



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 02 - 12 September 2025

### Note from the Headteacher

Dear families

With this being our first full week back to school, everyone has been settling into the routines of their new year groups. I have been particularly impressed with the Year R children, who have adjusted so well to being in school every day.

**Music lessons and orchestra:** Peripatetic music lessons commenced this week with our new music partner, *Discover the Music*. It is exciting to see our children learning a broader range of instruments with new lessons for drums and violin this year. I'm looking forward to celebration assembly performances already! There has been a bit of tweaking to the timetable and I've asked that music slots are adjusted for the 3 terms to ensure children do not miss the same lesson throughout the year. There are still a few vacancies so please respond to the email that was sent this week if your child is interested in taking up a new instrument. Importantly, we are also hoping to resume our school orchestra. More details will follow when I can but we're aiming to keep our Tuesday morning slot at 8am for the orchestra.

**Annual Flu Vaccination:** We have booked the nasal flu jab clinic for Monday 10th November this year. The vaccine uptake for St Anthony's last year was 80.9% compared with the overall Hampshire rate of 69.6%. High vaccination rates are key to preventing the spread of infectious diseases so thank you, parents, for supporting this so positively last year.

**Tapestry:** For parents who weren't able to attend our 'Meet the teacher' presentations, please be aware that we are phasing out our use of the Marvellous Me communication app, replacing it with a whole school use of Tapestry. One of the main reasons for this, is our awareness that online safety concerns mean more parents would prefer us not to post photos of their children on our school's Facebook page. We hope that Tapestry will enable teachers to share photos of learning experiences more securely. We are in the final stages of setting it up so thank you for your patience.

**Consents and Home School Agreement:** Next week, you will receive emails to complete your parental consent to various activities at school. Importantly, we will also ask parents to complete our Home School Agreement. Both will be documents that can be completed online.

**Pantomime for Y1-Y6:** I hope you received an email today detailing our visit to the pantomime in December. This has become a popular tradition at our school and this year we'll be watching Aladdin. We feel it is a long performance for Year R and Preschoolers so they will enjoy a Christmas party that day, including a visit from Silly Scott. To secure tickets, payment must be made by Friday 26th September. Once again, I am very grateful to our amazing PSA team for partly funding the Christmas treat and making it more affordable for families.

A blustery weekend is forecast but it's a great opportunity to go and jump in puddles and collect some conkers!

With best wishes, Mrs Straker

### Important Dates:

**Weds 17th September**  
ELSA Parent Drop In Morning

**Fri 19th September**  
YR Phonics Information Meeting, 3pm

**Tues 23rd September**  
Y3 visit to Gunwharf & Spinnaker Tower

**Weds 24th September**  
British Values Lunch and Afternoon

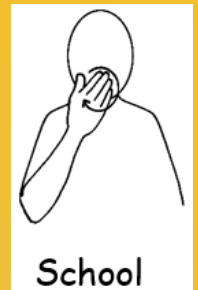
**Fri 26th September**  
Y2 visit to Fort Nelson  
YR Maths Information Meeting, 3pm

**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)

### Our Sign of the Week:



### Useful emails:

**2nd hand uniform email:**  
[uniform@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk](mailto:uniform@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk)

**Guinea Pig waiting list email:**  
[guinea.pigs@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk](mailto:guinea.pigs@saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk)

### Working together to improve attendance:

**Attendance figures for the week commencing 2nd September:**

**Whole School** 97.8%

**Year R** 100%      **Year 1** 95.6%      **Year 2** 97.8%

**Year 3** 97.8%      **Year 4** 98.0%      **Year 5** 100%      **Year 6** 95.5%

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 15/09/2025

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 Returns 24/09/2025	Yr4 - Yr6	Mrs Marshman via the school office
Wednesday	School Netball Team	3.15pm - 4.15pm Returns 24/09/2025	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](mailto:office@stmargaretmary.co.uk) for an application form. The closing date for applications is Sunday 28th September 2025.



#### Diocesan e-news

<https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue502>

### St Anthony's PSA

PSA email address:

[stanthonypsa2025@gmail.com](mailto: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:

None this week

### Year 6 Exemplary Pupil of the week:

Isla For beginning Year 6 as a true role model, living our values with grace and leadership in her role as Head Girl

### St Anthony's Mission Stars:

Preschool	All of preschool	For settling so beautifully back into preschool after the summer break
Year R	William	For sharing Jesus' love by being a good friend
Year 1	Belle	For showing God's love by being kind and helpful
Year 2	Dylan	For living out the Y2 Mission Statement and sharing his thoughtful love and behaviour with everyone
Year 3	Eloise	For showing the common good and welcoming new members of the class
Year 4	Amaris	For showing kindness to a friend in need without seeking credit
Year 5	Lucas	For being a true disciple of Jesus through his ability to be an exceptional role model
Year 6	Joshua B	For using his God given gift of creativity to produce a beautifully detailed self portrait

### St Anthony's Awesome Learners:

Preschool	All of preschool	Year 3	Archie
Year R	Evie	Year 4	Conan
Year 1	Fynley	Year 5	Aedan
Year 2	Zachary	Year 6	Christian

### 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 summer term in the boxes in our entrance foyer.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

