



St. Anne's Gazette

Free Prae Road, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8ET
Headteacher: Mrs L M Harris

March 2024

Dear Parents,

What a busy week! We have had so much going on. With Careers Week, World Book Day, Science Fairs and Mothers Day sales it has been full on but so successful!

Thank you to all those parents who came into school and shared with different classes what they do for a career. I know talking to some of the pupil' they have been really inspired and keen to work hard to pursue some of the careers discussed.

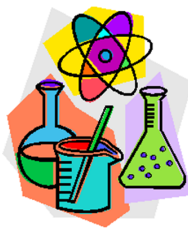
The children and staff had a great couple of days attending school in pyjamas and their World Book Day outfits. With that it was lovely to see classes merge and older / younger children mix and share their favourite stories.

The science fair was a real success, despite having no hall and those that were successful are looking forward to attend the grand final in a few weeks time.

And finally, Mother's Day is just around the corner. A day when we celebrate what the wonderful women in our lives do for us and ensure we say thank you. I hope the children are able to share their love and appreciation, in someway, this weekend.

Science Fair

On Tuesday, 5th & Wednesday 6th March we held our annual Science Fair it was a great success, and we had lots of entries which was fantastic! The quality of presentations was excellent and the budding scientists were happy & eager to explain their experiments, which made judging them extremely difficult.



The winners will be announced next week.

This year, in addition to presenting at our school Science Fair, some projects from KS2 will be chosen to take part in the **Xavier Science Fair Grand Final on Wednesday, 27th March.**

Well done to everyone that entered and I can't wait to see what you produce next year!

Miss Taylor - Science Lead

World Book Week

World Book Week started off with the whole school wearing their **pyjamas** on Monday, 4th March. Everyone seemed so relaxed on the day. We also had to share our favourite bedtime story.



WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday, 7th March, we dressed up as characters from our favourite books. The teachers went to different classes to read their favourite stories. The children have all been given tokens so they can buy a book. Everyone including the staff looked amazing we had some fabulous costumes.

Lent Appeal

This Lent, we have been raising money for **CAFOD and Catholic Children's Society.**

This year's appeal is inspired by Pope Francis' call for young people to use their voice to make a difference in the world. Every penny raised by your school will support our work with local disadvantaged children and families.



During Lent, it is important to do something for others rather than just give something up. It would be wonderful if you could take some time to talk to your child about what '**actions**' they could do to help others.

Our Fundraising Total So Far

£290

THANK YOU!

Mother's Day

A reminder that this Sunday Y3 will be holding their annual Mother's Day mass at St Anne's Catholic Church.



You are, of course, all invited to celebrate the occasion with us and we would appreciate as many Year 3 children as possible to take part in this happy celebration.

The mass will be held at **11:30 am** but if your child is taking part we ask for them to be there at **11:15 am**.

I do hope the Mums liked the Mother's day gifts their children chose for them at the PFA's sales. Thank you to everyone who organised and supported with manning the stalls.

I appreciate the time you gave to this and the quality of the gifts were superb. It is always such a special event but couldn't happen without parental support.

Easter Mufti

As in previous years, we will be having a '**Celebrating Easter Day**' on the last day of term, **Thursday, 28th March**.



Children can come to school wearing something related to Easter. It can simply be Easter colours such as green and yellow or some sort of Easter themed costume, if you so wish!

PFA Easter Egg Hunt

An Easter Egg Hunt will be taking place on **Thursday, 28th March**.

The children will be taking part in a quiz/clue hunt within their class or year group. Once they have successfully completed the hunt they will be rewarded with a chocolate egg.



If you are able to help at any events please email:

stannespfa@stannes-chertsey.surrey.sch.uk

Details on how to book will be sent out soon.

Parent Steering Group Updates

A small group of parents put their names forward a few months ago to start up discussions around themes the school would like to address.

We have now met twice and we wanted to share with you a few things we are working on.

We have been discussing how we can be more inclusive, particularly to new families so that they feel truly welcomed to our St. Annes community.

To that end, 2 members of the Leadership team are now key points of access to any new family. This will, be **Mrs Burke** and **Miss Dorgan**. Both the parent team and the school are now working on a protocol for things that might best support new families. If you have any ideas, please send them directly to Mrs Murphy in an email.

It was also raised that it might be an idea if the admin person for each class/year group whatsapp contacts Mrs Murphy so that they might also be the first point of contact for any new family, ensuring they are part of any communications. Please let Mrs Murphy know if it is you so we can keep a log and make you aware of any new families who join us.

Voice of the Children Updates!

The children in the group, continue to help move our school forward with their thoughts and ideas around several themes. We have been working on being more inclusive of the diverse school in which we all live and celebrating these. To that end, in the past few months, we have had the following experiences.

Several assemblies planned and delivered by pupils on themes that are important to them such as ,racism, sexism, love and homelessness. The next set that are due to be delivered are disabilities, protected characteristics, poverty and climate.

A visit from our local MP in which the group could share their thoughts and concerns about issues that affect them.

It was the ideas from this group that brought about our '**80 Days Around the World**' week in which every child had the opportunity to learn about the culture and traditions of other countries in the world. This was very successful and the children particularly enjoyed the opportunity to tour the school with their individual passports and learn about other cultures.

This group have also organised and tidied up the library and support classrooms with their individual reading for pleasure areas.

