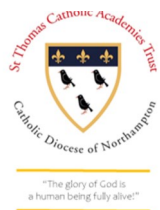


Saint Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter



Diocese of Northampton
St. Thomas Catholic
Academies Trust



Issue 43

Date: Monday 30th November 2020

There are not many people that like waiting! These days we are all waiting for and hoping that soon there will be some good news about the social restrictions being lifted. We are all waiting! Advent asks us to wait in other ways and to take our time and to do what we can to prepare for Christmas over the next four weeks. In the words of Jesus from today's gospel we are to *stay awake!* Advent offers us two messages. It is a time to prepare for Christmas when Christ's birth is remembered and celebrated. It is also offered to us as a time that directs our hearts and minds to prepare for and await Christ's coming at the fullness of time. Advent therefore is a time of preparation. We are called to watch and wait in joyful hope for the coming our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Currently the advertisements on television and in magazines will continue to attract our attention and offer us their message. They will tell us to stay busy, spend more, and do all we can to get ready to celebrate Christmas in style. There is nothing wrong at all with any of this. Given the year we have all experienced, we need now more than ever something to look forward to with hope. However, there is another message that Advent offers us. It is one that asks us to stay awake so that we don't miss the sights and sounds of this sacred season. As well as the lights and decorations, hopefully we will see the Advent wreath in our churches and at school with its candles over the next few weeks. The crib will draw our attention to the birth of Jesus. Advent reminds us that we are getting ready to welcome someone, not something! Through the gospels over the coming weeks we will meet and hear John the Baptist as he says to each of us, *Prepare a way for the Lord, make his path straight.* On the last Sunday of Advent the gospel will tell us about Mary who said 'yes' in a radical act of faith in response to God's plan for her. So as well as the message from the shops, Advent also encourages us to slow down, pray, stay awake and prepare our daily lives, our hearts and our homes to welcome Jesus through the Nativity.



Last Week

Thank you to everyone for attending parents evening last week. They will be continuing this week too. There have been a few teething problems which hopefully we will have sorted this week. Please make sure you pay attention to the notices on the second page as we have dates for Christmas cards and school photos.



Some beautiful Art work to share with you this week from Year 6 children. They have been collecting and studying autumnal parts of nature and used water colour to recreate these. A child in 1 Joshua has created an advent calendar, on all the doors are pictures of the class on Zoom— very fitting for this year!

The WORD of the Week:

Each week we would like to share a scripture with you to share and discuss with your children:

But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31

Learning, Growing and Living With Jesus

Timings

Year group	Start of the day	End of the day
Nursery	Morning- 8.20 Afternoon- 12.15	Morning- 11.30 Afternoon- 3.15
Reception	8.35	2.50
1	9.05	3.20
2	8.15	2.30
3	8.55	3.10
4	8.25	2.40
5	8.45	3.00
6	9.15	3.30

Stars of the week!

Reception:

Year 1: Fabian, Max. R

Year 2:

Year 3: Hayden , Olivier , Ridhika

Year 4: Guransh S , Klaudia K , Dennis M

Year 5: Alan K , Grzegorz , Kajetan

Year 6: Amelia & Adrian



Photos

School photos will be taking place in school this week on Thursday. Unfortunately because of COVID restrictions we can only offer individual photos and no group photos. Please make sure your child comes to school in their full school uniform.



Easy Fundraising

I wrote to you during the week about signing up for Easy Fundraising and helping to raise funds for our school. Thank you to everyone who has already done so and for raising money already! Details on how to sign up are attached the newsletter. It is FREE!!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>

Christmas Cards

If your child would like to send Christmas cards to their friends this year please make sure they are posted in school by **Wednesday 9th December**. We will then quarantine all of them for 1 week before our lovely year 6 children deliver them to classes.

Prayer for the week

Loving God, as we begin the sacred season of Advent, be with us, lead and guide us as we do all we can to stay awake and prepare for the birth of Jesus.

Give us the courage, strength and patience to slow down, even just a bit as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.



Grow Mind-

th set



Attendance

A **HUGE** well done to **4 Magdalene** for getting 100% attendance again last week. As a prize you can wear your own clothes on

Friday!



Overall our school attendance was 95.8% lets see if we can make this 100%

Parents Evening

Please make sure you log on and book your parents evening slot. Parents evening appointments will be held virtually this year.

Don't forget parents evening!

Free School Meals

Help your school and yourself - claim free school meals

Taking up free school meals has benefits for everyone:

- children get a healthy nutritious meal
- schools can benefit directly by receiving £1300 for each eligible primary school child

WHO QUALIFIES FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Free school meals are offered to children of families who receive:

- ☑ Income Support
- ☑ Income Based Jobseeker Allowance (IBJSA)
- ☑ Employment & Support Allowance (Income Related) (ESA(RI))
- ☑ Support under part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ☑ Child Tax Credit (TC602) that does not exceed income of £16190.00
- ☑ Guarantee element of State Pension Credit (M1000 Award Notice)
- ☑ Universal Credit and my family's net income excluding any benefit related payments is less than £7,400

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

If you think you qualify for free school meals and have an email address or mobile number then you can apply through Slough Borough Council's online free school meals form. Slough Borough Council will then inform you if your application is successful or not.

If you do not have an email address or a mobile number then you can get a 'free school meals' application form from your child's/children's school. The school will then inform you if your application is successful or not.

Once you are eligible for free school meals, you are more likely to remain eligible for up to 2 years despite any changes to your circumstances.

Not claiming benefits, but have a child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2?

There are clear advantages in pupils having a school dinner, so the Government have announced that every child in the above Year groups will be eligible for a free meal under the Universal Free School Meals scheme.

You can apply online or pick up a registration form from our school reception.



CHRISTMAS READING CHALLENGE

THE 12 CHALLENGES OF CHRISTMAS

Read a Christmas themed book



Have a whole family bedtime story



Create a puppet show of a book



Read a story by the Christmas tree



Read a book that is older than you



Build a den and share a story in it



Read a story about an animal



Read a book about kindness



Share a story with someone over Zoom



Draw a picture from your favourite book



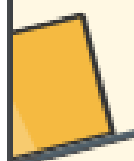
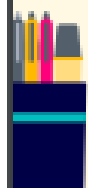
Share a poem with someone



Read a book that makes you laugh



TIS THE SEASON TO GET READING!



Help raise free funds for our school

every time you shop online

Join easyfundraising today and search for

St Anthony's Catholic Primary School- Slough

Thousands of well-known retailers will give us a free donation when you shop with them - at no cost to you!

Shop at over **4,100** online stores



Download the app



Over £31 million raised

Trustpilot ★★★★★

1.8 million users