

Tel: 0121-770 3168

Fax: 0121-778 0911

@StAnthonysSch

E-mail: 84office@st-anthonys.solihull.sch.uk

Executive Head Teacher: Mr C. Flaherty

Head of School: Mr K Scanlon



Our Lady and All Saints

Catholic Multi Academy Company

Strong in Faith

St Anthony's Catholic Primary School

Fordbridge Road,

Kingshurst,

Birmingham

B37 6LW

Friday 1st March 2024

*This half term, we are growing to be more faith-filled in our beliefs;
and hopeful for the future.*



Barack Obama – 44th American president



The best way to not feel hopeless is to get up and do something. Don't wait for good things to happen to you. If you go out and make some good things happen, you will fill the world with **hope**, you will fill yourself with **hope**.



It has been another busy week here at St. Anthony's!

On Wednesday we celebrated one of the most important events in our school year – Year 6

Confirmation. We welcomed Bishop David into school to talk to the children ahead of the mass and the staff were so incredibly proud of how articulate the pupils were in talking about their Confirmation preparation. The mass itself was a wonderfully reverent occasion and a huge 'thank you' has to go to the huge number of staff from across all year groups who gave up their evening to support the Year 6 pupils. We can't wait to witness our Year 6 pupils showing the fruits of the Holy Spirit in school.

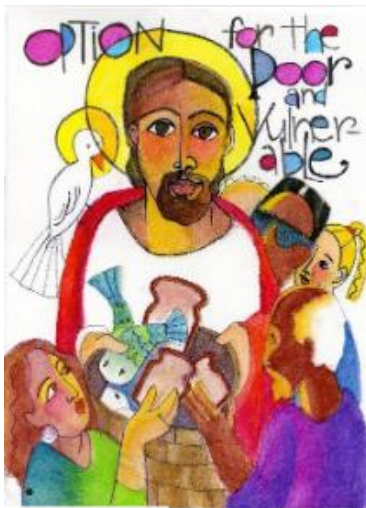


We are now in the season of Lent and in assembly this week, the children were reminded of their mission to pray, fast and give from now until Easter.

We welcomed Margot from **Fr. Hudson's** into school on Wednesday to tell children about this year's '**Good Shepherd**' appeal. Each child came home with a bag to fill with any 'loose' change you may have and is also imprinted with a QR code to make donations online.



Another way that we are hoping to 'give' at St. Anthony's is through the children completing sponsored events. On Monday, each child will bring home a sponsorship form for wither a sponsored '**Bunny Hop**' in aid of the Birmingham Hospice in EYFS and KS1; or for CAFOD's '**Big Lent Walk**' in Y3 – Y6.



Whilst we are hopeful that this will enable us to live out the Catholic Social Teaching of showing love towards the poor and vulnerable through your generous donations, we do not want our families to feel that you are under any pressure to donate financially if you are not in a position too. Your prayers can be just as powerful!



It is with sadness that we today bid a fond 'farewell' to **Mrs Mathews** who works in our school office. Whilst she has only been with us for a short time, we are sure that you will agree that she very quickly became a well-liked member of our St. Anthony's family and we are very grateful to her for the hard work and dedication that she has shown. We wish her all the very best as she returns to work in the automotive industry – she will be much missed here at St. Anthony's.



This week's achievements!



Last Friday, 20 of our Year 5 and 6 pupils competed in the Indoor Athletics Competition. The competition was fierce, but the atmosphere was electric. The children took part in track and field events and cheered each other on in true St Anthony's style.

We are proud to announce that the team took 1st place in the small school athletics category and will now go on to compete against county. Whoop! Go Team!!!

On Monday, some of our Year 4 pupils took part in a Maths competition at Kingshurst Primary. Again, they performed fabulously across the individual and team events and we are all very proud of them!



Last but not least, a huge 'well done' to Miss Otis' Y1 and 2 gymnasts who competed in their KS1 competition on Thursday. Training begins early in the year for the squad to learn a floor routine and perfect their vault. The team were incredible and performed with confidence, poise and above all had fun. I am proud to say that the team won GOLD which was very well deserved. Well done team.



