

St. Anne's Catholic Primary

NOVEMBER 2017

Newsletter

Website: www.stannesprimaryknowsley.co.uk
Tel: 477 8260

Welcome back to School - I hope that everyone had an enjoyable half term holiday!

We have been thanking God for all the food he provides us with and for the sun and rain which helps the crops grow. We have also been thinking of those in our world who do not have enough to eat and have been collecting food items for distribution to others.

God asks us to be kind, to be welcoming and invite others to share in what we have, to care for and respect one another and to love our neighbours wherever they are in the world. Many thanks for answering that call with your kind and generous donations of food and toiletries.

By answering God's invitation and being kind and generous, welcoming and fair, by loving our neighbour, we can help to reflect God's kingdom on earth. We will help other people to see that we care for everyone, no matter who they are or where they come from, and the world will become a better and fairer place for all people to live. (based on Matthew 22: 1- 4)

Father Anton will visit school this week to collect food items to make hampers for distribution within the parish and Margaret Roache will collect food items on behalf of SHARe (Support in Huyton for Asylum Seekers Refugees).

ALL SAINTS DAY AND ALL SOULS DAY

All Saints' Day is a holy day on 1st November and Catholics honour all the known and unknown saints in heaven. It is also called All Hallows.



All Souls Day on 2nd November is dedicated to those who have died. The children will be celebrating in school with special prayers for their families and for those who have died.

POPPIES

Poppies are currently on sale from the school office or from the children standing at the pedestrian gate of a morning. The children may buy poppies for a suggested donation of £1 for this worthy cause before school, at playtime or dinner time.



There will be a Remembrance Assembly in school for the children on Friday 10th November.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

All of the Key Stage 2 children will be taking part in designing an image for the Christmas Mass Times card. Children from St Aidan's and St Joseph's schools will also be taking part and one image will be chosen. The rest of the images not chosen for the cards will be displayed in the two churches.

PLEA TO PARENTS AND CARERS FROM STAFF

Please parents and carers, can you help your children to become more independent?

Staff have noticed over the years that children are able to do less for themselves. This is most noticeable in the dining hall during lunchtime when children of all ages are eating only using their fingers. Many children do not know how to steady their food with a fork and then cut it with a knife; perhaps this is because families do not always sit together at meal times as much anymore or is it because they eat their food in front of the TV? Whatever the reason, children need to have good table manners, know when to say please and thank you and need to practice using a knife and fork.

Some children have fantastic self-help skills but many others need to practice dressing and undressing themselves, putting on their own shoes and fastening their own buttons, ties and coats. It was once usual for very young children to be able to tie shoelaces, but now we have children in Key Stage 2 who struggle and need adult help. Children who have difficulty dressing themselves after PE, tell us that this is because their families do it for them when they are at home. Thank you in anticipation of your help in practicing these skills at home with your child.

DINNER MONEY

Week commencing Monday 13th November is National School Meals Week. Our theme this year is Indian Cuisine; the meal will include curry and naan bread. This will take place on **Thursday 16th November 2017** and the meal for that day will be priced at £1.00 (If your child normally has packed lunch and would like a meal on that day please send a note into school and pay £1.00 via Parentpay - Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 do not have to pay for their dinners). The amount due for school meals for the period **Monday 30th October to Thursday 21st December** is £73.20, which should be paid via Parentpay.

Please be reminded that children cannot change their meal preference on a daily basis (i.e. packed lunch from home one day, school meal the next), as this makes it difficult for the Cook to gauge how much food is required on a weekly basis. Many thanks for your co-operation.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY

A letter will be sent out shortly regarding Free School Meal Eligibility and the Pupil Premium. Even if your child is entitled to a free school meal because they are part of the Universal Infant Programme, you can still make an application for Free School Meals via Knowsley Council. If you are entitled to this benefit, which is based on your household income, the school will receive extra funding for your child, which supports the school's budget and helps us to purchase additional resources, equipment and also staffing to help provide additional support for children who attend this school. We ask that everybody who thinks they could possibly be entitled makes an application or if they need further advice, ask to speak to Mrs McCrystal in the school office.

