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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 6th December 2024

This half term, we are growing to be intentional in the way we live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and prophetic in the example we set to others.



You miss 100% of the shots
you don't take.

Wayne Gretzky -Canadian ice hockey player



Advent



THE DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE WARMLY INVITES YOU TO SUPPORT OUR 2024 REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Throughout Advent, every child, young person and member of staff in a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Birmingham is invited to show their love and support for those in need by contributing at least one item to the diocesan Reverse Advent Calendar.

This year we are collecting toiletries which will be donated to Father Hudson's Caritas to support people living on the streets or those arriving new to the country as asylum seekers or refugees. Father Hudson's Caritas is desperately in need of the following items:

- ◆ Deodorant
- ◆ Body wash
- ◆ Sanitary products
- ◆ Toothpaste
- ◆ Toothbrushes

◆ ...or any other hygiene products you would like to donate

Please add an item or two to your weekly shop during Advent and add it to your school Reverse Advent Calendar.

Never tire of working for a more just world, marked by greater solidarity. -Pope Francis



Please send any donations into the school office.

PTA Page

Thank you to those who have sent in donations for the raffle. We have decided that in order to relieve pressure on families, we will postpone the raffle until next year. Any donations already received will be donated to a local foodbank or used to make hampers for those in need in our community.



If you would like to engage with our PTA, please scan the QR code to join our WhatsApp or Facebook groups. You can also email the PTA:
s84pta@st-anthonys.solihull.sch.uk

A decorative border of school supplies including books, pens, pencils, glue sticks, and scissors surrounds the central text.

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

Time to talk...

TAKEHOME



'TUESDAY NEWS DAY'

What does it mean to feel included?



This week we have learnt that the Football Association (FA) is trying to raise awareness of and participation in disability football through a strategy called 'Football Without Limits'.

Things you could talk about at home:

- Can you think of a time when you have felt like you belonged?
- What is it that makes someone feel included?
- Why is it important for people with a disability to have a safe and supportive space in which to play sport?

✕

Pope Francis says...

✕

✕

✕



Let us #PrayTogether that this #Jubilee2025 may strengthen our faith, help us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our daily lives, and transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Tiny Ants

This week we have been getting our room ready for Christmas.



Here we are, decorating the tree using our fingers to hook the baubles to the branches and wrapping strings of beads around to make it sparkle.



We used chunky chalks and large sheets of paper to draw Father Christmas saying "Ho ho ho"



We have made our own Christmas tree using sponges to print and Miss Hermon read us a Christmas story.



Nursery

This week in Nursery we have been focusing on The Christmas Story; we now know that Jesus was born on Christmas Day and Mary is Jesus's mother. We have supported our understanding on this through creating our own Nativity scene by using lolly sticks and cutting out the characters from the story. We have also created stars and angels with our yellow, glittery play dough and role-played the Christmas story with both the wooden and knitted Nativity characters. Nursery are also working hard on remembering the words 'Advent wreath' whilst also recognising the importance of the purple candle that is on our prayer table.



Reception



Lights, camera, action! After working hard during rehearsals and learning the words and actions to so many songs. The children in Reception finally performed their nativity to a live audience! As you can imagine performing in front of so many grown-ups, can be very overwhelming. However, I am sure you will agree the children were wonderful. We have some budding actors in our midst.



As we begin our Advent journey the classroom is turning into a winter wonderland. With Christmas trees, lights, and our very own stable in Bethlehem. The children are enjoying listening and participating in sensory stories about Advent and Christmas. They have even got to smell and feel real life frankincense and myrrh.



In maths we have been using our number knowledge and skills, to represent numbers up to five, and have also worked hard on forming our numbers correctly.



We continue to work hard in English reading and writing about some classic Christmas stories, such as "The Snowman" and "Elmer at Christmas." The children have generated very thoughtful discussions and pieces of writing.



Well done Reception
for another wonderful
week.

Well
DONE!



EYFS Nativity

Well done to all of our youngest children for their performances in the fabulous EYFS Nativity.

Thank you to the staff for all of their hard work and also to Miss Plum and Miss Barker, our amazing students, who came to our 2nd performance in their own time to support the children.



Year 1

In Year 1, Evil Pea was up to mischief! The pea trashed the classroom and took Elvis the Elf hostage. In English, the children used awesome adjectives to describe the characters in the story and created story maps before writing their own Christmas story inspired by Evil Pea. In class, we recreated the story and made villain masks to disguise our identities. In RHE, we have been learning about Christmas celebrations around the world. We learnt about an Italian story about an old woman called La Befana, who met the three wise men. The children made their own stage scenes and puppets before performing to the class.



