

Tel: 0121 770 3168

 @StAnthonysSch

E-mail: [84office@st-anthonys.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:84office@st-anthonys.solihull.sch.uk)

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 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025



This half term we are growing to be **compassionate** towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and **loving** by our actions and forgiving words.



Compassion begins at home, and it is not **how much** we do, but how much love we put in that action. Do not think that love has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired.

St. Teresa of Calcutta

## Fr. Christopher

Our parish priest Fr. Christopher will be retiring on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025. To give thanks for his service, there will be an

**Afternoon Tea at St. Anne's after 11am Mass on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June.**

It would be really lovely if some of our school community went along to celebrate. If you would like to write a message of thanks to Fr. Christopher, please call into the school office and we will add it to his leaving book.



# Time to talk...

## 'TUESDAY NEWS DAY'



**What everyday items could be changed to help others?**

*This week we learnt that Three teenagers from Indore, India – Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania, and Mridul Jain – have created a salt-powered fridge. Their goal is to support hospitals in rural areas around the world that lack access to electricity. Their invention, called the Thermavault, was submitted to The Earth Prize, a global competition which aims to inspire young people to solve world-wide problems.*

### Things you could talk about at home:

- Make a list of everyday items at home. Which make your life easier?
- Can you think of an item you use that could be improved? How?

X

*Pope Leo XIV says...*

X

X

X

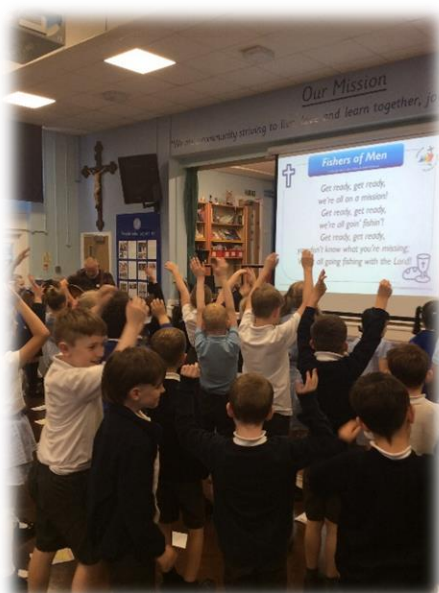


*As St. Augustine once said, "Let us live well and the times will be good. We are the times!"*

# First Holy Communion Retreat Day

Yesterday Year 3 were blessed to spend the day with Dan and Emily from One Life Music who led them in a beautiful day of music and ministry to help them to prepare for their First Holy Communion on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

The children were joined by their friends from St. Andrew's and it was lovely to see them interacting so well with each other.



# PTA

At the moment we only have 5 parents as members and we are very keen to welcome more 😊

If you are able to help our PTA in any way, please contact [s84pta@st-anthonys.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:s84pta@st-anthonys.solihull.sch.uk), or use the QR codes.



**Parents of St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School**

We always try to make your children's school life very exciting, but now we need your help! Please come and join our PTA facebook group and Whatsapp group to start engaging.

scan the codes to join the group

Facebook

Whatsapp

Join in & support us through fundraising events, open meetings, coffee dates + much much more

By signing up you are consenting to participate and receive communications from PTA

St Anthony's Catholic Primary School  
Kingshurst, Solihull

The poster features a vibrant border of school supplies including books, pens, pencils, and glue sticks. It includes two QR codes for joining the Facebook and WhatsApp groups, and a small logo for St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School at the bottom.

# EYFS Picnic

Parents of EYFS, you are invited to our picnic for Tiny Ants, Nursery and Reception children Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 1:15-3pm. More information will be provided nearer the time.



# Summer Uniform

*Summer uniform can be worn after Easter until Autumn Term in October.*

## **School Caps**

*School caps are recommended during the hot weather, these can be purchased from the School Office and are £6 (please pay on ParentPay)*

*\*\*School caps only – no other caps to be worn\*\**



## **Boys**

*\*Grey trousers or school shorts*

*\*White sleeved shirt with a school tie or blue or white polo shirt*

*\*Black school shoes*

*\*Blue school jumper*

## **Girls**

*\*Grey skirt, trousers, pinafore or blue gingham dress*

*\*White blouse with tie or blue or white polo shirt*

*\*Black school shoes (no heels, no sandals)*

*\*Blue school cardigan or jumper*

# Tiny Ants



Our Tiny Ants 'star of the week' is **Kolbie B**  
for becoming more independent!