National 'Tell A Fairy Tale' day

Miss Carson led a wonderful assembly on Monday to celebrate 'Tell A Fairy Tale' day. The children were so enthused afterwards that an incredible 29 pupils went away and wrote a fairy tale of their own! Thank you to:



Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Elsie	Ava-Mae	Ciaran	Chaney	Cole	Ana
Lincoln	Gabija	Alfie	Edie-Pearl	Hope O	Freddie
Jiyaa	Joseph	Harlow	Maya	Jessica-	Goda
Nancy	Vivienne	Harry K	William	Leeigh	
	Ivy	Harvey		Zara	
	Ezra	Nevaeh			
		Rosie-May			
		Willow			

Miss Carson was so impressed that she bought all of these children a prize! We can't wait to share the children's stories with their friends on World Book Day (we're particularly excited to listen to Ciaran from Y3's story as it features our very own Mr. Scanlon as an ogre!)





We have had such a busy week in **Tiny Ants** learning all about 'Who made that noise?'; focusing on farm animals. We've had a messy sensory tray with our farm animals in and the children loved rescuing the pigs from the sticky mud.



The children also made bird feeders to hang on our tree so we could listen to the birds. We have been playing lovely listening games where the children got to guess the farm animal based on their noises and they were all fantastic!



We've also been playing some Kagan games where the children had to find the same animal as they had and shout "PAIR".



Tiny Ants staff would also like to remind parents we are holding a collective worship on **Monday 4th March** at 11:30-11:45am for morning children and 2:30-2:45pm for all day/afternoon children. Unfortunately we have to limit spaces to 1 family member only.



Nursery have had a fantastic week, exploring jungle animals.



We used our listening skills to identify the animal sounds and investigated different animal prints.



Last week children had a lot of questions about bees and honey. We explored this interest further and children baked cakes made from honey and created bee hives.





This week,
Reception's
focus animal has
been a lion, so we
have been learning
all about them! We
have even 'turned
into' lions by
making our own
lion masks.



On Monday, it was National Fairy Tale day and we celebrated this by creating our own fairy tale during circle time. The children had some really creative ideas and loved re-telling our fairy tale with actions.



In Maths, we have moved on from exploring length and have started to learn more about height. We had lots of fun finding friends that were the same height as us and seeing who was the tallest in class.



In Art, the **Year 1** children have been painting pictures inspired by the painting 'Jesus In The Wilderness' by Britton Rivière.



The children thought carefully about the colours they used, thinking about the shade and tone of each colour.



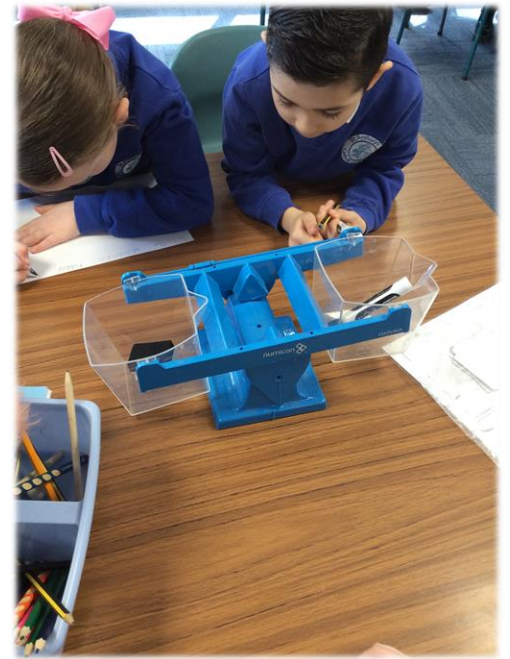
In PE the children have had great fun using the equipment and demonstrating new skills that they have learnt.



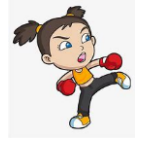
In computing the children have been working hard to programme their robot, thinking about the direction they would like it to go in!
We've had an amazing week in Year 1



Year 2 have had a lovely, productive week. We have been measuring the mass of different objects in Maths. We are getting used to using the language 'heavier', 'lighter' and 'the same as' when comparing the mass of different objects.

