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Executive Head Teacher: Mr C. Flaherty

Head of School: Mr K Scanlon



St Anthony's Catholic Primary Sch
Fordbridge Road,
Kingshurst,
Birmingham
B37 6LW

Friday 7th February 2025



This half term, we are growing to be grateful for our own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and generous with our gifts becoming men and women for others.



Without the kindness and generosity of the community I had around me, there wouldn't be the Marcus Rashford that you see today.

Marcus Rashford – English football player

Children's Mental Health Week

This week we have embraced **Children's Mental Health Week**.

Miss Cartwright introduced the week in Monday's assembly and RHE lessons this week have been dedicated to the importance of looking after our mental health.

We had a non-uniform day and enjoyed some uplifting music during the daily mile as well as learning lots of useful techniques to help us maintain healthy minds so that we can live, love and learn together joyfully here at St. Anthony's.

2025 - Know Yourself, Grow Yourself

SAFETY!

After receiving **yet another** report about dangerous driving, putting the lives of our pupils at risk, we have contacted both the local police and the council regarding the parking issues on Schofield Road.

If you use this road at drop-off and pick-up times, please show consideration and care for our community and do not mount the pavement or drive at an unsafe speed.



School
Safety Zone



Sacramental Preparation

We look forward to welcoming Bishop Timothy Menezes to St. Anthony's on Wednesday 12th February to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with our Year 6 pupils at 6pm.

If your child is a Roman Catholic in Year 3 and is due to make their **First Holy Communion** on Saturday 7th June, they will need to attend a commitment mass on **Saturday 8th March at 4:30pm** in St. Anthony's church with an adult.



Time to talk...

TAKEHOME

3rd - 9th
February



'TUESDAY NEWS DAY'

This week we learnt that *Tennis player Emma Raducanu* has revealed that she would like to meet *Luke Littler* after he recently became the world darts champion. Comparisons have been made between the two sports stars as they have both made history as the youngest people to achieve a certain title in their sport.

Things you could talk about at home:

- How do you think Like felt becoming the youngest-ever World Darts Championship winner aged just 17?
- Do you think this adds extra pressure?
- Can you think of a time that you felt under pressure?

X

Pope Francis says...

X

X

X



We must remember that young children observe, understand, and remember. They speak to us through their gazes and silences. Let us listen to them!

Gymnastic Success!

Congratulations to our **Year 3** gymnasts, who were awarded a very well-deserved **bronze** medal in yesterday's gymnastics competition. They scored incredibly highly on the vault and their floor routines were so impressive! Miss Otis and Miss Barker are very proud of you all.



Can you help our Early Years?

Early Years would appreciate donations of pants, socks, tights and trousers suitable for 2-4 years old please.

Thank you, The Early Years Team.



School Tie



We now have a new clip tie priced at £4.90 each available to purchase from the office. If you would like one, please make a payment on ParentPay and collect from the school office.

Tiny Ants



Our Tiny Ants 'star of the week' is Finley



Last Friday we celebrated Chinese New Year. We sat together sharing spring rolls, prawn crackers and noodles. They were very yummy!



Our tuff tray activity this week was based around builders. The children stuck bricks together using shaving foam, and to make it a bit more interesting we added coffee granules and cocoa powder to make the foam look like cement.



The children worked together to build a tower using steps to make themselves taller to reach the top.



Nursery

This week in Nursery, as part of our topic 'People who help us' we have been learning about builders. To help our understanding, we have created a construction area where the children have been able to role play being builders by dressing up as them and using a range of tools and blocks.



In our sensory tray, Nursery have also used the construction vehicles in the rocks to create pathways and mountains.



On our creative table we have developed our cutting skills to create our own diggers. We have also used the construction vehicles in paint to practice our letter formations.



We have also added our 'Chinese New Year dragon' class photo from last Friday for you to see how much fun we had.



Reception

We have had another busy week in Reception.

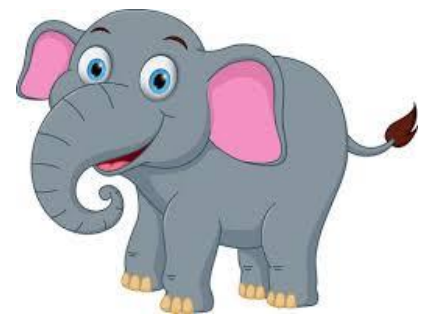
This week Reception has turned into a dentist's surgery where we learned all about the importance of taking care of our teeth. We have been learning about plaque, enamel and the importance of good oral hygiene.

