



St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Saint Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery.

Diocese of Northampton

St. Thomas Catholic

Academies Trust

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Gospel Reflection



On Monday we celebrated the feast of our patron; St Anthony. As a community our ethos is to inspire others by caring, protecting and respecting one another. We look to St. Anthony as a guide as we strive to achieve this.

In his life St. Anthony had great faith in God and led others to find God. He had a powerful voice, an extraordinary memory, knowledge of scripture and great desire to bring people to God.

During our beautiful mass, led by our parish priest Father Nathaniel, and through the other activities the children enjoyed, we reflected on his many gifts and we celebrated our school, remembering that, at St. Anthony's, we share a love of God and a love of one another. We inspire and we work together in Learning Growing and Living with Jesus.

Word of the Week



Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

Last week at St. Anthony's



Some pictures of St. Anthony's day.







Star of the week for week ending 11th May



CLASS	Name
Nursery	Navraaj
Reception Noah	Milosz
Reception Abraham	Ayan
1 Mark	Jerome
1 Ruth	Lilly
1 Moses	John
1 Joshua	Maya
2 Gideon	Parneet
2 David	Shamridy
3 Daniel	Amelia
3 Jonah	Kristapus
3 Esther	Harold
Eden	Angelica
4 Magdalene	Patricia
4 Elizabeth	Armaghan
4 Baptist	Roman
5 Luke	Natalia
5 Peter	Adriana
5 Matthew	Gregorz
6 Catherine	Oskar
6 Paul	Igor K
6 John	Julianna

Nursery & Reception



Now is the time to apply for Nursery spaces. Our Nursery is thriving and we have an excellent team of dedicated staff. We have spaces for 30 hours and are exploring our options for two year-old spaces. Please contact the school office for more information, or to express your interest for two-year old spaces.

We also still have some spaces left for Reception commencing September 2021. If you are interested or know somebody who is, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Virtual prayer group & Prayer of the week



At St Thomas Academy Trust, we are running a virtual prayer group, anonymously praying for our children, families and staff in the community. All staff, governors, parents/carers and parishioners are invited to be involved. If we have enough volunteers, it is hoped that each person would be asked to join the group twice a year. The group will meet at 7pm (lasting appx. 20minutes) on the first Monday of each month. If you would like be part of this prayer group, please email Nikki Tew at ntew@stanthonys.slough.sch.uk

St Anthony please help us in all that we do. To work well with others and care for them too.

We know that Jesus died for us, to set us all free. Please guide us St. Anthony to be the best that we can be.

Learning, growing, living with Jesus.

We know that Jesus died for us, to set us all free.

Learning, growing with Him.

Messages and Reminders



I wanted to make you aware that Public Health England have decided to conduct surge testing in Slough, due to the rising numbers of Covid-19 cases in our local area that have been linked to the Delta variant.

All schools are being included in the testing programme, but for Primary Schools and Nurseries it is only staff who need to be part of the surge testing.

I would like to reassure you that the vast majority of staff are testing in school twice per week.

There is a letter below from Director of Public Health for East Berkshire, for your information.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Oppe

Headteacher

As you may know from recent reports, we are experiencing a rise in COVID cases in the Slough area mainly due to the Delta Variant (formerly known as the Indian Variant). Current evidence indicates that this variant is more transmissible than the original one; in other words it passes more easily from person to person, hence the concern about the rise in cases.

We have been asked to take part in additional testing (known as “surge testing”), using a 'PCR test' which is processed in a laboratory. These tests allow Public Health England to see if there are any cases of the variant in schools, nurseries, colleges, in a business or in the community. There is currently no evidence that this variant causes more severe illness or that it makes vaccines less effective.

All schools across Slough will be taking part in the surge testing programme, but delivery will be staggered over a period of 3 weeks. Some schools will be given a higher priority due to a recent outbreak. This letter is to make you aware of the plans. In Secondary Schools and Colleges, staff and pupils will receive a test, take it home, perform the test and bring it back the next day for it to be picked up. In Primary Schools and Nurseries we will be testing staff only. Please await further communication from your child's school or College as to when this will be.

I appreciate this has been an exceptionally difficult time for parents and children and we really do appreciate all the hard work that has been done in keeping the spread of this virus down. The plan is that high numbers of tests done during surge testing will mean we should start to see case rates going back down again.

Uniform

To support families over the past few months, we made the decision to relax the uniform expectations during lockdown, as many clothing stores were closed. However, as stores have now reopened, we would like all children going forward, on the days they have PE, to wear either royal blue or black jogging bottoms and jumpers with their logo PE top and black trainers. The royal blue tracksuit can be ordered online through www.st-anthonys.re-schooluniform.co.uk and delivered for free to the school on a Wednesday.