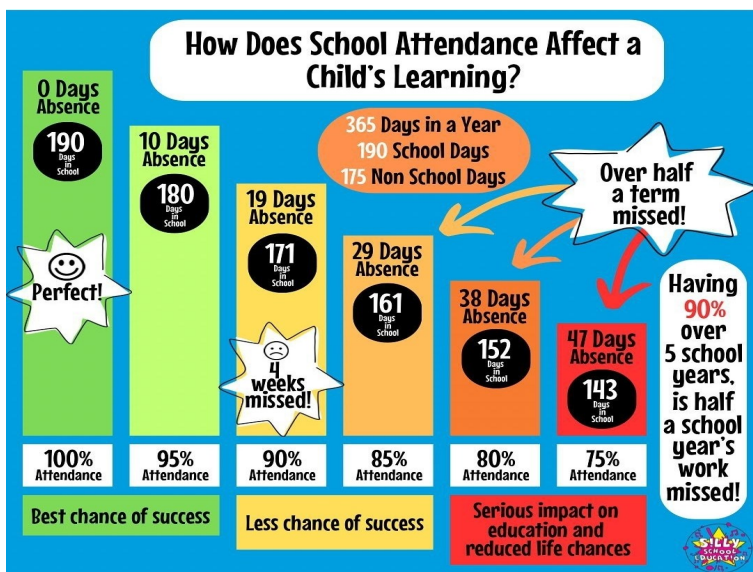
I am so incredibly proud and grateful to every member of this team who help to make our school even better on a regular basis.

Thank you!

Attendance and Punctuality

School attendance and punctuality is very important to how successful your child can be at school. (See graphic below) You will have heard in the press that the government are looking at tackling attendance but at St Anne's we have been trying to do this for some time. On the whole the majority of parents are great at getting their children into school and on time. Some however can struggle for a variety of reasons and this cannot be overlooked.

A child is classed as persistently absent from school if they fall below 90% attendance. In a whole year 90% is 4 weeks of absence, that is a lot of learning missed, and it does equate to your child being less successful than others.



We're not saying if your child is poorly they should be in school, we're not. What we ask is that as much as possible you encourage your children into school.

We also ask that you give us enough detail to note with their absence. It is not enough to say they are poorly. We need to know what the reason is so it can be coded appropriately, we can offer appropriate support and we can answer any questions asked of us by the local authority or Ofsted.



Some of you will have received letters to say that your child's attendance has dropped below 95% or you need to offer medical evidence if your child is off sick again. Please take these letters as they are meant which is to try and prompt you to do your best, to encourage your children into school and avoid any additional absence such as family holidays.

At a recent meeting with the local authority it was commented that we had issued a number of fines to our parents. This is not done lightly, we don't receive a penny of it, but it is the only deterrent we have to avoid parents taking their children out of school. And as you may have heard in the press this is going to be going up from £60 to £80. So please bear this in mind.

Finally, we do try and do our bit to reward good and improved attendance with certificates and extra playtimes but the reality is, that at this age, it is the parents who can make the biggest difference to the children's attendance and therefore their success.

Class Attendance - February 2024

EYFS & KS1

| | % |
|--|----|
| Sunshine  | 98 |
| Rainbow | 95 |
| Ladybird | 97 |
| Bumblebee | 92 |
| Squirrel  | 98 |
| Hedgehog | 95 |



KS2

| | % | | % |
|------------|----|------|----|
| Monet | 97 | EYFS | 97 |
| Delaunay | 97 | KS1 | 95 |
| Tolkien | 93 | KS2 | 96 |
| Rowling | 97 | | |
| Earhart | 96 | | |
| Fiennes | 96 | | |
| Einstein | 96 | | |
| Somerville | 97 | | |

Overall, attendance was higher for February. **Congratulations to Sunshine & Squirrel Classes**, for the highest attendance figures for February.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

Dear Lord,

May Christ be at the centre of all we do.

With your help, fill our school with laughter and learning.

With your guidance, help us listen and respect each other, no matter our differences.

With your love, encourage us to be kind and gentle.

With your light, shine on our school family, so we can be a light for others.

We are all part of St Anne's community and we know that we are loved.

Amen



Please click on the link below, to find the latest Parish Newsletter
[St. Anne's Parish Newsletter](#)

| March 2024 | | Important information: Star reader tests | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 Lent/ Easter topic begins Feet First – Y3 World Book Day – Pyjama Day | 5 Y6 Reconciliation Service Feet First – Y3 Science Fair - Cabin | 6 Year 4 Bikeability Level 1 9.30am – 12 noon Science Fair - Cabin | 7 World Book Day- Dress up Day PFA Mother's Day Gift Stall | 8 PFA Mother's Day Gift Stall | 9 |
| 10 Mother's Day Mass – Year 3 lead | 11 British Science Week | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Inset day | 16 |
| 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18 | 19 | 20 Year 2 World Picnic Day | 21 World Poetry Day | 22 Open Morning & Afternoon for Parents | 23 |
| 24 Palm Sunday | 25 Holy week Drama Club Show at Salesians School | 26 Easter Service- Y4 Lead (at Church) | 27 | 28 End of Term EYFS & KS1: 12.05pm KS2: 12.15pm Easter Mufti | 29 | 30 |
| 31 Easter Sunday | | | | | | |
| Easter Holidays 29 th March – 14 th April | | | | | | |

Thank you all, once again, for your support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely

L Harris

Mrs L M Harris
Headteacher

SCHOOL CLOSURE DATES
Friday, 15th March - Inset Day