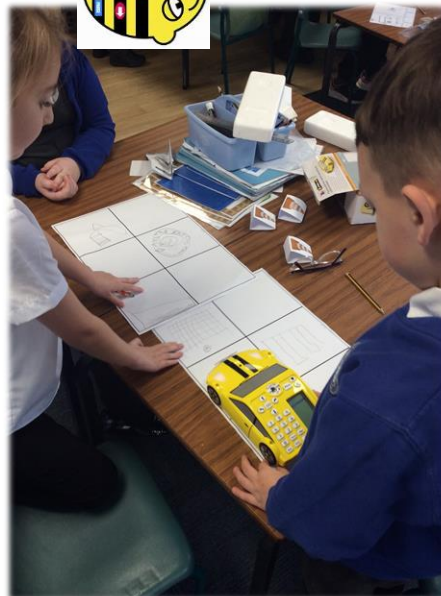


In PE, we have started our new topic of Muay Thai which children have been excelling in and really enjoying. Get them to show you their stance at home!



In Computing, we have been learning about robot algorithms and have had the BeeBot's out giving them different instructions.

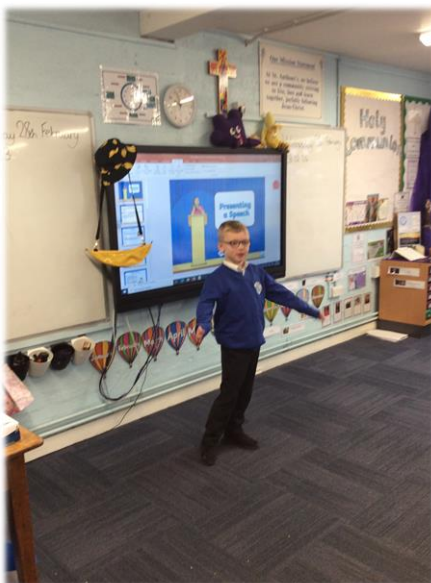
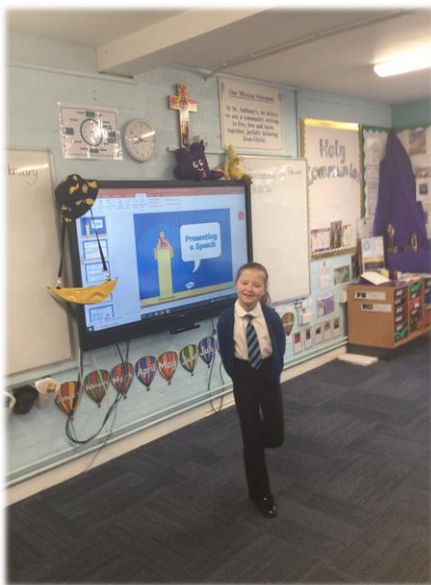
Well done for such an amazing week, Year 2 😊



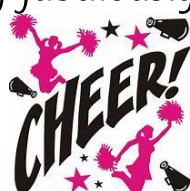
This week **Year 3** have been exploring what colours they could make using paint.



We have checked the growth of our plants (still nothing) and enjoyed some public speaking practice before we performed our amazing presentations on animals from Africa and Antarctica.



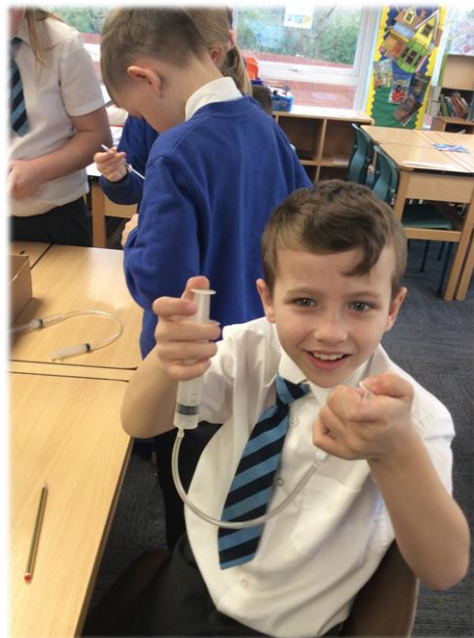
Also a huge well done to the girls who attended cheerleading! The routine is coming along fabulously!



This week **Year 4** began their new design and technology project! This term we are learning about pneumatics. The children explored different pneumatic systems, experimenting with syringes, tubing and balloons to lift different materials.