Amber reminded the class "You brush your teeth twice; in the morning and before bed."

In Science we took part in an amazing 'egg-speriment'. We looked at the hard shell of an egg, which is like our teeth enamel. We looked at the effect that placing the egg in water, coke, milk, and vinegar would have upon the egg. We made lots of wonderful scientific predictions about what would happen, and it helped us to understand the importance of not having too much sugar.



This week we also had a teacher swap, when Miss Bolter from Year Three visited and read us a story. We even created our own class story about an elephant travelling across the ocean. We really enjoyed her visit, and we hope she comes to see us again soon.



Thank you Reception for another wonderful week!



Year 1



Year 1 have had a busy week! In Music we have been learning about dynamics. The children worked in their Kagan groups to create a soundscape for 'a boat riding across the waves in a stormy sea'. On Wednesday, the children were so excited when Mrs Tween came to read the story *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt, for Storytelling Day! The children created headbands and role played as crayons from the book, wrote beautiful letters and went on a colour hunt around the class.



Year 1 continued...

At the end of the week, we also went over to the hut and shared a delicious Spanish breakfast!



Year 2

Today is 'Maths Day' and Year 2 have enjoyed turning the classroom into a restaurant.



Year 3

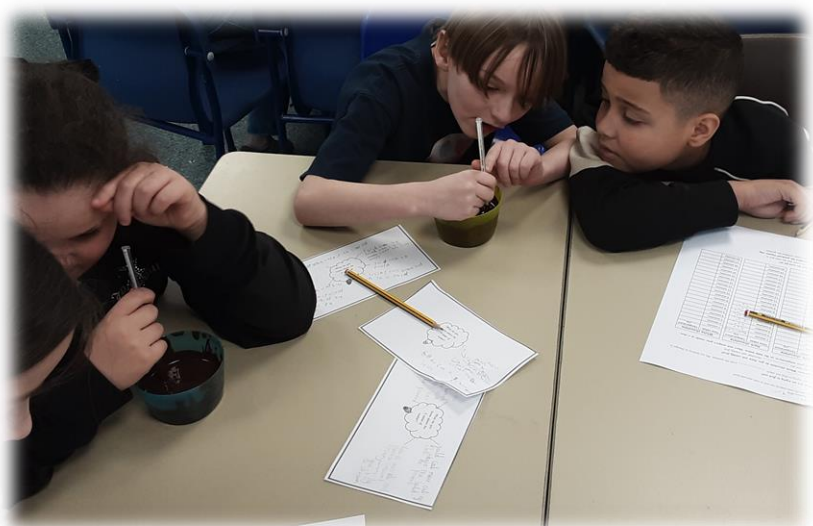
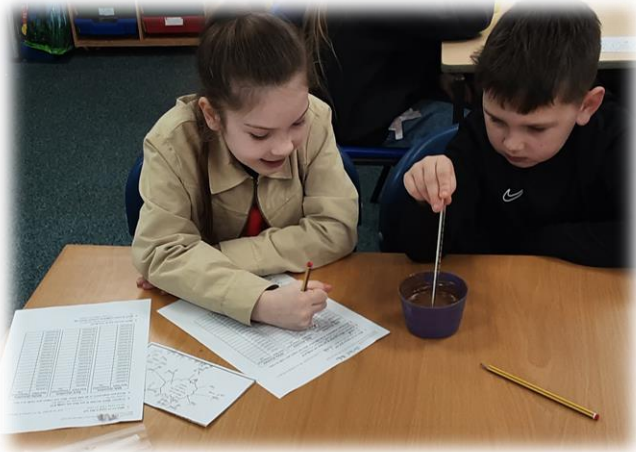


This week, Year 3 have really enjoyed thinking about ways we can look after our mental health. We played some fun games on the playground during RHE, had a sing and dance and blew all of our worries away!

We also enjoyed storytelling week where we read to each other, did some role play and were joined by Mrs Martin for a fun reading session about old friend, Paddington Bear!