Year 2

Year 2 have had an adventurous week. We started the week by putting our PE skills to the test at Infant Agility. We all cheered for our friends and tried our best 😊 On Wednesday, we wrapped up warm and visited the farm. We saw lots of animals and followed a shepherd on his journey to Bethlehem. A trailer ride, a grumpy innkeeper and two friendly donkeys later - we found Mary and Joseph in the stable and sang them one of our own Nativity songs 😊



Year 3

This week, Year 3 have performed persuasive speeches in English and made marmalade sandwiches for Paddington Bear to help us to write some instructions. In Maths we have been using arrays, recapping our times tables and sharing and grouping. In RE we created Jesse tree symbols and looked at Jesus' presence in the world today through exploring the Parable of the Sheep and Goats. In RHE we looked at Christmas traditions in Norway and created our own adventures for the Nisse, a mischievous elf who helps with Christmas preparations.



Year 4

In science, the children have been learning about digestion. This week, we learnt about the journey food takes once it enters our mouth and how it then leaves our bodies...that's right, we made poo!

The children started the process by mashing up Weetabix along with beans. Ask your child about the journey of food!

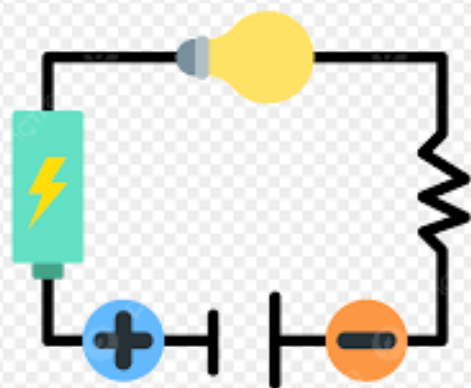
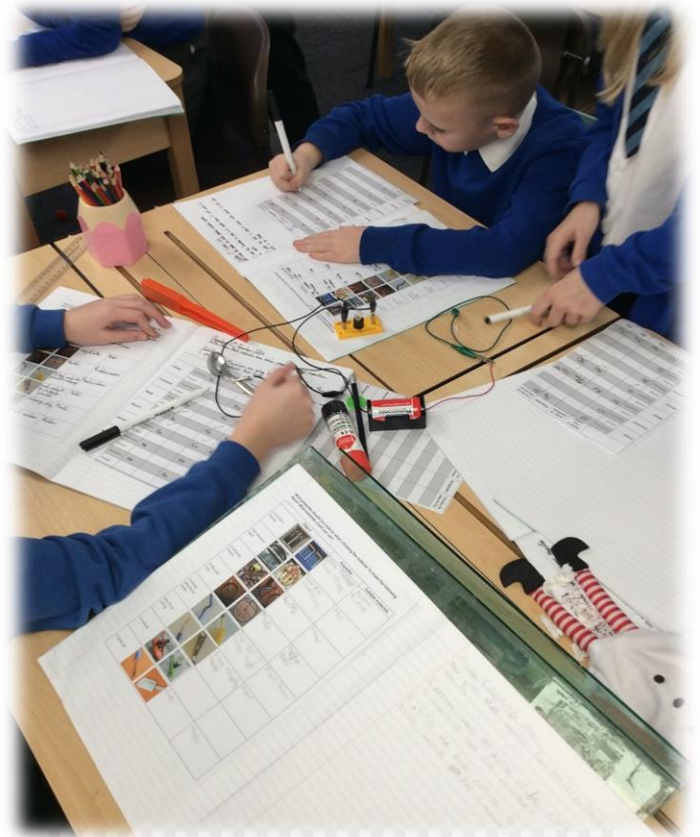


Year 5

This week Year 5 have shown what amazing swimmers they are. Mrs Martin was amazed when 9 children were moved up to the bigger and deeper pool! This just shows what determination and confidence Year 5 have.

In Science, the children have been experimenting with different materials and finding out their properties. They loved getting all of the circuit equipment out and testing the materials to find out if they were magnetic or not.

In Computing, Year 5 have been learning the techniques that are needed to be a fantastic videographer. They have really enjoyed performing and videoing on another.



Year 6

Year 6 are really enjoying their DT unit at the moment. We have been designing and making waistcoats for teddy bears. We first drew our designs, then prepared our fabric and we are now in the process of using our sewing skills to assemble our waistcoats. Look out for our finished products over the next couple of weeks.



Christmas Tree

St Anthony's staff decorated our Christmas tree after school this week and is on display in the hall. Thanks to Mr Dickenson for organising.



We would like to wish Miss Caffrey a very happy 60th Birthday for this weekend!