Please note, no **leggings or alternative coloured jogging bottoms and no branded sportswear will be permitted.**

We would also like to remind you that the children should be wearing black shoes to school, on non-PE days and **not trainers.**

Government Guidance

We are continuing to monitor the Government recommendations in relation to social distancing, mask wearing and bubbles. We will re-evaluate our risk assessment over the coming weeks and will communicate with you about the coming half term. For now, we will continue with our current systems. Please ensure that your child is arriving on time for their learning; if children are late for school, they miss vital early morning learning in their core subjects. Thank you for your continued support to ensure that your child arrives for school on time.

Birthday cakes

We have made the decision to allow **prepacked cakes only**, to be brought in to school for birthdays this term.

After school clubs

There are still places available on some of our new after school clubs. Please login to ParentPay to sign your child up.

Online courses

Thank you to all those parents who attended the online parent workshops this term. Staff successfully delivered workshops in reading, phonics, writing and maths, so that families can support their child's learning at home. We would like to remind you that these workshops were recorded by the staff delivering them and you can access these recordings by logging in to your child's Team's account. If you have any trouble accessing these, please do contact the office. We would like you to encourage you to watch these recordings and welcome your feedback.

Lateness

If you are late dropping your child to school **please ensure you bring them to the office so that they can be signed in** and taken to their classroom. We have had a few incidents where parents have sent their children through the gate alone, after their start time and with no staff member present which is a safeguarding issue. Thank you for your support on this.

Illness

If your child is unwell and will not be attending school, please call this office after 8.30 am, select option 1 as specified, and leave a message stating the child's name, class and reason for absence, for example temperature, sickness, sore throat. Any child with vomiting or diarrhoea will need to be 48 hours clear of the last episode before they return to school.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club entry is at the Stafford gate at **8:15am prompt**.

Reception Reading books

Reception children will be bringing their reading books home every day going forward and these will need to come back in to school with them each day.

PTA & Events

We always welcome any help and support from our parents and with the restrictions slowly lifting we are hoping to arrange some events over the next term. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact the school office or talk to a member of staff.

RAPID COVID-19 TESTS NOW AVAILABLE FOR HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE

Whole families and households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, are now able to test themselves twice every week from home.

Rapid testing detects cases quickly – in under 30 minutes – meaning positive cases can isolate immediately. This can be the difference between children being able to stay in school, or a class being sent home due to an outbreak. It could also be the difference between a workplace having to close for a period, or being able to stay open and running.

How do I get home testing kits?

There are 3 different options on how you and your household can get tested: 1. Order kits to test your household by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> 2. Find a local site to get tested at by visiting <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites> and entering your postcode to find your nearest testing site 3. Find a local site where you can collect tests by visiting <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/> and entering your postcode to find your nearest collection site.

Please do not contact the school for home testing kits as they are only available by these 3 options. We do not hold any testing kits on school premises for our families.

#feedbackFriday

We would love to hear your feedback! It is so nice to talk to you on the gate and hear positive feedback.

Please email: catchup@stanthonys.slough.sch.uk with feedback and messages for our school, children, learning and community and it will be shared via Twitter on feedback Friday!

Its good to talk!

Times are hard for lots of us at the moment and there is no harm in admitting that and asking for help. Talking Therapies is a free NHS service here to support the residents of Berkshire aged 17+ who may be struggling with difficulties including: low mood, anxiety and stress at this unprecedented time.

If you are in need of support you can call the Talking Therapies admin team on 0300 365 2000, alternatively you can [Sign Up](#) via their website referral form.

Respecting staff members

Please remember how hard our staff members work for your children. There have been a few incidences recently where, unfortunately, our staff have been left feeling upset and embarrassed by unkind and unpleasant language and behaviour towards them at the gate. If you have any concerns, please do share them in a respectful manner with the office or SLT. Many thanks.

Masks and drop off/ collection procedures

We have decided to maintain our procedures for wearing masks and staggering start times and end of day times until the end of term. We want to ensure that we are being as safe as possible and would like families to continue with these procedures.

Helmets

If your child is cycling to and from school it is imperative that they wear a helmet. We have had a lot of children not doing so over recent weeks and we cannot stress the importance of this enough.

Children starting in Nursery and Reception

We will be in touch very soon with our plans for setting in and transition. If you have not received any information by the end of next week, please get in touch so that we can check your contact details.

Sun Cream and Sun Hats

Please ensure that you put sun cream on your children at the start of each day, now that the summer has truly begun! Please also make sure you send a sun hat in with your child, to wear at play times.

Parish Event

On Sunday 4th July, after Mass, we will be hosting a summer picnic in St. Anthony's Church grounds. Families should bring their own picnics but there will be refreshment and some entertainment to enjoy, plus an opportunity to get involved in a raffle and some other activities. It is a wonderful opportunity to be together, as we have been unable to host the summer fete this year.

I would encourage as many families to come along as possible!

Contact us



We always welcome your feedback and hope we can answer any questions you may have.

Saint Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

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