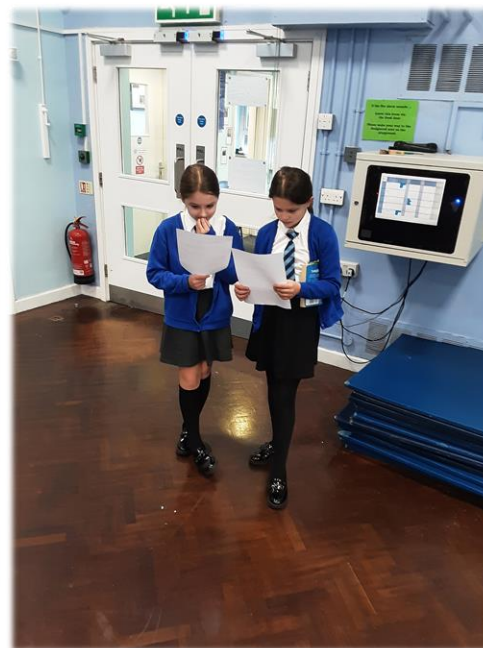


Design & Technology

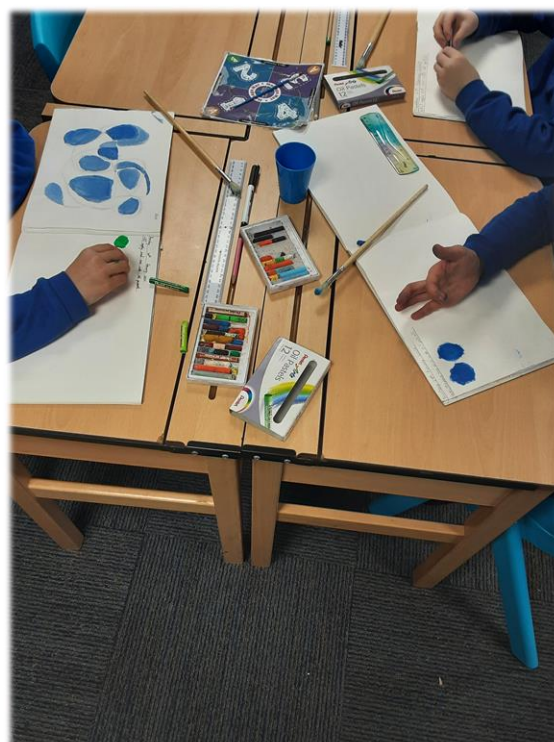


In English we have started our new text *The Eye of the Wolf*, written by Daniel Pennac. The children had a brilliant debate about zoos and produced some beautiful, emotive writing from the wolf's perspective when he was trapped in the cage.

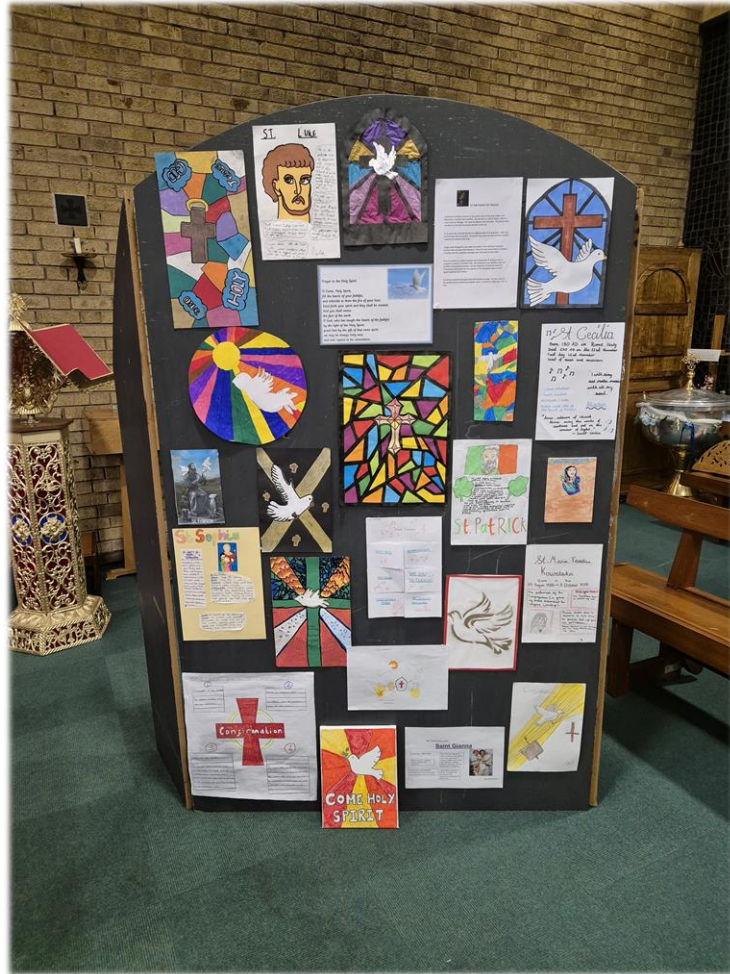
This week, **Year 5** have been continuing to explore 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'. We have explored play scripts focusing on Lucy and Mr Tumnus; we are really enjoying our adventure into



