

St. Anthony's School

a specialist SEN-BESD provision



December 2018 Newsletter

St Anthony's Has Talent

On Friday 14th Dec ten acts participated in the first 'St Anthony's Has Talent Show'.

The acts ranged from: football skills to the theme tune of Match of the Day, two students composing their own work on a ukulele and a piano, some brilliant singing perfectly in key, a fabulous impersonation of The Godfather, dancing as Michael Jackson, a poet, drumming by our very youngest students, a very funny skit from Cowell pretending to be the SLT and finally Paul Barratt and his Gangnam dancers finishing our show.



Austin in Primary won for his rendition of 'In My Mind' and there were 2 performers in secondary as it was too difficult to separate them.

In Secondary the winners were Lucy for overcoming her nerves and singing 'In the Shallows' and Logan for 'Happier'. It was a brilliant effort from everyone and thank you Colin Lawton and your backroom team for being the masterminds behind it.



Christmas Presents

The school is always supported by a number of charities each year which we are eternally grateful for. This month we have wonderful donations from Society of St Vincent de Paul and The Mother's Union from Holy Trinity Church which Lesley has shared with a number of our families.



Wayne Hodgson from Red Eagle Trust played Santa and dropped off presents for all our pupils. He has been working with The Giving Tree at Bluewater, in association with Heart Radio to spread some festive cheer.

Guests donate a gift and help give local disadvantaged children a better Christmas.

Thank you so much for your fantastic support of the school community, it is very much appreciated.

Christmas Fayre



Website www.st-anthonys.kent.sch.uk

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Thank you to all of you who attended our Christmas Fayre on Friday 7th Dec and helped to make it such an enjoyable evening. The hall was buzzing with excitement throughout the two hours and it was good to see so many pupils and their families joining in and having fun. There was a huge raffle with lots of prizes that had mainly been donated by local shops and businesses. Our tombola had one hundred prizes and as usual was very popular and the tickets quickly sold out. Father Christmas visited along with two of his elves and luckily he had time to meet all the children who had queued to see him. We thank our staff for all their efforts in organising a wide variety of games and stalls, and for helping make the evening fun for all who attended.

A Relaxing Morning

On Tuesday 11th December a group of parents came into school and enjoyed a relaxing morning and learnt about head massage and aromatherapy.



Our wonderful therapists, Kate Smith and Claire Furlong shared some of the techniques that they use with our pupils to enable them to relax.

There was also time for each of them to experience a head massage, time in the foot spa and to have a hand/arm massage.

Aromatherapy oils, calm music and refreshments all contributed to providing all of us with a really enjoyable morning.



R.E. DAY

On 5th December, all classes participated in a RE Themed Day as part of our Global Studies Curriculum. Students had access to a wide range of resources to develop their understanding of Christianity and the festival of Christmas. The most successful and enjoyable activity across all Key Stages was making a Christingle. The students discussed the significance of the Christingle to Christians and what each part of it represents. Below is a photograph of the lit Christingles in Milton Class.



Children In Need

Friday 16th of November was Children in Need day. At St Anthony's the School Council organised a pyjama day. Pupils and staff came in a variety of nightwear of all designs and types, including dressing gowns, onesies and superhero pyjamas. It was a fun day enjoyed by all raising £105.47. We would like to thank parents for their generous contributions.



Rowling Class participated in the Into Film free cinema tickets and saw Early Man, it happened to fall on Children in Need day and pupils wore their pj's to the cinema!!



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YAASS: Empowered

On Thursday Nov 15th YAASS: Empowered exhibition opened at the Turner Contemporary Gallery. Thirteen Kent Schools participated in an arts project, exploring the idea of identity and how this could be expressed through a creative process. St Anthony's participated in dance workshops lead by Jo from Confidence.

Pupils also worked with Pie Music Factory to create instruments and record the sounds they made. This provided pupils opportunities to increase their awareness of what it means to participate in art which is not just drawing. The schools contribution to the exhibition was a sound installation.



Several pupils and staff made the effort to visit the opening and were very impressed. If you have the chance please go and visit the gallery.

We now have an art **Instagram** page that you can follow which aims to share art projects in progress.

arts_@_st-anthonys

STEM

This term in STEM our students were challenged to make birds nests as effectively as birds do. Their Science Teacher (Mr Evans) explained that birds have been making nests for millions of years which means they have become very good at it. However, the students were up for the challenge and actually thought they could make better nests because after all we have bigger brains and hands.

The students were given one lesson to research bird nests online and in books to give them some

inspiration. Then they were given some time to gather all the necessary resources such as: twigs, grass, clay, feathers etc. from our school garden in preparation for the actual building of the nests.

Once the students had gathered all the necessary materials the school Science Lab literally turned in to a full scale bird nests production line producing nest of all different shapes and designs. It was excellent to see how engaged all the students were in this activity and how much time and effort they all put in to making their birds nests.



To showcase the amazing nests produced, Mr Evans decided to show some of them in the Awards Assembly on Friday 23rd November and the winning nest won a box of chocolates.

We decided to put the nests to the test with a large industrial fan to see if they could withstand the powerful winds of winter and much to the surprise of everybody they were all very strong and did not fall apart.

The overall winner of the competition went to Clark H as he made the biggest nest independently with some exceptional weaving skills! Well Done Clark!

The next activity our students will be looking at in STEM is what materials were best for repairing a hole in a bucket!



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Football

St Anthony's have seen a very successful term of sports especially in football.

Both KS3 and KS4 have taken part in Kent FA tournaments as well as the KS3 taking part in the Bower Grove Games.

Credit must go to KS3 this term as pupils have managed to win the tournament held by Bower Grove with what was considered the elite of the players taking part!



Match report

The mighty St Anthony's primary football team were in action for the first time this year and went into the game full of confidence.

St Anthony's burst out of the blocks quicker than a lightning bolt and were moving the ball around like Barcelona! All of the players were in good spirit and played the game really well. St A's took the win 6-0. It was great to see all players shake hands at the end!

Next up in sport - Primary have football matches vs Laleham and Orchard as well as the secondary teams lined up for another Kent FA fixture in term 3.

Reading Garden

The Reading Garden was officially opened on Friday 7th December by Kent based author and former EastEnders scriptwriter, Julie Wasser and Red Eagle's Wayne Hodgson, in a special whole school assembly to mark the occasion.

Wayne Hodgson, Chairman of Red Eagle Foundation, the charity that helped to fund the first phase of this long term project remarked; "This project is close to my heart, it is an area

where I grew up and I am pleased to be putting something back into my local community."

Julie Wassmer commented: "I felt very privileged to have been invited to St Anthony's on the official opening of the Reading Garden, to have met dedicated members of the school's staff, as well as many of the children who will benefit from having this precious new space in which to develop their reading skills.

If one child's journey in life can be improved by this, it will be a great achievement, but I'm certain the Reading Garden will do so for many. It's as special as the children it serves."



Afternoon Tea 29th November

During Blyton's Food Tech session this term they learned to make scones. They then invited their family in for an Afternoon Tea.

In DT the children decorated boxes for the cakes so that they could take home any spares. They were all very excited about members of their families coming in and spent the morning tidying up and making the tables look lovely for our visitors.

I would like to thank the families for an amazing turnout. Everyone had a lovely afternoon and the parents were very well behaved!!
Catrina



Dates

Wed 19th Dec Last Day term 2 1:30pm close
Thurs 3rd Jan First Day term 3
Friday 1st Feb Training Day 4
Mon 4th Feb Internet Safety Week
Friday 15th Feb Last Day Term 3

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