This week in Tiny Ants we have been reading the story of *The Gingerbread Man*. We made our own playdough and used the rolling pins and cutters to make our own gingerbread men. We sang the special song "Run, run as fast as you can; you can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"



We then created an amazing piece of artwork by printing with lots of colours and different sized shapes! We have also been trying so hard practising lining up! Well done Tiny Ants 😊



# Nursery

This week in Nursery we have been focusing on the story 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. We have acted out the story and taken turns being the troll under the bridge and the goats walking across the wooden bridge, whilst saying the repeated phrase, "Who's that trip trapping across my bridge?"



Additionally, we have worked hard understanding the language of size through ordering the goats from smallest to largest and being able to label which goat is 'small', 'medium' and 'large'.



On the creative table we have created our own goat collages and have painted green trolls with sponges. We have also continued to develop our cutting skills daily, and Nursery are now amazing at writing their names on their pieces of work!

# Reception

This week in Reception we have enjoyed taking full advantage of the beautiful weather and have participated in lots of outdoor learning. We have enjoyed creating our own outdoor spa, making lilac and mint water using bubble bath to create relaxing and beautiful aromas.



We have also enjoyed creating a class story for literacy. Exploring and understanding the different structures of a story, such as a beginning, characters, events, and endings.

Thank you, Reception, for another wonderful week.



# Year 1

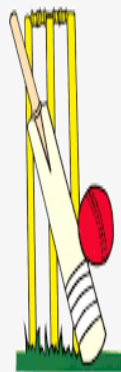
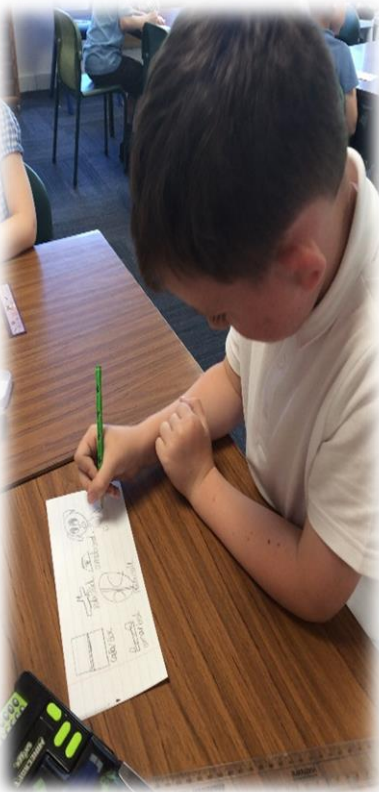
This week in RE, we learnt the names of the disciples and how they spread the good news that Jesus had risen! The children had a go at spreading their own message, in a game of Chinese whispers. In PE, we have been developing our ball skills. The children practiced their under and overarm throwing and reactions and batting skills, before playing a cricket match. The children have been working incredibly hard in class to recall their speedy sounds – keep up the good work Year 1. You are shining!



# Year 2

This week, Year 2 have had a fantastic time. In Spanish, we've been busy learning how to say commands like: *sit, roll, lie down, run, stand still, and paw* — all to help us talk about our favourite furry friends! In Maths, we've been diving to make fractions and developing our understanding through fun, hands-on activities. It's been wonderful to see the children building confidence with this tricky topic. During PE, the sunshine has seen us enjoying games of cricket and tennis. The children have shown great enthusiasm and sportsmanship on the field.