In Art, we have been using oil pastels to shade. We have also tried to make lighter shades using oil.



Year 6, your work on Confirmation and your chosen saints looked wonderful in church on Wednesday night.



Congratulations to our Confirmanti on receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation; and 'thank you' to their classmates for their amazing support.





TINY ANTS

TINY ANTS – NEW FUNDING FOR PLACES FROM EASTER

Do you have a child who will have turned two by Easter this year (31st March 2024)? If so, due to changes to the Government's childcare support, they should be eligible for 15 hours free childcare from Easter. If they turn two during the Summer term, they will be eligible for 15 hours free child care from September.

Following this new funding announcement, we are already receiving applications for places in Tiny Ants for the Summer term (beginning after the Easter holidays) and for September.

If you are interested in securing a place in Tiny Ants for your child, we would ask you to contact us **immediately** as we expect a high demand and we have a limited number of places.



- Board games

- Toys

**Welcoming
donations**



- Game consoles

We are looking for some kind donations of unwanted board games, toys and game consoles for our before and after school club.

We ask that these are in good, usable condition with no missing pieces please.





Well done to the boys who beat the girls in this weeks battle. The overall most valuable players were:



	MVP	2 nd MVP	3 rd MVP
Boys	Karson Y4	Freddie Y6	Joaquin Y4
Girls	Harlow Y3	Gracie Y5	Lois Y5

Whilst only these children were awarded with a certificate in assembly today, we also wanted to congratulate the 'most valuable players' in each year group too:

	MVPs	2 nd MVPs	3 rd MVPs
Year 2	Patryk & Ivy	Ezra & Ngoc Anh	Yoan & Kacey
Year 3	Ciaran & Harlow	Harvey & Lily-Mai	Malakai & Williwow
Year 4	Karson & Everleigh	Edie-Pearl & Joaquin	Oliver & Freya
Year 5	Ciaran & Gracie	Leo & Lois	George & Esther
Year 6	Freddie & Daisy	Kyle & Ana	Bobbie & Alexa-Jai



NUMBOTS



Congratulations to **Jiyaa** in Year 1 who completed the next stage on her story map this week.



Attendance Matters



The winner of this week's attendance raffle is **McKenzie** in **Year 3**.

Don't forget...

WORLD BOOK DAY[®]

7 MARCH 2024

On Thursday we would like children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. The children will then tell their friends a little bit about the book that their character features in.

There will be prizes for the most original / thoughtful / creative costumes so please don't feel pressured to go out and purchase a shop-bought outfit.

Don't forget to spend your £1 book token too...here are just a few of the books that you could choose from this year.



ELMER AND THE PATCHWORK STORY
WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY: David McKee
PUBLISHER: Andersen Press



MARV AND THE ULTIMATE SUPERPOWER
WRITTEN BY: Alex Falase-Koya
ILLUSTRATED BY: Paula Bowles
PUBLISHER: Oxford University Press



CAN YOU GET JELLYFISH IN SPACE?
WRITTEN BY: Dr Sheila Kanani
ILLUSTRATED BY: Liz Kay
PUBLISHER: Puffin Books



This week's online safety support...

Top Tips for Supporting Children Who Are EXPERIENCING BULLYING

In a DfE survey, 36% of parents said that their child had been bullied in the past year, while 29% of secondary school headteachers reported bullying among students. Public Health England states that young people who maintain positive communication with their family were less likely to experience bullying – so it's important that parents, carers and educators know how to talk to children about bullying.

1. WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES

Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or anxious; however, they may also act on the pain and anger that they're feeling. A shift in attitude towards their existing friends (or not mentioning them any more at all) or alluding to new friendships which seem notably different could also be warning signs. It's important to be alert to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.

2. THINK THINGS THROUGH

Before acting, ask yourself if this is the right time and place to address concerns about bullying. Might your worries trigger strong feelings – perhaps from your own experiences – that could discourage your child from opening up to you? You could try discussing what you've noticed with another trusted adult who knows your child well.

3. BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING

Try to outline to your child the changes that you've noticed in their body language, appearance, behaviour, or tone of voice – and do so without sounding judgemental. Help them to describe what they're feeling – be it anger, sadness, fear or something else – as accurately as possible. If they say they're "angry", do they mean "enraged" or "frustrated"? This will help them to understand how they're feeling and why.

4. LET THEM SPEAK FREELY

Use open questions and a welcoming tone to encourage your child to talk. Listen closely and summarise what they've said at appropriate points (ideally without interrupting) to demonstrate that you're understanding clearly. Bullying may have undermined your child's sense of control, and they may fear that you'll judge them, overreact or impose consequences – so this conversation can reassure them being honest with you was the right decision.

5. CALL A TIME OUT

A conversation about bullying could leave both you and your child feeling distressed. It's important to recognise this and pause at suitable moments to calm down. Take deep breaths, enjoy a hot drink or even have a cathartic cry. This can reinforce trust, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.

6. STAY INFORMED

Make sure you know your child's school's definition of, response to and relevant contacts for bullying. This information should be in their anti-bullying policy, which ought to be available on the school's website. Class teachers or form tutors are usually the first point of contact, though there may be dedicated support teams or key workers to help your child, depending on the specific situation.

7. PREP YOUR CHILD FOR THE RESPONSE

Schools' responses to bullying vary depending on whether they're resolving disagreements and arguments, or addressing unintended verbal or physical harm and so on. It's important to work out with your child whether any harm was intentional, how much control they had over the situation and how often such incidents have occurred. Reporting concerns accurately will get the best outcome for your child more quickly.

8. SUMMARISE YOUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE

When you contact the school, make sure you've precisely described what your child experienced: what happened; when; where; and who was involved. This will help the school to investigate further, identifying any witnesses, as well as those who were directly involved. It can also help the school to know how your child is feeling and how they'd like the matter to be resolved.

9. LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL

Any school has a duty to ensure that the members of its community feel safe and included. It's important for children to learn their role in this. The school must determine how best to restore these feelings of safety and respect. It's often best for schools to keep parents and carers informed of any action taken – and for families to avoid taking matters into their own hands.

10. CHECK IN FREQUENTLY

Once the issue has been resolved and the bullying behaviour has stopped, your child may still feel anxious and might find it difficult to rebuild relationships or develop new ones. Parents, carers and the school should all keep an eye on how the child is feeling and acting over the following months. Any relevant information should be shared, so that further support can be planned if necessary.

Meet Our Expert

Bob Basley is the Director of Anti-Bullying Quality Mark-UK, which challenges and supports schools to develop sustainable whole-school approaches to prevent bullying, including working with parents and carers. More than 80 schools in England and Wales currently hold the quality mark.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/788046/survey_of_parents_and_carers_parents_of_children_experiencing_bullying.pdf

https://www.ncsl.org/education/anti-bullying/anti-bullying.html | https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/62079/health_bullying_in_school_age_children_cyberbullying.pdf

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PARENT WORKSHOPS



A reminder that **Reading** workshops for an adult to work with their child will take place on the following days:

Year 5	Thursday 14 th March 9am
Year 1	Thursday 21 st March 9am
Year 3	Thursday 11 th April 9am
Reception	Thursday 18 th April 9am
Year 2	Thursday 25 th April 9am

Year 5 will be leading mass on **Wednesday 6th March at 9:30am**. At the end of mass we will be presenting the Year 6 Confirmati with their certificates.

This will be followed by an end of term mass led by the Faith Ambassadors on **Friday 22nd March at 9:30am**

Parents / family members from all year groups are most welcome to join us.