Parent Information

Free data for those who need it most. If you're struggling to stay connected, ask for the National Databank in any O2 store.

Data is essential to everyday life — from banking and job hunting to simply staying in touch. But many people in the UK are struggling to stay connected and access these vital services.

We co-founded the National Databank with the UK's leading digital inclusion charity, [Good Things Foundation](#). The National Databank provides free mobile data, texts and minutes to those living in data poverty. It's like a foodbank, but for mobile data. Drop by and see us and ask for the [National Databank](#) in any of our O2 stores.

Please follow this link for more information: [National Databank Free Mobile Data, Minutes & Calls](#)



Christmas Dinner Day is Wednesday 11th December

**Roast Turkey & Stuffing
or
Cheesy Cauliflower & Leek Puff Pastry
Wreath 🍷**

**Roasties, Xmas Vegetable Medley, Gravy &
Yorkshire Pudding**

**Christmas Tree White Chocolate Blondie
or
Mince Pie Crumble Bar**



Support for parents and pupils

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

When looking at options for supporting a child's mental health, the sheer volume can be overwhelming. There are many wellbeing apps available, but unfortunately not all are trustworthy. It's important to evaluate which resources are suitable, reliable and effective. This guide lets you know what to consider before installing such an app, to determine just how useful it's going to be.

QUALITY & RELIABILITY

Mental health apps can be a useful starting point when looking for wellbeing advice and strategies and can be a useful extension to the in-person services available. However, they aren't a substitute. Information on the quality of some of these apps is scarce. They may look cute and child-friendly, but have they been designed by a mental health professional? Furthermore, do they have research to back up their content?

PLACE RESPONSIBILITY ON CHILDREN

Some apps add the words 'kids' or 'children' to their title or use cartoon icons to make them more appealing to young people. When signing up for some of these apps, some will speak to the parent directly, saying something along the lines of "Your child is good to go. Let them take it from here". It's important to remain involved in the child's mental health journey, so regular check-ins are recommended.

DISREGARDING APPROPRIATE SUPPORT

Young people who feel anxious and have trouble sleeping may download a mindfulness app to help. While this is a good strategy initially, it's not addressing the root of the problem. A child could simply try managing these symptoms themselves (as opposed to speaking out and seeking professional help), which could potentially worsen their anxiety in the long run.

LACK OF PERSONALISATION

Mental health or wellbeing apps are useful tools for the short term, teaching users several helpful habits to manage their condition – such as keeping an illness diary, improving nutrition and practising mindfulness exercises. As every person is unique – and children especially will grow and develop in different ways – these apps struggle to tailor themselves to users' individual needs. For example, many apps don't distinguish between the ages of users and can offer extremely generic advice.

DATA SECURITY

As with any other app – not just those for mental health and wellbeing – it's wise to check out the privacy policy before downloading it. Some of these applications may share data with third parties for numerous reasons (such as targeted advertisements), and if a user is sharing personal and sensitive information within the app, they probably don't want it ending up elsewhere without their consent.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Many apps will provide their most basic features for free but will require you to pay for other aspects – such as a more tailored experience or access to additional resources. This could be a one-off fee or a regular subscription. Consider whether this is actually required. Is it benefiting the child, or could they receive the same support from a medical professional?

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK THE CREDIBILITY OF THE APP

Before you download a mental health and wellbeing app, investigate the developers. Have they consulted with qualified mental health professionals to create their resource? Also check whether the app is affiliated with any government or mental health organisations, as these are solid indicators of legitimacy. Reviews can also be a useful signpost to the app's quality. There are many good apps out there, but there are just as many that miss the mark.

SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

Trusted mental health and wellbeing apps designed by qualified, reputable organisations can be used alongside the personalised advice and support of fully trained professionals. These apps should never be considered a substitute for counselling or other tailored medical help. If you have real concerns about a child's mental wellbeing, you should seek appropriate advice from a suitable source, such as their GP – or Childline, who can be contacted by calling 0800 1111.

READ THE PRIVACY POLICY

Look into the app's terms of service – especially its privacy policy. Do so by yourself first, then go over it with the child who is considering using the app, to ensure they know what data will be collected and how exactly it will be used. Use all of this information to make an educated decision on whether or not to download that particular app.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Mental health and wellbeing apps can be useful for writing down feelings, tracking your own health and other such activities. These can help if the problem is short-term and temporary – such as a child getting stressed about approaching exams – or if you're currently waiting for professional support. Nonetheless, it is important that children aren't solely reliant on the app and have a safe space to talk about their feelings and experiences in the real world.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/mental-health-apps>

Next week's menu ...

