



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 04 - 26 September 2025

Note from the Headteacher

Dear families

Years 2 and 3 have enjoyed some exciting trips this week with Y2's visit to Fort Nelson today and Y3's visit to Gunwharf Quay. I'm very proud of our Y3 class who were so well behaved that staff at the Spinnaker Tower took the time to write a complimentary email about our children's attitude!

Holiday Clubs: I am delighted to confirm that we have negotiated a holiday club share between our very popular Dodgeball Club and Premier Education's holiday club. This gives our families some childcare options for nearly every school break this year as follows:

Oct h/term: Dodgeball Mon 27th & Tues 28th Oct; Premier Education Wed 29th - Fri 31st Oct

Feb h/term: Dodgeball Mon 16th & Tues 17th Feb; Premier Education Wed 18th - Fri 20th Feb

Easter: Dodgeball 30th March - 2nd April; Premier Education 7th - 10th April

May h/term: Dodgeball Tues 26th & Wed 27th May; Premier Education Thur 28th & Fri 29th May

Summer: Premier Education 3rd - 21st August, Dodgeball 24th - 28th August

I hope this supports families with plenty of notice to book annual leave & holidays this year.

Pet Blessing: On Thursday next week, we have our much anticipated pet blessing at 2.30pm. If the weather is kind, we'll be outside on our Key Stage 2 playground but if it's wet, we'll be in the hall. Parents are welcome to bring well-behaved pets to receive a blessing from Fr Ansel. For those whose family pet cannot come, I suggest you print a picture and your child can hold the photo of their pet during the blessing. We will confirm arrangements by email next week.

Harvest Assembly: On Monday 6th October, we will be celebrating our Harvest assembly when we thank God for the harvest and remember those who are not as lucky as us. Children will be invited to bring an item/s to assembly that can be donated to our local food bank so if you can afford to add an extra item to your food-shop, it would be greatly appreciated.

Rosary: October is the month of the Holy Rosary for Catholics and I will be leading the rosary on Friday mornings from 8.15am. If you and your child/ren would like to join me, please come to the back gate at 8.15am. We will only pray a decade so it is expected to take about 10/15 minutes. Children of all ages are welcomed. This starts on Friday 3rd October

Shoebboxes: In case you missed the email, for those who wish to fill a shoebox for a child this Christmas, the shoeboxes are in the school office. Please bring **£2 (in cash)** when you come to collect one. This year, the Rotary charity is prioritising displaced Ukrainian children for shoebox deliveries. The deadline for returning filled shoeboxes will be **Monday 20th October**.

This month has flown by and I cannot believe we're almost in October. I'm looking forward to an autumnal family walk this weekend and I hope you enjoy some family time too.

With best wishes for the weekend ahead,

Mrs Straker

Important Dates:

Thurs 2nd October, 2.30pm
Whole School Pet Blessing
Well-behaved pets are welcome!

Mon 6th Oct
Harvest Festival
Food bank donations welcomed please

Fri 10th Oct
Crazy Hair & Sock Day (£1 to the PSA)

Tues 13th Oct
Y2 Medical Marvels Dress-up Day

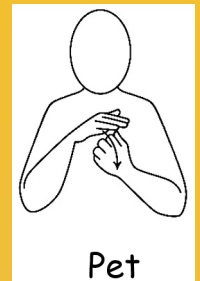
Weds 15th Oct
Y4 Roman Dress-up Day

Thurs 16th Oct, 8.45am
Y6 Feast Day Mass at St Margaret Mary

w/c 20th Oct
YR - Y6 Parents' evenings

Weds 22nd Oct
Y6 WW2 Dress-up Day & parent lunch

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



Working together to improve attendance:

Attendance figures for the week commencing 15th September:

Whole School 96.5%

Year R 93.6% **Year 1** 98.7% **Year 2** 99.7%

Year 3 100% **Year 4** 97.9% **Year 5** 98.7% **Year 6** 87.6%

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.

CLUBS AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 22/09/2025

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	Choir	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:

First Holy Communion Programme 2026

(Applicable for Year 4 and above)
Applications for the FHC programme for 2026 are now invited.

The programme is a commitment of 20 weeks. The classes are held on a Saturday morning between 10-11am. It is also important that applicants regularly attend Mass.

Please contact the office at office@stmargaretmary.co.uk for an application form.

The closing date for applications is **Sunday 28th September 2025.**



Diocesan e-news

[Portsmouth Diocese e-News Issue 504](#)

St Anthony's PSA

PSA email address:

stanthonypsa2025@gmail.com

Save the Dates:

Saturday 8th November 2025

St Anthony's Fireworks Display

Thank you for your continued support!



Weekly Certificates

Headteacher's Awards:

Kaniel Year R

Leo Year R

Eric W Year 1

Luca Year 4

Year 6 Exemplary Pupil of the week:

Colette In recognition of consistently demonstrating initiative, maturity, and a strong sense of responsibility throughout Year 6, particularly through her outstanding leadership as House Captain

St Anthony's Mission Stars:

Preschool	Luisa	For growing in independence and confidence
Year R	Kuba	For spreading joy and happiness with his positive energy
Year 1	Esme	For her smiles and joy at school, helping friends who need it
Year 2	<i>None</i>	<i>Due to school trip to Fort Nelson</i>
Year 3	Holly	For spreading her love and kindness, making sure everyone is always included at break times
Year 4	Anna Grace	For the constant positivity she spreads around the Year 4 classroom
Year 5	Katherine	For always thinking of others and sharing her positive energy with everyone
Year 6	Aoife	For protecting God's earth through her caring and loving actions

St Anthony's Awesome Learners:

Preschool	Branden	Year 3	Percy
Year R	Isabelle	Year 4	Eoghan
Year 1	Edison	Year 5	Hamish
Year 2	<i>School trip</i>	Year 6	Thomas

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!

Amazon wishlist school library donation thanks

Thank you to the following families that have kindly donated books to our library:

Gunter family

Hepplewhite family

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Ready, Steady, Read! A thank you from Miss Johnson

I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part in our Ready, Steady, Read challenge! Your generous sponsorships helped our children raise an amazing £1,023 in Usborne books for themselves and an incredible £882 for new books in our library. We are so grateful for the support and can't wait to receive our new titles.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