On **Saturday 13th April at 4:30pm**

at St. Anthony's church, there will be a commitment mass for children in **Year 3**

who are due to make their First Holy Communion. All children are expected

to attend. The piety stall will be open to purchase cards and sacramentals if you wish – **but please be advised payments can only be made by cash (no cards / electronic payments)**.



Thank you to the parents who made contact to become part of our PTA steering group in response to the letter sent out in January. The group met today and all parents and staff are invited to attend the AGM to elect our new committee on **Friday 22nd March**. For more details please email the school office.

Can your child swim?

Swimming and Water Safety Breakfast Club

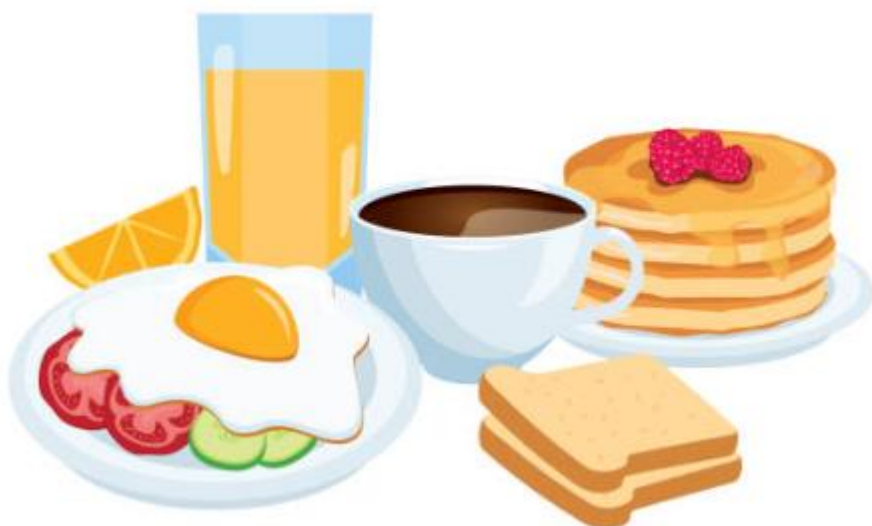
Free swimming lessons and free
breakfast before school.

21 February – 20 March 2024

North Solihull Leisure Centre, Thursdays 7:30am-8:00am.

If your child is a non-swimmer and is in Years 2-6, bring them to this session and they can benefit from a free breakfast too!

Email northsolihullactivities@everyoneactive.com
or visit reception to book your child's space



Looking to learn new skills or begin a career
in construction?

Kingshurst Village Centre Regeneration

Creating hands-on training opportunities in Kingshurst

Those looking to take their first steps into the construction industry can now benefit from free local training.

Find out how the [Kingshurst Construction Training Hub](https://yourvoicesolihull.uk/engagementhq.com/kingshurst-training) is offering local residents the chance to access high quality hands-on training with the aim of opening the door to future employment in the industry.

To register your interest today

visit: <https://yourvoicesolihull.uk/engagementhq.com/kingshurst-training>



Exciting opportunities in the Summer term...



Stratford-upon-Avon
College



Free and fun

St Anthony's have joined up with Solihull College to offer parents a number of free courses that we will hold onsite in the outside classroom. No bus fare, works around school drop off and pick up times, no cost.

Parent and Grandparents.

Storysacks-2 hours/5 weeks

Create a story sack full of fun activities.

Parents and grandparents of children in Y1 to Y6

All About Grammar-2 hours /4 weeks.

A really interesting and fun way for parents, carers and grandparents to learn more about the grammar their children or loved ones are learning at school.

Helping Your Child with English and Maths– 2 hours/10 weeks.

Come and join other parents in a relaxed and friendly environment to build your own confidence in supporting your child's learning at home. Fun and free resources.

Parents and grandparents of children in Y3 to Y6

Keeping Up with your children-2 hours for 12 weeks.

Learn more about the key skills that children need to develop. Explore ways to support your child in reading, writing and maths with other parents who are interested in helping their children too.

We are looking to start after Easter perhaps the 8th of April. We will send out a google form to see which course will be held first which will depend on how many parents and carers respond to the form.

Other courses may be available and can be discussed with college staff.

We would really like you to join in.