HEADLICE

Parents are requested to check their children's hair for nits and lice on a weekly basis, so that children are not re-infected and the cycle perpetuated. If a live infestation is discovered, then please take appropriate action and seek advice from the local pharmacist or the school nurse. School will send out a notification. However, please do not use any chemical products unless your child has a live infestation as the lice become immune. If parents do not wish to use chemical products at all, then combing through your child's hair using only conditioner and a nit comb every day for two weeks is also effective (from my personal experience as a Mum).

ANTI BULLYING/FRIENDSHIP WEEK – 13th – 17th November 2017

School will be involved once again in National Anti-Bullying Week. The theme for this year is 'All Different, All Equal'. Classes will also continue to focus on how new technologies can be used to promote positive communication, rather than being abused by cyber bullies.

Our school is committed to educating children to create digital citizens who contribute to the online world in a positive and considerate way. Here are some resources and links to websites that maybe of interest to you.

Social Media:

You can find some practical guidance for parents and carers whose children are using social media by clicking [here](#).

- **Facebook** is the most popular Social Networking site on the internet. It was launched in 2004 and has an estimated 1.94 billion users. You can find more information about how protect yourself online, how to report issues and how to deactivate your account [here](#).
- **Instagram** is photograph and video sharing application and is particularly popular with children and teenagers. For further guidance of how you can stay safe when using Instagram, how to report any issues or how to deactivate your account click [here](#).
- **Misical.ly** allows users to create, share and discover new videos. It allows users to create short videos of them dancing, performing or lip-syncing to music and share them online via their app. As with other social media sites users can set their profiles to private or public. You can access more information about musical.ly by clicking [here](#).
- **Snapchat** is a messenger app that allows you to send photos, videos, text and drawings. The unique feature of Snapchat is that the message only stays on the recipient's phone for a matter of seconds. Further guidance on where to find privacy settings, report abuse and deactivate your account can be found [here](#).
- **Whatsapp** is a free messenger app that enables users to send messages, images, video and audio using the internet and is popular amongst children. Further information on how to restrict access to whatsapp can be found [here](#).

Online Gaming:

Online gaming has changed the gaming world for our children, they can now play against other gamers at any time. This world can be scary for parents who don't necessarily access these games themselves. Practical advice for parents can be found [here](#).

It is worth noting that games are subject to similar age ratings as films are. The system for rating games is called the PEGI rating, we would encourage you to familiarise yourself with these ratings which can be found [here](#).

- **Roblox** is becoming an increasingly popular gaming site for children & teenagers. This site is a 'user-generated' site, meaning all of the games on the site have been created by users themselves. They have produced a parent's guide with tips for keeping children safe while using Roblox – this is available [here](#).
- **Minecraft** is another site that is hugely popular with children and teenagers alike but do you know your 'Griefers' from your 'Creepers'? The NSPCC has produced a helpful guidance tool to familiarise parents with the different elements of the game and advise how to protect your children when they are playing, this is available [here](#).

Reporting:

There may be occasions where you need to report incidents that happen while online, this could be due to online bullying or another form of abuse. If you need to make a report to CEOP (who are a command of the National Crime Agency) this can be done here:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

If you need to report something to a social networking site or a gaming provider, this could be due to inappropriate language being used on a site you can find the contact details of most of the popular social media and gaming providers by clicking [here](#).

Further Support & Guidance:

Parent Zone, a not-for-profit organisation, offers Parents information to help understand the digital world and raise resilient children: www.parentzone.org.uk

Parent/Carer support from the UK Safer Internet Centre: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

Childnet, provides information and advice for parents and carer, including a printable sheet available in 12 languages: www.childnet.com/resources/supporting-young-people-online

Want to speak to an expert?

Childline and O2 have teamed up to offer a free helpline for parents for any queries you may have regarding online activity, this could just be simple queries about online gaming or parental controls. The free phone number is 0808 800 5002.

PARENT/TEACHER PUPIL PROGRESS MEETINGS

The parent/teacher meetings for Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will take place over two afternoons and two evenings between from 1.30 pm to 6.00 pm (the last appointment being 5.30 pm). Letters will be sent out this week for parents to request their preferred time for an appointment with your child/children's class teacher. Please return the appointment form to school as soon as possible. Many thanks.

The progress meetings will take place in the hall on the dates below for the following classes.

