

St. Anthony's School

a specialist SEN-BESD provision



October 2017 Newsletter

St. Anthony's supports Mental Health Day October 10th

World Mental Health Day is a day for global mental health education, awareness and advocacy against social stigma.

It was first celebrated in 1992 at the initiative of the World Federation for Mental Health, a global mental health organisation with members and contacts in more than 150 countries.

St. Anthony's staff and students showed their support for the campaign by wearing something yellow on the day. Throughout the day students engaged in workshops, presentations and work activities associated with mental health and wellbeing.



Students learnt that many issues associated with mental health including facts such as one in four people are affected by a mental illness, with the number of prescriptions being dispensed in England having doubled in the past decade.

Other significant messages of mental health included the rate of growth within England. In 2006 slightly more than 31 million anti-depressant prescriptions were dispensed, compared to 64.7 million in 2016 - the fourth highest number for any type of drug.

Jourdain won the award of wearing the most yellow. He didn't seem that happy at the start of the day with his costume but by the end he was enjoying all the attention.

Well done Jourdain!!

Thanet Cross Country Oct 7th 2017

On an overcast Saturday morning over 900 primary pupils completed in the Thanet Passport Cross Country Event at Quex Park from across all Thanet Schools. Clark H and Alfie H represented the school.

Clark went out like a bullet and was in the leading group for the first 500 m and then was slowly overtaken by runners but finished in the top twenty. Alfie ran a very controlled race and finished well in the middle of the pack. A big thank you to Katie Wood for supporting the pupils on the day.

The next Thanet Primary Cross County is Feb 24th so get training as we wish to see more runners representing the school.

Girls Club

We have welcomed five new girls to our club this year and the newly formed group is going well. The girls are supporting each other daily and this is lovely to see. So far the girls have enjoyed: a nails & hair afternoon, a creative arts afternoon and a cinema afternoon with Moana and popcorn!

Boxing

This term saw our excellent girls achieve their Preliminary Boxing Award. The boys all passed the Standard Award and two of our boys achieved their Bronze Certificates. We will be continuing next

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term and giving some new students the opportunity to participate.

Aromatherapy



The school is very fortunate to have Claire, an aromatherapist, in school. She sees many children from different classes around the school during the week. Lots of children find the sessions a calming atmosphere/environment- to the extent many have fallen asleep during the session!

Claire uses a variety of oils, for example lavender or Bergamot with which she uses to massage hands and feet only, depending on the pupils' choice.

On occasions it is used as an intervention to help class teachers when a child is having difficulties.

Some of our newer pupils have said it's like a room from home, others have just said 'WOW!' The pupils enjoy all the sensory equipment available, especially the bubble tube.

The pupils often stop Claire on the playground or in the lunch hall to ask her when it's their turn.

St Anthony's School Council

This term the new school council has had its first meeting. There were a range of interesting items on the agenda. It was decided that the school will focus on three charities through the year, organising a special event each term. The charities are: Shelter, Pilgrims' Hospices and Crossroads (a school in Uganda that we have supported in the past).

Events could include non-uniform days, cake sales, a fun run and car washing. We also discussed how break-times could be improved and agreed that prefects should be nominated from across the school.



Ewan



Reece



Nicole



Albert



Lloyd



Lewis



Marshall



Clark



Jason



Taylor



Thomas

Leo

Our prefects are:

Nicole R
Crystal K
Kieran S
Jack B-B
Abhi K
Oliver M
Leon M
Jadine L
Roy G
Holly G

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Our first charity event will be a non –uniform day in support of Pilgrims’ Hospices on Wednesday 18th October the last day of Term 1.

Reward Shop

We have re stocked and have some great reward prizes for all age groups to give to our students. Students have the opportunity to gain reward vouchers throughout the week based on their good work and behaviour. These are then swapped for prizes that they can choose for themselves!

MIND

Welcome to Xenia from MIND, who will both be working with pupils and parents this year. MIND is a charity that provides advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem.

If you are interested in talking to Xenia or finding out more about her role, please speak to Abi.



Charlton Athletic Community Trust

Welcome back to Jan, a mentor from Charlton Athletic Community Trust, who will be working with some of our pupils again this year.



Forest School:

As we approach the end of Term 1 the Forest School has been a hive of activity. Our students have been accessing the Thanet Community Forest School CIO site, based at Dane Valley



Allotments and Dane Valley Woods every Thursday. Here they learn, play, rest and eat in a natural environment. Recently our students have even plucked up the courage to make their own hot chocolate by boiling water over the camp fire, this alleviated anxieties around the fire when the sessions first started in September. Our students are also starting to show their creative sides by building a seating area independently and even carving a large Forest School sign for the entrance (see photographs below).

Our students are also playing their parts in trying to increase the bio diversity of the Forest School site by digging a pond. This is a long term project but we hope to have it finished by Christmas so watch this space.

On the subject of Christmas, Thanet Community Forest School have also secured some funding from our local Councillor, Barry Lewis. This funding is so they can run a series of FESTIVE FAMILY FUN DAYS on the weekends on the run up to Christmas which will include festive food, log reindeer making and log snowmen making. You’ll have to keep your eyes open for these fun days as they will be ticket only as they expect big demand.

Finally, everybody at Thanet Community Forest School and all the students from Donaldson Class would like to say a big thank you to Colyer Fergusson who helped finance the amazing new Forest School uniforms and personal protective equipment that the students will be wearing whilst on site in the future. Look at how amazing the logo is! Our students helped design it!

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Key Stage 4 Hospitality group held an 'Afternoon Tea' for part of their BTEC coursework. Students invited a selection of Staff to the event who sampled a range of cakes and tea.



As you can see staff arrange a wide range of activities to support our children's learning in traditional and non-traditional ways. Have a safe break.

Mr. Robert Page – Headteacher

Dates

Wednesday Oct 18th Last day Term 1

Mon Oct 30th Start of Term 2

Thurs Nov 16th Midsummer Night's Dream @ Theatre Royal 7pm

Friday Dec 1st Christmas Fayre 5- 7pm

Wed Dec 20th Last day Term 2

Thurs Jan 4th Start of Term 3

Key Stage 4 Transition

Key stage 4 have been visiting Post 16 Provisions to look at the different courses they have on offer for when they leave St Anthony's. They visited Canterbury College, Hadlow College, The Far Academy, Liberty and Kent Mentoring Service. Giving them this opportunity helps them decide on where they would like to attend Post 16.

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