FOOD FESTIVAL
By Aspens

LUNCHTIME

TRADITIONAL

Week 3

Autumn Winter
2024-25:
19/

	THE MAIN EVENT The Main Event	MEAT-FREE MAGIC Veggie Dish	RAINBOW ALLEY Vegetables and Salads	BIG TOPPING Filled Jackets	DESSERT TROLLEY
MONDAY	American Style Mac Cheese	Veggie Wholegrain Pasta Bolognese	Carrots	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Marble Cake
TUESDAY	Sausage Casserole and Mash	Vegetable Pot Pie and Mash	Roast Root Veggies	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Apple, Cinnamon Raisin Flapjacks
WEDNESDAY	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Carrot and Stuffing Pastry Plait	Peas and Sweetcorn	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Orange and Mango Jelly
THURSDAY	Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice	Mild Veggie Bean Chilli Loaded Wedges with Cheese	Broccoli	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Banana Bread Muffins
FRIDAY	Golden Fish Fingers and Chips	Vegetable Fingers and Chips	Baked Beans	Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Gingerbread Cookies

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

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

T1

Our catering providers no longer offer sandwiches or cold lunches as an option. The main menu will be available, alongside jacket potatoes and pasta offered every day. Please remember to book your child's menu in advance.

Information for Parents and Families

When can my child return to school?

Chicken pox

Five days from the onset of a rash and all the spots have crusted over



Conjunctivitis

No need to stay off, but school or nursery should be informed



Diarrhoea and vomiting

48 hours from the last symptoms



Glandular fever

No need to stay off, but school or nursery should be informed



Flu

When recovered



Hand, food and mouth

No need to stay off, but school or nursery should be informed



Head lice

No need to stay off, but school or nursery should be informed



Impetigo

When lesions are crusted and healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotics



Measles or German Measles

4 days from onset of rash and recovered from other symptoms



Mumps

5 days after swelling



Scabies

After first treatment



Scarlet Fever

24 hours after starting antibiotics



Slapped cheek

No need to stay off, but school or nursery should be informed



Threadworms

No need to stay off, but school or nursery should be informed



Tonsillitis

No need to stay off, but school or nursery should be informed



Whooping cough

48 hours after starting antibiotics



Mighty Ants current prices

Mighty Ants phone number:
07979 724 262



We are now offering child-led support for children and young people aged 5-16 who have experienced domestic abuse.



Call our **Solihull Community Outreach** on **0121 722 2142** to self-refer or email **solihull.admin@bswaid.org** 10am - 4pm Monday to Friday



For hard of hearing: Text service 18001 0808 800 0028
bswaid.org @bswaid

Birmingham & Solihull Women's Aid

	Old Price	September 2024 Price
Breakfast Club	£6.00	£6.00 - NO CHANGE
After School 3.15pm-4.15pm	£6.00	£7.00
After School 3.15pm-5.15pm	£7.00	£8.00
After School 3.15pm- 6pm	£8.00	£10.00

Help & Support for Parents

Evergreen - Kingshurst



Opening hours

- ▶ Monday - 09:00-17:00
- ▶ Tuesday - 09:00-17:00
- ▶ Wednesday - 09:00-17:00
- ▶ Thursday - 09:00-17:00
- ▶ Friday - 09:00-17:00

Address

- ▶ [42 Kingshurst Way, Kingshurst, Solihull, B37 6DX](#)

Timetable

- ▶ [2024](#)

Contact us

- ▶ evergreen@colebridge.org
- ▶ 0121 779 1724



Evergreen Family Hub



We are here to help, Monday to Friday.

The people working in the Family Hub will work in partnership with you and your community. They will help you find and get help from different services in the area and will be able to give you information, advice and support.

Family Hubs are open to everyone. You may need to book an appointment to access some services, but there will always be a safe space available for you if you need it.

Alternatively, you call us on 0121 779 1724 or email evergreen@colebridge.org

Please scan the QR to download our new app to see what is on in the hubs each day.



Scan here for the app store.



Scan here for the google play store.

Wherever you live in the borough, you will be able to get help from one of our hub buildings, outreach services and/or digital support.

Who might you meet in the Family Hub?

The people working in the Family Hub will be from the Council, Colebridge Trust, NHS and other partners, all working in partnership with you.

There are diverse services such as Midwives, Health Visitors, Community Nursing, support for children with additional needs, information and advice services such as Citizen's Advice Bureau, activities for children and young people, mental health and welfare support services.

We can connect you to various local community services as needed.

Help with the cost of living.