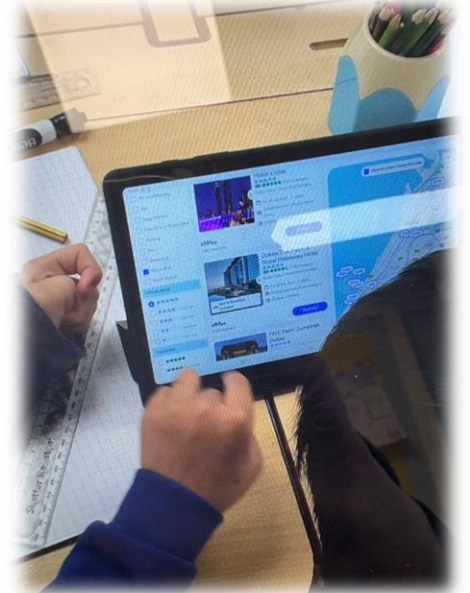
Year 4

In Science this week, the children have looked at the changing state of materials. They worked with partners to use a thermometer and know that the same material can exist as both solid and liquid. Their first challenge was to be the first team to change an ice cube from a solid to a liquid, using only tin foil or kitchen roll. The quickest team managed to melt their ice cube in 5 minutes and 53 seconds. Next, the children had to record the temperature of the chocolate every minute until the chocolate had solidified and predict whether dark, milk or white chocolate would solidify the quickest.



Year 5

Year 5 have had an amazing Numbers Day! They have been busy planning their very own summer holiday to Dubai, using real-world resources to bring their ideas to life. The children loved searching for flights on Skyscanner, choosing their dream hotel with TUI, and putting together an exciting itinerary for their stay. They had so much fun and gained valuable skills along the way—I think they'll be more than ready to help their parents plan the next family getaway! ✈️🌍



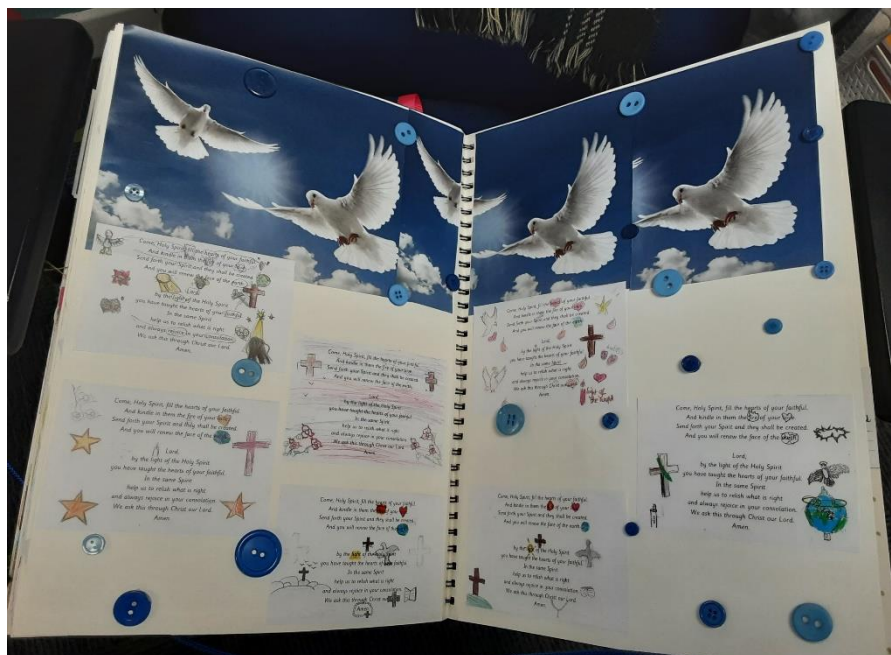
Year 6

This week in Art, Year 6 have been looking at 'powerful imagery', using the techniques we have learnt from the artist Chiaroscuro. They have turned out absolutely amazingly!!



Next week some of our Year 6 children will be receiving *The Sacrament of Confirmation.*

We send thoughts and prayers up to the Holy Spirit in preparation.



