

Newsletter



St. Anselm's Catholic Primary School

5/11/2021

Dear Parents

Yesterday I attended the Archdiocese Catholic Heads' Conference where our lead speaker was Archbishop John Wilson. The theme of the conference was based on the scripture, *'I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit that will last'* Jn 15:16. The Archbishop asked us all to undertake a renewed reflection on the Catholic life and mission of our schools, both as one Archdiocesan educational family; and as individual schools. The day provided good opportunity to reflect on this, and learn from colleagues, and this will help us to continue to reflect on our Catholic mission at St Anselm's.

Today we have had our second day of culture which has focussed on the Pope's encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*. The Pope asks us all to 'no longer ask who is my neighbour, but to be neighbours to all'. He tells us to 'approach, speak, listen and come to know and understand one another, in all our diversity'. This has provided a good basis on which to talk about the richness of diversity, and the importance of respecting the human dignity of every person. As part of this work, the children have thought about what a 'new dream' for the world could look like, and they have also referred to the UN Rights of the Child. I have also worked with the Pupil Chaplains to write a prayer for the school, based on *Fratelli Tutti*.



We have been discussing COP26 with the children in school, and all children are making a pledge, as part of the World Wildlife Fund 'Forest of Promise'. We have also been given the following links by a parent, to COP activities over the weekend that the children may be interested in:

Saturday 6th November:

13:00 – 14:00 - *Children's eco choir. Hosted by S.O.S from the kids (as seen on Britain's Got Talent)*

14:00 – 15:30 - *Hear from Steve Backshall and watch exclusive screening of 'Shark with Steve Backshall'. Hosted by Sky*

Sunday 7th November:

10:00 – 11:30 - *Here We Are: Notes For Living on Planet Earth with Oliver Jeffers. Hosted by Apple & Oliver Jeffers Studio. Screening of the Apple Original film "Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth" available on Apple TV+.*

16:00 – 17:15 - *World Leaders, Listen Up! Sky Kids Screening, plus Q&A with Steve Backshall: 'COP26: In Your Hands' and 'Sharks Up Close'. Hosted by Sky.*

The Science Museum is also screening a Beautiful Planet during November.

<https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/see-and-do/beautiful-planet-3d-u>

Sustainable travel

We are very pleased to have been awarded our bronze accreditation for the TfL STARS award. The purpose of the STARS award is to inspire young Londoners to travel to school sustainably, actively, responsibly and safely. It also supports pupils' wellbeing, helps to reduce congestion and aims to improve air quality. In order to achieve this accreditation, we had to give evidence of ten separate activities we have undertaken linked to this aim, which included our Walk to School Week, and our Safer Street. We will continue with this work so that we can again gain accreditation for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Linked to this, we have managed to secure a grant to install further bike and scooter racks in the playground so that we can store the increasing number of bikes and scooters in a more ordered fashion.

We, with the help of our local councillor, are continuing to chase the council for the installation of the ANPR camera we were promised at the end of Louisville Road, to enforce our Safer Street restrictions. We were promised that it would be installed in the summer but we have just been told this morning that it has been pushed back to January 2022, which is frustrating.

Congratulations to St Philomena's (Red) and St Patrick's (green) house who won the house points last half term.

Children from Y1 – Y6 in these houses may wear their home clothes to school on Tuesday 9th November.



COVID

Thank you for working with us over the last few weeks, on the new procedures we have had to put in place to try and reduce the spread of COVID in school. We are continually reviewing the situation, and working with LCRC (London COVID Response Cell), to do what we can to keep both children and staff in school. No doubt the impact of COVID will continue for some time yet, but we are confident that we have the systems in place to move swiftly in and out of restrictions as required.

As specified before, if your child is at home for a reason linked to COVID, then they need to make sure they access and complete their school work in their Google Classroom and submit it, unless they are too unwell to do so. We will follow up with children who don't appear to be accessing the work, so do please get in touch with us if you need support.

Dates

November

10th Y4 assembly in the hall 9:30
11th Open Day 1.45
12th PTA meeting 9:10
17th Reception parent conferences
Y3 assembly in the hall 9:30
25th Y3 concert at Fairfield Halls
29th Advent Mass (church) 10:00

December

7th Y1 and Y2 Christmas performance
9th Reception nativity
10th Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas activities
14th Christmas lunch
15th KS2 Pantomime 7pm

Best wishes

H. Elwes

Hattie Elwes

Headteacher