



“Keep me safe, my God
For in You I take refuge”
Psalm 16:1

Welcome Back

I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to school after the Christmas break.

This is my first newsletter as your new Acting Headteacher here at Antrobus St Mark's. Many of you will know that I first joined the Antrobus school family back in 2012 and I am honoured to now be able to take on the role of Acting Headteacher having undertaken the role of Deputy Headteacher for over 4 years. Many of our pupils in Antrobus started their school journey with me as their first class teacher in Nursery or Reception, and this has enabled me to really get to know each and every pupil and also their families.

I will be in school every day and on a Friday will be teaching in Class 1 with the Nursery, Reception and Year 1 pupils.

I hope to be as accessible and as informative as I can as we continue to grow as a school community, giving you as many key diary dates upfront. If there is anything you would like to discuss with me in person then please catch me on the gate in the mornings where I plan to be as often as possible.


It has been an exciting start back and it has been fantastic to see how well the children have settled back into their learning following the Christmas holidays. On behalf of all of the staff team I would like to thank you for all of your kind cards and gifts. I hope everyone was able to enjoy a restful holiday with their families.

Our Christian Value this half term is **Courage**; we shall be talking to the children about taking strength from God to help us to have courage when things are not easy.

Key Diary dates

Please find below some key diary dates for events during the Spring Term. We endeavour to give you as much prior warning as possible but please to be mindful that these may change and more may be added as the weeks go on.

<u>Date</u>	<u>What's happening</u>
18.1.23	Sportshall athletics tournament
3.2.23	NSPCC number day £1 'Dress in digits'
16.2.23	Whole school cake sale to raise funds for the residentials
17.2.23	Modern Foreign Languages day. £1 wear own clothes.
	Half term
	From Tuesday 28.2.23 Forest Schools will restart with Mr Holland. Please ensure pupils come to school dressed appropriately for all weathers. Wearing a school jumper or cardigan is still expected.
2.3.23	World Book Day This year our school theme is based on the '100 book challenge'.

	<p>Click on the link below to find the downloadable book list. School has at least 1 copy of every book available.</p> <p>Great Budworth Primary School: Reading in our schools (antrobusandbudworthceprimaryschools.co.uk)</p> 
14.3.23	<p>School Open Day 9:30-11:30 and 1:30-2:30</p> <p>Please contact the office if you would be able to help us distribute leaflets to local businesses, tots groups, nurseries and homes.</p> <p>If you know of any key places where can focus our advertising then please do let us know as your input is crucial is spreading the word about our wonderful school.</p>
28.3.23	<p>Class 2's residential trip to Petty Pool.</p>

<p><u>Attendance Matters</u></p> <p>Regular attendance at school is very important for children to achieve the best they can. If children are absent from school, it not only affects their education but it also can have negative impact on them. However, we do understand at this time of year there are many bugs going round and this can affect your child's attendance. 112</p>	<p><u>After School Clubs</u></p> <p>Our enrichment curriculum for this half term is as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Monday</td> <td>Y6 SATs Booster</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday lunchtime</td> <td>Dodgeball</td> </tr> <tr> <td>After School</td> <td>Well-being & Mindfulness</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday Lunchtime</td> <td>Football/ Basketball</td> </tr> </table>	Monday	Y6 SATs Booster	Wednesday lunchtime	Dodgeball	After School	Well-being & Mindfulness	Thursday Lunchtime	Football/ Basketball
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<p><u>Policy updates</u></p> <p>I am pleased to share a link to our new federation behaviour policy. We have been busy working on this for a number of months. We have 3 new school rules which are simple enough for all members of our school to learn and remember;</p>	
<p>Ready Respect Reach</p>	
<p>Alongside this we have new class reward systems as well and individual rewards. We will be sending out positive postcards and also setting up a 'hot chocolate club' where pupils who consistently go over and above will be recognised and invited to the Headteacher's office for a hot chocolate or milkshake and a biscuit.</p>	
<p>Please follow the link below to read the policy from our school website. 10422404 (antrobusandbudworthceprimaryschools.co.uk)</p>	
	

I would also like to draw your attention to our new debt policy which is also on our school website. This has been created as a supportive tool to support our families during these difficult economic times. If you are struggling with payments please do speak to Mrs Brook, Mrs Price or myself.

[10422304 \(antrobusandbudworthceprimaryschools.co.uk\)](http://10422304.antrobusandbudworthceprimaryschools.co.uk)



I would also like to give a warm welcome to Mrs Almond who has been appointed as our new Class 1 teacher Monday-Thursday. Many of you will have already met her during the last few weeks of the Autumn term as she was in school for a number of days getting to know the children and familiarise herself with the school. She is a fantastic addition to our school family and I know that Class 1 is in safe hands with her at the helm.

Friends of Antrobus PTA



A huge thank you to our PTA for organising such a fabulous variety of fundraising events during Autumn term including, movie night, elf dash, wreath making, Christmas raffle and also the Christmas fair. Friends will update us all soon on the total monies raised but it is a staggering amount for such a small village school to have raised so thank you to each and everyone of you who supported this event. This year fund raised by Friends will be supporting our pupil attending residentials and school trips. The cost of transportation for school trips has increased significantly so help from friends toward the cost of coaches is crucial in keeping costs down for our families.

Another big project that we are working on is soundproofing our school hall to improve acoustics and reduce the echo that there currently is. This will make a huge difference and we are hoping to get work started imminently.

Please keep your eyes out for the next PTA events for the spring term which we will be informing you of in the coming weeks.