Attendance



If your child is going to be absent from school **please let the office know**. You can do this by emailing, calling or leaving a voicemail. If we do not hear from you, your child's absence will be marked as unauthorised. Our contact details are:

School email address: office@st-anthonys.solihull.sch.uk

Telephone number: 0121 770 3168

January TTRS battle



The boys very narrowly beat the girls with average scores of 530 v 527 in the January battle.

Well done to the top 3 players from each team:

| Most valuable player | 2 nd MVP | 3 rd MVP |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Patryk Y3 | Karson Y5 | Thomas Y5 |
| Freya Y5 | Ivy Y3 | Everleigh Y5 |

All pupils from Y2 – Y6 should be accessing TTRS during the week and this is being monitored by teaching staff.

Support for parents and pupils

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS**

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

"CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such plays often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition. Or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and suchlike. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

Advice for Parents & Educators

STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives: talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, find answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

TALK TOGETHER

Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk for more.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Next week's menu ...

FOOD FESTIVAL
By Aspens

LUNCHTIME

TRADITIONAL
Week 3

Autumn Winter 2024-25:
16/9, 7/10, 28/10, 18/11, 9/12, 30/12, 20/1, 10/2

THE MAIN EVENT
American Style Macaroni Cheese

MEAT-FREE MAGIC
Veggie Dish

RAINBOW ALLEY
Vegetables and salads

BIG TOPPING
Filled Jackets

DESSERT TROLLEY

DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT
AVAILABLE DAILY

DAILY SANDWICHES AVAILABLE

PASTA TWIRLER
AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

Topped Pasta
Hot Pasta topped with Homemade Tomato Sauce & Cheese

Monday
American Style Macaroni Cheese

Tuesday
Sausage and Mash

Wednesday
Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy

Thursday
Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice

Friday
Golden Fish Fingers and Chips

Veggie Wholegrain Pasta Bolognese

Vegetable Pot Pie and Mash

Carrot and Stuffing Pastry Plait

Mild Veggie Bean Chilli Loaded Wedges with Cheese

Vegetable Fingers and Chips

Carrots

Green Beans

Peas and Sweetcorn

Broccoli

Baked Beans

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Marble Cake

Apple, Cinnamon Raisin Flapjacks

Sprinkle Sponge Cake

Banana Bread Muffins

Gingerbread Cookies

T1

Due to school dinners being cooked fresh, please ensure that you pre order meals that your child will eat. Unfortunately, we cannot offer alternatives

Blue Runner

It is essential that all parents/carers have registered for a Blue Runner, even if your child does not order a school meal. You can register using the following link is <https://olaas.myschoolmealorders.com/login>. If you need any support in signing up, please let the school office know.

Thanks to the majority of parents who have signed up and who are pre ordering meals. We have had some brilliant Blue Runner feedback!

Special menu: Wednesday 12th February



FOOD FESTIVAL

By Aspens

Come and try our menu from

ITALY

Wednesday 12th February

**Chicken & Vegetable Meatballs
Marinar (Tomato Sauce) served with
Spaghetti**

**Vegetable Ragu (Lentil & Vegetable in a
Tomato Sauce) served with Spaghetti.**

Sweetcorn

Galetto (Frozen Strawberry Yoghurt)

*Don't forget to book via
Blue Runner*

<https://olaas.myschoolmealorders.com/login>

Delicious food every day

Lunchtime MUGA activities

Starting next week, Years 2-6 will have a designated MUGA day, allowing students to participate in competitive sports alongside their classmates.

If your child would like to take part in MUGA activities on their allocated day, please ensure they bring trainers to change into at lunchtime.

Monday - Year 6

Tuesday - Year 4

Wednesday - Year 3

Thursday - Year 2

Friday - Year 5



Valentine's Day Prayer Service

FAO Parents of Reception, Nursery and Tiny Ants

We will be holding a Valentine's Prayer Service in School.

Nursery and Tiny Ants:

Thursday 13th Feb 11:15am or 2:15pm

Reception: Friday 14th Feb at 2pm



World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on **Friday 7th March.**

Children are invited to dress up as their favourite character from a book.



P.E Days

Please read carefully as the PE days can change from week to week.