The purpose of these meetings is for you to look at your children's books and discuss their progress and areas for improvement; children should not be brought to these appointments.

MONDAY 20th NOVEMBER - Tigers, Bumblebees, Dragonflies, Ladybirds and Year 5/6

TUESDAY 21st NOVEMBER - Lions, Year 3, Year 3/4, Year 4, Year 5, and Year 6

Nursery parent meetings will take place in the Foundation Stage building on the following dates. Letters will be sent out this week for parents to request their preferred time for an appointment with your child/children's class teacher:

MONDAY 6th – FRIDAY 10th NOVEMBER – Tiger Cubs

MONDAY 13th – FRIDAY 17th NOVEMBER – Lion Cubs

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

- St Anne's is amongst the highest attending schools in Central Knowsley and our school target for attendance is 97%; we achieved 97.9% last half term. Well done children and parents, as EVERY class achieved this target during the last half term!
- If children are late for school in the morning and the wooden gate is closed with no staff on duty, then parents should bring their child/ren through the main entrance and sign the late book so we know that the children are safely on premises (this includes Foundation Stage children).
Parents, please be aware that fines can also be issued for poor punctuality as well as attendance.
- The Attendance Panel continues to meet half termly to discuss attendance and punctuality concerns with parents.

ARCHDIOCESE SCHOOL LEVY

Letters have been sent home requesting parents to pay £10.00 per family for the academic year 2017-2018. Please return your contributions to school as soon as possible in an envelope marked 'School Levy'. Thank you to those families who have already paid.

MILK MONEY

£1.50 is now due for all of the infant children who have school milk. This amount will cover the full academic year. Please send it in an envelope marked with your child's name and class.



SCHOOL GATES

The school gates for vehicle access are closed daily from 8.45 am to 9.00 am. Please note that if you are a blue badge holder and require access to the car park, you will not be allowed in or out during these times.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Parents/carers are asked to:-

- Please be considerate when parking on Marina Crescent before and after school and do not block neighbours' driveways or pedestrian access. We have been informed by residents of obstructive and inappropriate behaviour by some parents/carers of children attending St Anne's which is damaging to the school's reputation. Police have been informed of illegal parking around school and will aim to be a presence and issue parking fines as necessary.
- Please wait outside the wooden gate until 3.00pm, as the playground is still timetabled for outdoor lessons up until home-time.
- Please close school gates behind you at all times to keep the children safe and secure. When staff are in the building and the Premises Officer is off site, we are not always aware that the gates have been left open and we need to rectify this with everyone's support.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION - 100 CLUB' PRIZE WINNERS

1st Prize – Number 39 - R Kelly

2nd Prize – Number 87 – W Hardacre

3rd Prize – Number 54 – J Griffin

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish the following children 'Happy Birthday'!

Austin Man, Vincent Moore, Frankie Smith, Scarlett Hardacre, Charlie Riley, Lilly Smith, Isla Thomas, Zack Duncalf, Gerard Dever, Joseph Moore, Isabella Williams, Emily Hughes, Freya Peacock, Oliver Leather, Franklin Redfern, William Smith, Isla Matthews, Jake Murray, Jack Richardson, Ella Fitzpatrick, Hollie Lowton, Poppie Arnold, James Dineley, Marnie Bird, Ben Grainger, Isabella Sosa Robinson, Brandon Donakey, James Gillespie, Alexander Craige, Joe Walkley, Jack Bate and Andrew Lacken.

KNOWSLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADULT CLASSES

Day/evening classes and courses are available free of charge to adults who are aged 19+ and living in, or near to Knowsley.

Classes are held on Fridays at St John's Information Shop, Manor Farm Road, Huyton, L36 0UB.

Maths 9.15 am – 11.45 am and English, 12.15 pm – 2.45 pm

Other courses available include Computers, Introduction to Mental Health Awareness, Quallsafe Paediatric First Aid Level 3 and Emergency First Aid Level 2 and Master Make UP Course

For further information, please contact Jean on 0151 477 5808 or at jgray@knowsleycollege.ac.uk

ADMISSION INTO RECEPTION CLASS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

If you have a child whose date of birth falls between **1st September 2013 – 31st August 2014**, and you wish for them to attend St Anne's, you must complete a 'Co-ordinated Admission Form' to apply for a Reception class place for September 2018. These forms are now available from school. Alternatively you can complete an online application on the Knowsley Council website. The closing date for applications for the Reception class for September 2018 will be **15th January 2018**.

LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM

The last day of term for school will be **THURSDAY 21st DECEMBER** and the children will finish at **1.30pm**. Please collect your children promptly.

FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM

All children will return to school on **MONDAY 8th JANUARY 2018**.

SCHOOL SECURITY

In the event of any problems with school security and safety during the school holidays, we would be very grateful if Knowsley Security could be informed on **0151 443 2823 / 2804**. Many thanks!

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs M Keating
Headteacher

FOR YOUR DIARY - FORTHCOMING EVENTS DECEMBER 2017

TEDDY FRIDAY



Please donate any unwanted teddies or cuddly toys (in excellent condition and washed if possible) to school on **Friday 1st December 2017**. We intend to recycle them to use in the Teddy Tombola at the Christmas Fair.

CHRISTMAS PANTO

The children in Years 5, 6/5 and 6 will be visiting the Knowsley Leisure Culture Park to watch the Christmas Panto 'Beauty and the Beast' on **Monday 4th December 2017**.

CHRISTMAS HAT or JUMPER DAY - FRIDAY 8th DECEMBER

Children may wear a Christmas hat (and/or Christmas jumper) with their school uniform to school on **Friday 8th December**. This will be in exchange for bringing a gift into school to contribute to the Parent's Association Christmas Fair.



The children in Lions and Tigers, Bumblebees, Dragonflies and Ladybirds should bring chocolates and the children in Key Stage 2 should bring anything in a bottle (for the tombolas).

CHRISTMAS PANTO

The children in Years 1, 2 and 2/1 will be visiting the St Helen's Theatre Royal to watch the Christmas Panto 'Snow White' on **Friday 8th December 2017**.

YEAR 3, 4/3 AND 4 CAROL CONCERT

This will be held in the hall at 2.30pm. Families are invited to attend.

FOUNDATION STAGE NATIVITY PERFORMANCE

Foundation Stage Christmas Performance - **Wednesday 13th December 2017 at 2.00 pm and Thursday 14th December 2017 at 9.30 am**.

CHOIR EVENTS - St Anne's Choir will sing for :-

- The elderly at Huyton Resource Day Centre at their Christmas lunch on **Thursday 14th December 2017 at 1.15 pm**.
- St Anne's Parent's Association Christmas Fair on **Friday 16th December** at 3.30pm



Choir members should remember to wear their '**Red Santa Hats**' for these events.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

On **FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER** we will be having our traditional Christmas dinner. If your child normally has a packed lunch but would like to have a meal on the day instead, please pay £1.90 via Parentpay. Please complete the form sent home with your child indicating whether they would like a Christmas dinner and return to school no later than **Monday 11th December** at the latest, so that our catering staff are able to have final numbers for the ordering. Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 do not have to pay for their dinners but if your child normally has packed lunch and would like a meal on that day please send a note in.



PARENTS ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Parents Association will be holding a Christmas Fair in the school hall on **Friday 15th December from 3.00pm**.

KEY STAGE 1 NATIVITY PERFORMANCE

Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance - **Tuesday 19th December 2017 at 2.00 pm and Wednesday 20th December 2017 at 9.30 am**.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

The children may wear their own clothes for their Christmas parties on the following dates:



- FOUNDATION STAGE** (Lions and Tigers and Nursery children) – **Tuesday 19th December 2017**
- KEY STAGE 1** (Bumblebees, Dragonflies and Ladybirds) – **Wednesday 20th December 2017**
- KEY STAGE 2** (Years 3; 4/3; 4; 5; 6/5 and 6) – **Tuesday 19th December 2017**

Please send **£1.00** per child into school as a contribution towards the party food. Thank you.

END OF TERM FOR NURSERY

The nursery children will finish for the end of term on **Tuesday 19th December 2017**.

KEY STAGE 2 CHRISTMAS SERVICE

This service will be led by Year 6 and will be held at St Agnes' Church on **Monday 18th December at 1.30 pm**. If you are able to volunteer to walk with the children to church, please let your child's class teacher know. The children will be allowed to go home with their families after the service.

