | Harry | Year 6 | Matilda |
| Year 3 | George | | |

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.

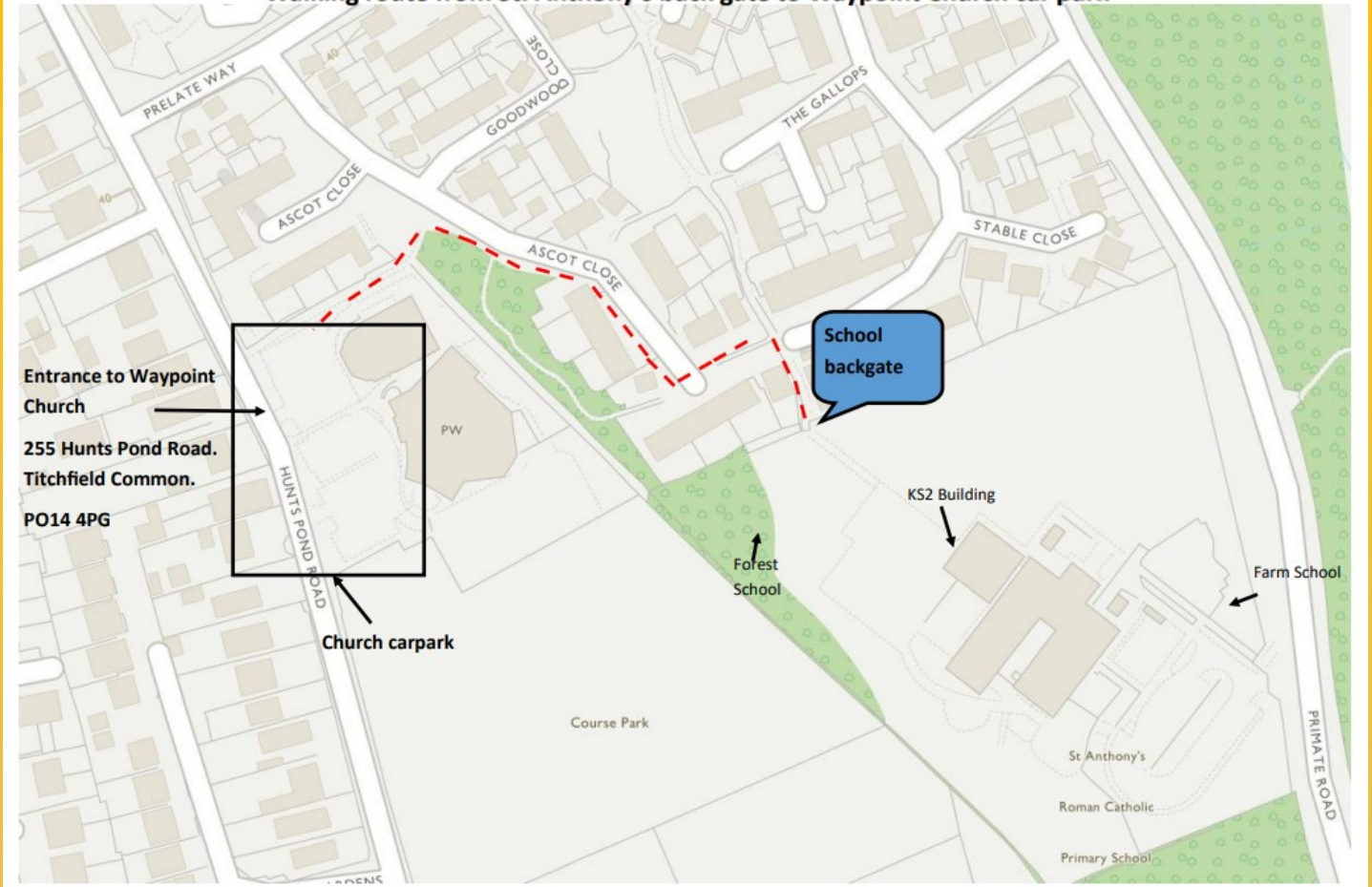
Please place any donations during the autumn term in the boxes in our entrance foyer.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!



Map to show the Waypoint Church car park and route to the St Anthony's back gate

Walking route from St. Anthony's back gate to Waypoint Church car park



Reminders:

NUT FREE SCHOOL: A reminder that we are a 'Nut Free School'. Even small traces of nuts can cause severe allergic reactions through ingestion, cross-contamination, or airborne particles. We kindly ask that you **do not** send any food items **containing nuts** or products that **may contain traces of nuts** in your child's lunchbox or as snacks.

SPARE UNIFORM APPEAL: We are always on the lookout for spare clean socks, tights and PE joggers (particularly smaller sizes), so if you have anything that your child has out-grown please consider donating this to us. Leave any donations with the school office.

2nd HAND CHRISTMAS JUMPER APPEAL: If you would like to donate any Christmas jumpers that will not fit your children next year we will be gratefully accepting any donations now ready for the end of the year!

2nd HAND UNIFORM Please consider purchasing from the 2nd Hand Uniform Shop to support a circular economy, reduce waste, save money, and help raise funds for the PSA - We currently have lots of lovely items in stock, including Preschool.

Good quality uniform donations are always welcome. Please contact the PSA 2nd hand uniform store via email on: uniform@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk

PSA AGM: The PSA will be holding their AGM on Thursday 26th February 2026 at 6:30pm in the school hall. Please come along and support our hard working PSA and learn about what they do to raise funds for our school.