Week beginning Monday 10th February

Reception – **Thursday**

Year 1 - **Thursday**

Year 2 - **Friday**

Year 3 - **Friday**

Year 4- **Monday**

Year 5 - **Tuesday (swimming)**

Year 6 - **Tuesday**



Please remember that pupils need to come into school in their PE kits on these days:

- plain white t shirts (or those with the school badge on)
- **PLAIN BLACK** shorts/tracksuit bottoms/leggings.
- Hair must be tied back
- No jewellery should be worn.
- Please remove your child's earrings before school. If your child's ears have been recently pierced, please cover the earrings with plasters to enable your child to participate in PE.

**Don't
Forget!**

Please continue to pre-order your child's meals for the following week via ParentPay. If you do not pre-order, your child will be given the option of a jacket potato, pasta or a sandwich but this is time-consuming for staff so please make every effort to pre-order, even if one of these is their preferred option.



Diary Dates



2025

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Weds 12 th Feb | Year 6 | Confirmation at 6pm in church |
| Thurs 13 th Feb | Nursery am only Nursery pm | Nursery Valentines prayer service 11:15am Nursery Valentines prayer service 2:15pm |
| Fri 14 th Feb | Whole school | Last day of half term for pupils |

HALF TERM HOLIDAY:

Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February 2025

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Mon 24 th Feb | Whole school | INSET DAY FOR STAFF – no pupils in school |
| Tues 25 th Feb | Whole school | Return to school |
| Weds 26 th and Thurs 27 th Feb | Whole school | Parents Evening |
| Fri 28 th Feb | Whole school | Whole school Mass at 9:30am – Year 2 leading |
| Fri 7 th Mar | Whole school | World Book Day |
| Sat 8 th Mar | Year 3 First Holy Communion pupils | Commitment Mass in church 4:30pm |
| Tues 11 th Mar | Year 6 | Trip to Harvington Hall |
| Weds 19 th Mar | Year 1 | Into Film Festival cinema trip |
| Thurs 3 rd Apr | Year 4 | Trip to Parliament |
| Fri 11 th Apr | Whole school | Whole school Mass at 9:30am – Year 5 leading |
| Fri 11 th Apr | Whole school | Last day of half term for pupils |

EASTER HOLIDAYS:

Monday 14th April - Friday 25th April 2025

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--|
| Mon 28 th Apr | Whole school | Pupils return to school – start of Summer Term |
| Mon 5 th May | Whole school | May Bank Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED |
| Fri 23 rd May | Whole school | Last day of half term for pupils |

HALF TERM HOLIDAY:

Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May



Diary Dates



| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|---|
| Mon 2 nd Jun | Whole school | INSET DAY FOR STAFF – no pupils in school |
| Tues 3 rd Jun | Whole school | Return to school |
| Fri 18 th Jul | Whole school | Last day of the school year for pupils |
| Mon 21 st Jul | Whole school | INSET DAY FOR STAFF – no pupils in school |

Please note the INSET day for staff on 2nd June. Children will return to school for the Summer 2 half term on Tuesday 3rd June.

| DATES OF SACRAMENTS 2025 | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|---|
| Weds 12 th Feb 6pm | Year 6 | Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop David Evans |
| Sat 7 th Jun 11am | Year 3 | Sacrament of the Eucharist (First Holy Communion) |

| Term dates 2025 - 2026 | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| | Term starts | Half term | Term ends |
| Autumn | 1 st September 2025 | 27 th Oct – 31 st Oct | 19 th December 2025 |
| Spring | 5 th January 2026 | 16 th Feb – 20 th Feb | 27 th March 2026 |
| Summer | 13 th April 2026 | 25 th May - 29 th May | 20 th July 2026 |
| Inset days: 1 st September, 24 th October, 23 rd February, 20 th July plus two more dates TBC | | | |

Head Teacher's Awards



Congratulations!

Reception – Theo – for being a delight to teach and always trying his best! Well done 😊

Year 1 – Nancy – for being a fun-loving friend, always bringing joy to each lesson.

Year 2 – Fabian – for making great progress through his hard work and effort! 😊

Year 3 – Bethany – for your superb contributions this week, and for being such a radiant member of Year 3! 😊

Year 4 – Indie – for being a delight to teach, and always shining like Jesus. Well done 😊

Year 5 – Dylan – for having determination and focus. You're doing amazingly and should be proud of yourself!

Year 6 – George – for showing a positive attitude towards all aspects of school life.

Mr K Scanlon, Head of School