**Well done, Year 2 — you've had a brilliant week!**



# Year 3

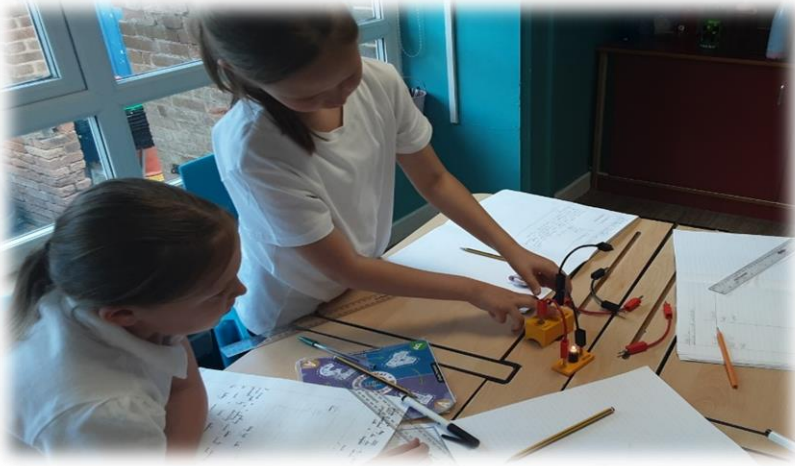
Year 3 enjoyed a school trip to the Botanical Gardens this week. We explored a range of trees and flowers, and got to hold some exotic creatures including: snakes, African snails, stick insects, cockroaches, a bearded dragon and a lizard!



