



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 08 - 23 October 2025

Note from the Headteacher

Dear families

Year 5 have looked fabulous in their Tudor costumes for their theme day today and I have thoroughly enjoyed the scent of their pomander balls that has emanated from the classroom. This follows the wonderful WW2 dress-up day and parent lunch yesterday, which was attended by a record turnout of parents and grandparents. Our teachers love creating memories for children on these theme days.

Fireworks, Saturday 8th November: The PSA and Firing team have been working so hard behind the scenes to prepare our big fireworks event after half-term. We are still seeking volunteers for the Saturday day-time set up, the manning of stalls on the night and the pack-down afterwards. To remind you, we close the stalls shortly before the display to enable volunteers to join their families for the fireworks themselves so please help if you can. If you have yet to purchase your tickets, please click [here](#) to do so.

Trim Trails: Shortly after half-term, work will begin to repair and replace the damaged parts of our KS1 and KS2 trim trails. Thank you to the PSA for supporting with the costs. We're looking forward to being able to reopen the equipment to children later in November.

Our growing St Anthony's family: I offer a very warm welcome to two new additions. Congratulations to Barney's family on the arrival of his baby brother, Rupert, and to Amari's family on the arrival of his baby brother, Amias. Wonderful news for both families.

Safeguarding Newsletter: Please take the time to read this half-terms Safeguarding & Wellbeing update for parents. As this edition focuses on online safety, I also encourage you to read a letter from the Smartphone Free Childhood team at St Anthony's.

Charity updates: Congratulations to the Y6 team who organised last week's bake sale - they raised an impressive £176.60 for Abby's Heroes and presented their cheque to two of the charity's representatives in Monday's assembly (see the photo). On the same morning the Fareham Meon Rotary Club collected our shoeboxes and offered a grateful thank you to all who contributed this year. Our shoeboxes completely filled the boot of the car!



Whether you have something big or nothing at all planned for the half-term break, I hope you enjoy the days with your children and you come back refreshed in November.

With best wishes, Mrs Straker

Important Dates:

Friday 24th Oct
INSET - School closed

Monday 27th - Friday 31st Oct
Half-Term - School closed

Monday 3rd Nov
Y4 French Day (wear red, white & blue)

Wednesday 5th Nov
Y6 River Hamble Trip

Thursday 6th Nov, 2.30pm
Remembrance Service - all welcome

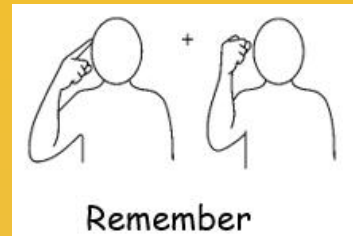
Friday 7th Nov
Y1 Bring a teddy to school

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 Nov
Y3 Trip to Historic Dockyards

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 13th October:

Whole School 96.6%

Year R 97.3% **Year 1** 96.3% **Year 2** 98.7%

Year 3 94.7% **Year 4** 97.6% **Year 5** 94.3% **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.

CLUBS AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 03/11/2025

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 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	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:

Autumn Hootenanny

November 8th from 7pm in parish hall.

A fun, informal evening of folk songs, ballads and shanties, performed by the ODD WEDNESDAY MEN.

Light supper provided, BYOB.

Tickets £10, on sale from 5th October after all Sunday masses or contact maggie.raymont@gmail.com

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>

Please support the SVP who will be selling Jigsaws for £2 each and books for £1 each in the Paray room after all Sunday Masses. The money raised will be used for the Christmas hampers which the parish make up each year with your generous support

Diocesan e-news

[Portsmouth Diocese e-News Issue 508](#)



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

Average Autumn 1 Attendance for each class

Whole school 97.5%

Autumn 1 Attendance Winners: *Year 2 with 98.3%*

Year R 97.6%

Year 1 97.3%

Year 3 97.2%

Year 4 98.1%

Year 5 97.9%

Year 6 96.2%

Attendance winners: For families new to our school, our children developed their own attendance policy a couple of years ago. They requested that the class who has the highest attendance each half term should be rewarded with a 'dress-down day' in the first week of the following half term. I'm delighted to confirm that the Autumn 1 attendance winners are Year 2, Congratulations! The Year 2 children are invited to wear their own clothes to school on Friday 7th November. For children who have worked hard to be in school every day so far, we will be awarding attendance badges at the end of the Autumn Term in December to recognise their commitment to school.

Reminders:

Poppy Appeal

The Y6's will be selling Poppy Appeal items to the children in their classes when we return. If your child would like to purchase any items please can they have cash in an envelope to support this - items will cost £1 each

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!

Amazon wishlist school library donation thanks

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

Khalil family

Thank you for your generosity!

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!

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!