Family Hubs assist in accessing emergency food, fuel, and toiletries. Contact the Family Hub Team for support in obtaining help from the Council and specialist teams. You can also visit [Here2Help \(solihull.gov.uk\)](http://Here2Help.solihull.gov.uk) or call the Solihull Connect service 0121 704 8001. Each Hub has "warm spaces" for a free hot drink during your visit.

Wellbeing & Advice

Midwifery

Please call your midwife using the number in your red book.

Health Visiting

To speak to a Health Visitor, text Chat Health on 07507 332563 (9.00am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday). If your child is unwell, please see your GP, ring 111, or if it is a medical emergency, please ring 999.

Women's Aid

If you or someone you know needs support, call 0808 800 0028. The helpline is open 7 days a week, 9.15am – 5.15pm.

Mental Health Support

The Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust provide help, guidance and reassurance to people of all ages, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call 0800 915 9292 / 0121262 3555.

Winter uniform

REMINDER: This half term, children from Reception to Year 6 **MUST** wear winter uniform (this includes a shirt and tie and **NOT** polo shirts).

Girls' Uniform - Winter

Grey skirt, white blouse (with tie) royal blue school cardigan or sweatshirt, white socks, grey, white or black tights, and black shoes. Girls can choose if they wish to wear grey school trousers (not fashion trousers). Leggings are not permitted.

Boys' Uniform - Winter

Grey trousers, white shirt (with tie) and school royal blue V-necked sweatshirt, and black shoes.



All children are expected to wear school uniform.

Please ensure all clothing is marked with your child's name.

- Dangling earrings, rings or necklaces are not allowed to be worn as they present a health and safety risk.
- Stud earrings and a wrist watch are the only jewellery items which may be worn, except when taking part in P.E. lessons. Please keep in mind that should you wish to have your child's ears pierced, the start of the summer holidays is the best time as it give their ears time to heal before the start of term.
- Long hair must be tied up on all occasions with discrete bobbles and ribbons.
- **Nail varnish, transferable tattoos and makeup are not permitted.**
- Excessive haircuts are not permitted i.e. tram lines, designs shaved in to his/her hair. **Trainers or black trainers are not permitted however children can change into trainers at lunch time.**



School Keep Clear
**No Stopping,
No Excuses**

Disappointingly we are still witnessing a number of adults not adhering to parking rules outside school. Under no circumstances should cars be pulling up outside the gate on Schofield Road to drop off pupils in order to ensure the safety of all of our pupils.



Diary Dates



These dates will updated each week and newly added events / any changes will be highlighted in yellow.

Date and Time	Year Group	Event
Weds 11 th Dec	Whole school	Christmas dinner and jumper day
Thurs 12 th Dec 9:30am	Y1 – Y6 and parents	Mass for the anniversary of Jack Johnson
Fri 13 th Dec	Year 1 and Year 2	KS1 Nativity 2:15pm
Tues 17 th Dec	Whole school	Whole School Mass 9:30am – Year 3 leading
Thurs 19 th Dec	Year 3 – 6	Christmas Carol concert 1:45pm in church
Fri 20 th Dec	Whole school	Polar Express Day – all pupils are invited to wear their pyjamas to school.
Fri 20 th Dec	Whole school	End of Autumn term

Applying for School Places

Applying for Reception Class 2025

If you live in Solihull you should apply online at www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions.

You can apply for up to five schools including faith schools and academies. They can be in Solihull, or in another council area. You must rank the schools in order of preference.



Diary Dates



These dates will updated each week and newly added events / any changes will be highlighted in yellow.

Term Dates 2025

Mon 6 th Jan	Whole school	Pupils return to school – start of Spring Term
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
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

Mon 2 nd 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

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)

P.E Days

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

Week beginning Monday 9th December

Reception – **Friday**

Year 1 – Tuesday

Year 2 – Friday

Year 3 – Friday

Year 4 – **Thursday**

Year 5 – **Monday** and Tuesday (swimming)

Year 6 – Thursday



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 or pasta but this is time-consuming for staff so please make every effort to pre-order.



Head Teacher's Awards



Congratulations!

Reception – Michal – For being so resilient with changes during our Nativity.

Year 1 – Millie Jai – For being a joy to teach and always being kind to others.

Year 2 – Andrew – For representing our school perfectly and demonstrating enthusiasm on our school trips.

Year 3 – Jayden – For being a great role model, always being kind, making everyone smile and giving 100% to everything you do.

Year 4 – Harley – For always contributing in every lesson, working so hard and being a joy to teach.

Year 5 – Joaquin – For always being so inquisitive and being engaged in all lessons.

Year 6 – Aara-Jasmine – For her determination and focus – always believe in yourself!

Mr K Scanlon, Head of School

