



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 03 - 19 September 2025

Note from the Headteacher

Dear families

We have all been grateful for today's sunshine after the blustery start to being back at school and it has been lovely to see teachers taking learning outside when possible today.

Consents and Home School Agreement: Thank you to those who have already completed the consent and home school agreement forms for their children. These forms are very important so if you have not had the chance to do so, please complete them at your earliest opportunity.

Tapestry: We are very close to being able to launch Tapestry to improve our communication with you. Next week, we will look at the responses to our consent and home school agreements and begin to grant access to Tapestry to the parents/carers who have responded. Thank you for your cooperation.

Orchestra: With today's newsletter, you will find the letter from *Discover the Music* to register your interest in our school orchestra. I'm delighted that this will be open to all musicians, including those who have private lessons outside school.

Shoebboxes: I met with our new GIFT team this week and they have confirmed their wish to support the Rotary Shoebox Appeal once again this year. Our GIFT team told me how much they and their friends enjoy choosing items for a less fortunate child to receive at Christmas. More details will follow next week and we will let you know when the flat-packed shoeboxes are ready for collection from the school office. To enable the gifts to reach children by Christmas, the deadline for returning filled shoeboxes will be **Monday 20th October**.

Attendance: I am delighted that our overall attendance for the previous academic year continued to be strong and placed us in the top 10% of schools in England and Wales. It is so important that children are in school learning. Each day of school missed by a child will reduce their attendance by 0.5% and will mean they miss 5 lessons. If a pupil has a 95% attendance, that will have been 10 whole days missed - that's 50 lessons!

It is unsurprising that in our third week into the term, a few colds and viruses are circulating. I have been so impressed with the children who are prioritising good attendance at school and persevering despite their sore throat or snuffles. We recognise it can be difficult to decide if your child is well enough to attend school so we suggest the following:

- a child should not attend if he/she has a fever/temperature and is feeling unwell enough that he/she cannot perform his/her normal daily activities;
- if a child has vomited or suffered diarrhea, it is important that they do not return to school until 48 hours after the last episode of sickness/diarrhea.

To help you decide whether your child should be in school or not, you can also consult the [NHS advice](#).

With best wishes for the weekend ahead,
Mrs Straker

Working together to improve attendance:

Attendance figures for the week commencing 8th September:

Whole School 98.1%

Year R 98.0% **Year 1** 96.3% **Year 2** 98.0%

Year 3 99.3% **Year 4** 99.1% **Year 5** 99.3% **Year 6** 97.0%

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 23rd September
Y3 visit to Gunwharf & Spinnaker Tower

Weds 24th September
British Values Lunch and Afternoon

Fri 26th September
Y2 visit to Fort Nelson
YR Maths Information Meeting, 3pm

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

Our Sign of the Week:



Play

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 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:

Fr Ansel will be away from Friday 19th to Thursday 25th September. Sunday Masses will take place as usual.

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 503](#)

St Anthony's PSA

PSA email address:

stanthonyspsa2025@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:

None this week

Year 6 Exemplary Pupil of the week:

Dominic For beginning Year 6 as a true role model, embodying our values with integrity and leadership in his role as Head Boy

St Anthony's Mission Stars:

Preschool	Charlie	For growing in independence and confidence and making the right choices
Year R	Natalia	For spreading joy and being helpful in class
Year 1	Everly	For always sharing kindness and smiles with everyone in Y1
Year 2	Zara	For sharing her love of learning with kindness and joy, to everyone in Y2
Year 3	Penny	For sharing her kindness and joy with everyone in Year 3. Helping to spread positivity and love
Year 4	Zach	For always being the first to help a friend in need
Year 5	Olivia	For sharing her love and enthusiasm with everyone she meets
Year 6	Ivy	For using her God given gift of performance to confidently sing her School Council presentation

St Anthony's Awesome Learners:

Preschool	Olisa	Year 3	Hudson
Year R	Thomas	Year 4	Ameria
Year 1	Yuna	Year 5	Poppy
Year 2	Amber-Rose	Year 6	Rosie

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 families that have kindly donated books to our library over the summer:

McPhillips Family (14 books!)	Galloway Family
Harley Family	Kendell Family
Kairis and Curtin Family	Allward Family
Hewett Family	Smith Family
Hepplewhite Family	Doheny Family
Le Bas Family	

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

