

# Newsletter

St. Anselm's Catholic Primary School



22/9/17

Dear Parents

As we celebrated the Welcome Mass for reception parents last night, I found myself reflecting on how quickly children grow up and move through the school. Every new school year is a reminder of the next stage in their school life and, all too soon, they leave us to go off to secondary school. Whilst at one end of the school we have been working hard to settle in our new Reception children, we have also enjoyed hearing about how our school leavers are getting on. As far as we know, our recent leavers have settled well into secondary school and we have also heard about GCSE, A level and university success for some of our ex pupils. The fact that many of our families are still in touch is testament to the close knit, supportive community that we are lucky enough to have at our school. It will seem like no time before our reception children reach Year 6!

## Attendance

A reminder for all parents that absence from school is not authorised unless there are exceptional or unavoidable circumstances.

If you need to request for your child to be absent, please follow the school procedures which are:

- Collect a 'Request for Absence Form' from the school office. Complete it and return it to the office
- 'Request for Absence Forms' must be submitted in good time, no less than a week before the requested absence
- For most requests you will then be asked to make an appointment to see Miss Elwes
- Routine medical appointments should not be taking place during the school day. For exceptional medical appointments we will need a copy of the appointment letter
- We advise you not to make any travel arrangements until you have met with Miss Elwes as your absence may not be allowed

Year 6 children are authorised to attend open days, though we request that you keep day time ones to a minimum. If your child is absent for a secondary school assessment, they are expected to be in school before or after the test, unless they have been asked to attend for a full day.

Unauthorised absences count against the school and may lead to you being fined, or involvement from the Education Welfare Service. Attendance in school is directly linked to achievement and we expect your child to be in school every day unless they are unwell.

## Place2be

There will be a question and answer session with Anders after drop-off, in the hall, this coming Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup>. Do come along if you are interested.



## Pupil Chaplaincy

This year we have set up a new Pupil Chaplaincy. The chaplains will meet regularly with me to look at how we can continue to develop the Catholic life of the school. I'm sure they will be full of ideas!



We have been trying out different systems for lunch boxes, and for dismissing children at the end of the day. Thank you for bearing with us. There is method in our madness!

## Breakfast club

I would just like to remind parents that entry to breakfast club closes at 8.30am. Unfortunately we are unable to admit children after this time. The school gates open at 8.45 and children can be left in the playground as there is always a teacher on duty.



## Autumn Term Dates

### September

27<sup>th</sup> Year 5 assembly

28<sup>th</sup> Place2Be workshop for parents – 9:00

### October

4<sup>th</sup> Y1 assembly

7<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm Family social

10<sup>th</sup> Y1 and Y2 Parent Conferences

11<sup>th</sup> Reception and Y3 Parent Conferences

11<sup>th</sup> PTA AGM – 7:30pm

11<sup>th</sup> Year 2 assembly

12<sup>th</sup> Y2 and Y4 parent Conferences

17<sup>th</sup> Y5 Parent Conferences

18<sup>th</sup> Y6 assembly

20<sup>th</sup> INSET day – school closed

23<sup>rd</sup> Half term

30<sup>th</sup> INSET day – school closed

31<sup>st</sup> School opens



Best wishes

Hattie Elwes  
Headteacher