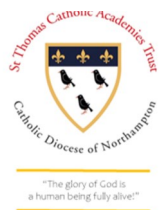


Saint Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter



Diocese of Northampton

St. Thomas Catholic

Academies Trust



Issue 44

Date: Monday 7th December 2020

In yesterday's Gospel, John arrived and offered the people a new message of hope when they most needed it. He is the last of the great biblical prophets. These were God's messengers who did not come to foretell or predict the future, rather the very opposite. They reminded the people of a past they had forgotten and point to a future they could not yet see. When John began preaching many had forgotten God's ancient promise, *I will be your God and you will be my people*. John tells the people that God has not forgotten them and that the long awaited and promised Messiah is coming in the person of Jesus Christ. He encourages and challenges the people with the great words from Isaiah in the first reading; *'Prepare a way for the Lord, make a straight path for God in the wilderness.'* John offers them and us today hope. During these dark days of winter and Advent as we continue to live with reality of Covid 19, now more than ever we long for and need a message of hope. Many of us are perhaps feeling more anxious than usual as we begin or continue our preparations for Christmas. No doubt the next few weeks will be very different from our 'normal' family and parish celebrations, and naturally we are disappointed by this. How then do we remain hopeful? Perhaps the prayer we pray after the Our Father at mass can encourage and strengthen us these Advent days. The words of this prayer are, I believe at the very heart of our Advent preparations, especially this year;



Deliver us, Lord, we pray from evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Last Week

This week I have been asked to share the following information with you from a service offered by Slough. 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.



Some beautiful Art work to share with you this week from Year 3 children. They have started their work and learning on Advent and created these beautiful pictures of wreaths and symbols to represent this blessed season.

The WORD of the Week:

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

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variable-ness, neither shadow of turning.

James 1:17

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: Hollie

Year 2: Julia. Z, Maja.Z

Year 3: Sybilla , Alan , Hanna

Eden: Daniel

Year 4: Claudia B , Daniel M

Year 5: Cafui O , Zuzanna S , Vanessa B

Year 6: Arina , Teagan, Nelly



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.



Easy Fundraising

I wrote to you during last 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.easypfundraising.org.uk/>

Reminders

Please make sure you are considerate of our neighbours when parking your car to pick up and drop off your children. Some people were unable to get out of their drive ways last week.

Please make sure that while you are on school site you are wearing a face mask to keep everyone safe.

There are no dogs allowed on site.

Prayer for the week

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome.

Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory,

for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen



Growth set

Mind-



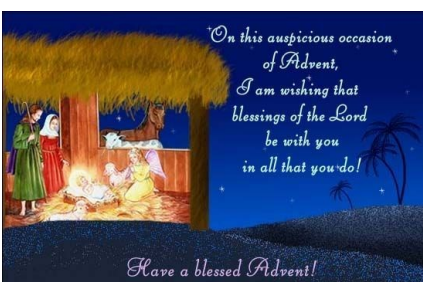
Attendance

A **HUGE** well done to **2 Gideon** for getting 100% attendance again last week. As a prize you can wear your own clothes on

Friday!



Overall our school attendance was 97% lets see if we can make this 100%



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



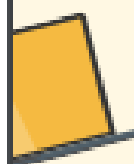
Share a poem with someone



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

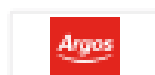
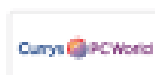


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St Anthony's Catholic Primary School- Slough

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