# Year 3 continued...

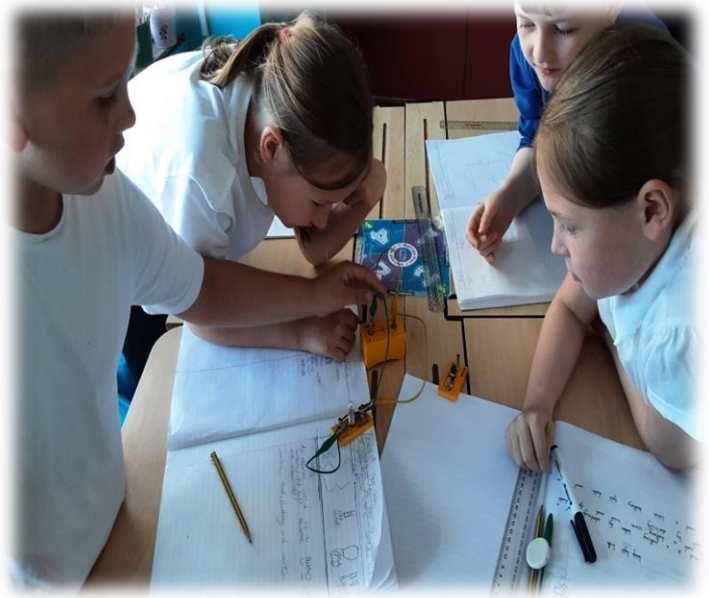


# Year 4



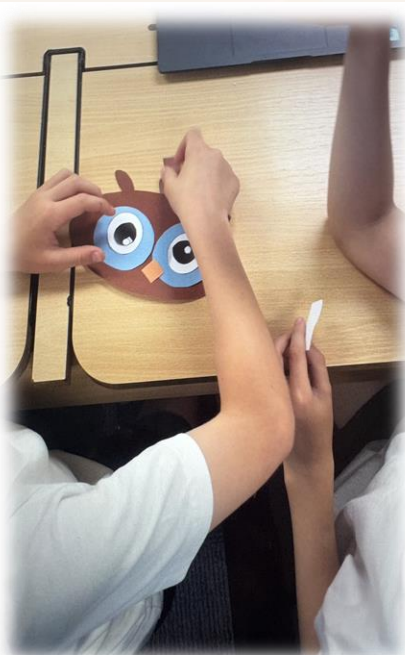
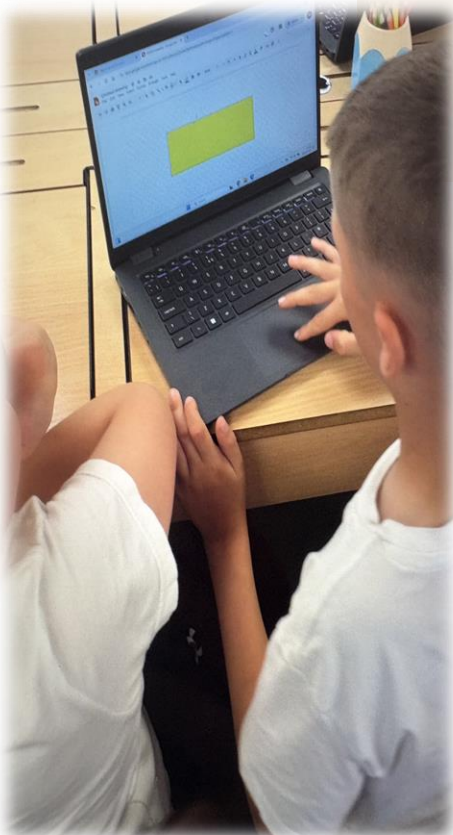
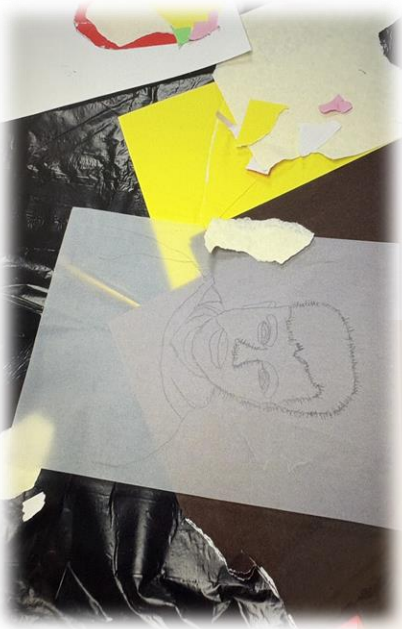
*In Year 4 we have been very busy!*

*In Science we have been learning all about electricity. This week we looked at conductors and insulators; we built our own simple circuits and experimented with different materials to see if electricity travelled through.*



# Year 5

Year 5 have had a fun-filled and creative week. In Art, they used their artistic skills to create vibrant backdrops for their self-portraits, experimenting with water-wash techniques and textured paper to produce beautiful collages. In Science, the children explored the parts of a flower through hands-on learning by carefully dissecting real flowers and identifying key components such as: petals, stamens, and pistils. Meanwhile, in Computing, they have been learning all about vector drawing and had the opportunity to create their own digital illustrations using Google Drawings; developing skills in shape manipulation, layering, and design.



## Year 6

*Congratulations to our wonderful Year 6s who completed their SATs this week. You have worked so hard and given your all. We are super proud of you!*



**WELL DONE!**

# Ward End Fire Station's Open Day

**Ward End Fire Station**  
**OPEN DAY**  
22nd June 2025 11 am – 3 pm  
Come and join in the fun!

Activities include: Cakes, Friends, Groups, Fun, Face Painting & DJ, Games & Demo's, Rides, VR headsets, Refreshments, Stalls, Fun activities, Safety advice, Community stands.

Come and meet your local firefighters and see our fire engines!

**WMFS** West Midlands Fire Service  
Unity Hub  
Ward End Fire Station, Washwood Heath Road, B8 2HF  
www.wmfs.nf @WestMidsFire

We are excited to let you know that **Ward End Fire Station** will be holding a **Station Open Day** on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025** between **11:00am to 3:00pm** and we would love for your school community to be part of it! With only a few stations hosting open days this year, we wouldn't want your pupils and their families to miss out on what promises to be a fun and engaging day for all ages.

The event will include a range of interactive demonstrations, opportunities to meet firefighters, explore the fire engines, and take part in activities designed to both entertain and educate.

# Attendance



Our contact details are:

School email address: [office@st-anthonys.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-anthonys.solihull.sch.uk)

Telephone number: 0121 770 3168

*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.*

***Thank you to everyone that has made contact, it really saves a lot of time!***



*The children were very excited at the prospect of winning one of the new prizes today, which were all from the wish-lists that they made last half term!*

---

**Pharmacy First** can support families with minor illnesses and seven common conditions. If appropriate, they can also provide treatment without a prescription for seven common conditions and could be quicker than seeing a GP.

Community pharmacies are ideally placed to offer a more accessible and convenient choice to access healthcare services. This service takes away the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment and may help ensure children and staff get well and back to nursery/school/college as quickly as possible, potentially positively impacting attendance rates.

# Online Safety for Parents and Carers

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **MINECRAFT**



Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

#### GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

#### ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

#### PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

#### ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

#### CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

#### HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

#### TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

#### RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

#### PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

#### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

# Support for Parents and Carers



## TRANSITIONS (MANAGING CHANGE) WEBINAR

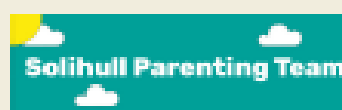
11TH JUNE 10-12PM  
OR  
12TH JUNE 6-8PM

COME AND MEET WITH THE MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS TEAM ONLINE (VIA MS TEAMS). WE WILL BE LOOKING AT HOW YOU, AS PARENTS/CARERS, CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD WITH MANAGING CHANGE AND PERIODS OF TRANSITIONS. THIS WILL BE A GENERALISED WORKSHOP, PROVIDING PSYCHOEDUCATION AND PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR YOU TO GO AWAY WITH.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND, PLEASE SIGNUP VIA THE QR CODE BELOW OR ALTERNATIVELY, LET US KNOW VIA EMAIL.



EMAIL: [bsmhft.parenting@nhs.net](mailto:bsmhft.parenting@nhs.net)





# ONLINE SAFETY WEBINAR

9TH JULY 10-12PM

OR

9TH JULY 6-8PM

COME AND MEET WITH THE MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS TEAM ONLINE (VIA MS TEAMS). WE WILL BE LOOKING AT HOW YOU, AS PARENTS/CARERS, CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD WITH STAYING SAFE ONLINE. THIS WORKSHOP WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH PSYCHOEDUCATION AND PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR YOU TO GO AWAY WITH.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND, PLEASE SIGNUP VIA THE QR CODE BELOW OR ALTERNATIVELY, LET US KNOW VIA EMAIL.



EMAIL: [bsmhft.parenting@hsh.net](mailto:bsmhft.parenting@hsh.net)



# Family Helpline

Early Help support for families  
and professionals in Solihull

**0121 788 4327**

Live from 3 March 2025

Available Monday-Thursday 09:00-16:30,  
Friday 09:00-16:00

Our dedicated team of duty workers support  
with topics such as:

- Parenting and family guidance
- School attendance and support in coordinating Early Help assessments and plans
- Signposting to local services such as Solihull Family Hubs
- Child behavioural issues and social development
- Health and emotional wellbeing
- Referrals to Family Support Workers

For safeguarding concerns, such as if a child is at risk of being harmed, call the Solihull Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0121 788 4300



Working  
for Children  
and Families  
in Solihull



**Solihull**  
METROPOLITAN  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# Support for Parents and Carers

Did you know Solihull now has a new Family Help Line?



This has launched to support families and the people around them. You can now call 0121 788 4327 for advice, information, strategies & support on things like:

- Parenting support
- Family conflict particularly because of difficulties managing children's behaviours
- Parents/carers needing support if they are struggling to get their child/ren into school and getting in trouble because of this
- Parents/carers struggling to manage their child's health, developmental or social needs (including mental health)

The team can offer:

- Signposting to services and what's on offer at the Family Hubs
- Referral to a Family Support Worker
- Advice and Support on the wider Early Help offer & how this works

**\*\* This is not a safeguarding or social work service, so if you are worried about a child being unsafe – please call the MASH on 0121 788 4300.**

According to Ofcom, 90% of children are watching online videos and browsing the internet regularly. Children may love to stream videos and look up information, it's a fun way to learn and relax after all but they must be guided. The e-space is filled with inappropriate content and dangerous material. It is important that parents and even teachers, are able to steer their pupils and youngsters, towards the right places when online. Internet Matters has published a guide dedicated to supporting adults in setting digital boundaries for children, so that they can make smart choices and build healthy online habits. In the Internet Matters guide you'll find practical tips on managing content access, the use of safety controls, advice on setting boundaries and ways to educate children on how to stay secure online. If interested please follow the link below:

[Browsing and watching online safely guide Internet Matters](#)

# Next week's menu ...

**FOOD FESTIVAL**  
by Aspens

# LUNCHTIME

TRADITIONAL  
Week 2

Spring Summer 2025  
28/04/25, 29/05/25,  
06/06/25, 30/06/25,  
21/07/25, 22/08/25,  
02/09/25, 22/09/25,  
11/10/25

**MAIN EVENT**

**MEAT-FREE MAGIC**  
Veggie Dish

**RAINBOW ALLEY**  
Vegetarian and Vegan

**BIG TOPPING**  
Pasta Sauce

**DESSERT TROLLEY**

**DAILY SANDWICHES AVAILABLE**

**DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, TOASTS AND CUT FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY**

**PASTA TWIRLER**  
AVAILABLE EVERY DAY  
Topped Pasta  
Hot Pasta topped with  
Homemade  
Tomato Sauce &  
Cheese

**MONDAY**

Beef Bolognese Pasta

Cheese and Potato Pie

Sweetcorn and Peas

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Jam Sponge and Custard

**TUESDAY**

BBQ Chicken Wraps and Paprika Wedges

BBQ Veggie Wrap and Paprika Wedges

Peas

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Banana Muffin

**WEDNESDAY**

Roast Gammon, Skin on Roasties and Gravy

Maple Roasted Sweet Potato Filo Pie with Skin on Roasties

Mixed Greens

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Daty Cornflake Crunch Bar

**THURSDAY**

Sausage and Mash with Gravy

Veggie Sausage and Mash

Carrots and Green Beans

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Apple Sponge Pudding with Custard

**FRIDAY**

Battered Fish and Chips

Cheese and Onion Burger with Chips

Baked Beans

Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo

Vanilla Cookie

W1

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!

# Lunchtime MUGA activities

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



## P.E Days

Week beginning Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May

Reception – Thursday

Year 1 – Monday and Thursday

Year 2 – Wednesday and Friday

Year 3 – **Wednesday and Thursday**

Year 4 – Monday and Tuesday (swimming)

Year 5 – Wednesday

Year 6 – Tuesday and Friday



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.



# Diary Dates



## Summer Term 2025

<u>When</u>	<u>Who?</u>	<u>What?</u>
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Whole school	Last day of half term for pupils
HALF TERM HOLIDAY: Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May		
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jun	Whole school	INSET DAY FOR STAFF – no pupils in school
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	Whole school	Return to school
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	Year 6	Alton Castle Meeting 3:30pm
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Reception	Trip to Hatton
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Year 3	First Holy Communion Mass 11am
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Whole school	Class photographs
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Year 6	Alton Castle residential
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Whole school	Whole school Mass led by Year 2 @ 9:30am
Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jul	Rec – Year 6	Sports Day
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 6	Trip to Drayton Manor
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Tiny Ants, Nursery and Reception	EYFS Summer picnic 1:15 – 3:00
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 1	Trip to Twycross Zoo
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Whole school	PTA Summer Fayre
Weds 16 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 6	Year 6 leavers Mass
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 6	PTA leavers event after school
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Whole school	Last day of the school year for pupils
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> Jul	Whole school	INSET DAY FOR STAFF – no pupils in school

## Term dates 2025 - 2026

	<b>Term starts</b>	<b>Half term</b>	<b>Term ends</b>
Autumn	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025	27 <sup>th</sup> Oct – 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Spring	5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Summer	13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	25 <sup>th</sup> May - 29 <sup>th</sup> May	20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

Inset days: 1<sup>st</sup> September, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 20<sup>th</sup> July  
plus two more dates TBC



# Head Teacher's Awards



# Congratulations!

**Reception** – Micah – for always persevering in all subjects, even if something is challenging.

**Year 1** – Cali – for being a ray of sunshine and always trying your best.

**Year 2** – Milia – for always showing resilience and completing your work with joy! 😊

**Year 3** – Patryk – for being a credit to St Anthony's and demonstrating superb knowledge of science on our school trip.

**Year 4** – Tate - for his improvements across the curriculum, and growing in confidence.

**Year 5** – Robyn – for always giving 100% in every subject.

**Year 6** - Year 6 – for all your hard work and determination during SATs week.