Primary School Menu

WEEK THREE

Fresh

Dates: 20th November, 11th December, 15th January, 5th February
4th March, 25th March

Monday

Bangers & Mash
With Gravy
Sweetcorn

Vegetable Hamburger
Sweetcorn
Potato Wedges

Dinky Donuts
With Chocolate Dip

Fresh Fruit Platter
Yogurts

Tuesday

Chicken Curry
with Rice

Cheese Panini with Roasted
Vegetables

Homebake -
Manchester Tart

Fresh Fruit Platter
Yogurts

Wednesday

Roast Beef
Roast Potatoes
Carrots
Green Beans

Tomato Pasta Bake
Carrots
Green Beans

Homebake - Oat
Cookies

Fresh Fruit Platter
Yogurts

Thursday

All Day Breakfast
Hash Round

Veggie All day breakfast
Hash Round

Homebake -
Chocolate Orange
Brownie & Custard

Fresh Fruit Platter
Yogurts

Friday

Jumbo Fish Finger
Chips
Baked Beans

Cheese & Tomato
Pizza
Chips
Baked Beans

Raspberry Ripple Ice
Cream Sponge

Fresh Fruit Platter
Yogurts

Available Daily

Home Baked Bread
Seasonal Salads



MSC-C-54995



Solihull
METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Good attendance means...

being in school at least 95% of the time or 180 to 190 days



Good attendance and punctuality are vital for success at school and to establish positive habits that are necessary for future success.

Through regular attendance pupils can:

- Build friendships
- Develop life skills
- Engage in essential learning and achieve their full potential

All parents / carers should promote good attendance and punctuality and work in partnership with the school.

Please note that unless we have a valid reason, we cannot authorise an absence. A specific reason as to why your child is absent is required. If leaving a voicemail or sending an email, please ensure that you give as much detail as possible as this allows us to code the absence correctly. Going forward, we will not accept reasons such as 'feeling under the weather' or 'they are not 100%' etc., we need specifics. Absence is monitored by on a weekly basis by Miss Watkins and an external agency and persistent absences will be addressed.



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
Mon 4 th March	Tiny Ants & Nursery parents	Collective Worship - 11am in the school hall
Weds 6 th March 9:30am	R – Y6	Whole school Mass – Year 5 leading
Thurs 7 th March	Whole school	World Book Day (pupils to dress as a character from a book)
Fri 8 th March	Reception parents	Collective Worship - 2:45pm in the school hall
Monday 11 th March	Year 6	Visit to Harvington Hall
Weds 13 th March 9 - 11am	Parents	Coffee morning for parents of pupils with ASD or those with pupils on waiting lists / completing referrals (INVITE ONLY)
Thurs 14 th March	Year 5 parents	Reading parent workshop – 9am in the school hall
Thurs 21 st March	Year 1 parents	Reading parent workshop – 9am in the school hall
Fri 22 nd March 9:30 am	R – Y6	Whole school Mass – Faith Ambassadors leading
Fri 22 nd March	All parents	New PTA AGM – all current parents and teachers are invited.
Fri 22 nd March	Whole school	Break up for Easter holidays
<u>Easter holidays</u> Mon 25 th Mar – Fri 5 th Apr		
Mon 8 th Apr	Whole school	Return to school
Thurs 11 th Apr	Year 3 parents	Reading parent workshop – 9am in the school hall
Sat 13 th Apr	Year 3	Commitment Mass for First Holy Communion 4:30pm at St. Anthony's Church
Mon 15 th Apr 9:30am	R – Y6	Whole school Mass – Year 4 leading
Thurs 18 th April	Reception parents	Reading parent workshop – 9am in the school hall



Diary Dates



Date and Time	Year Group	Event
Thurs 25 th April	Year 2 parents	Reading parent workshop – 9am in the school hall
Mon 6 th May	MAY BANK HOLIDAY (SCHOOL CLOSED)	
Fri 24 th May	Whole school	Break up for half term
Mon 13 th – Thurs 16 th May	Year 6	SATs week
<u>Half Term</u> Mon 27 th May – Fri 31 st May		
Mon 3 rd June	Whole school	Return to school
Weds 5 th – Fri 7 th June	Year 6	Alton Castle residential retreat
Mon 17 th June	Year 6	Visit to Oscott College
Thurs 20 th June am	Year 6	Visit NEC for Big Bang show
Sat 8 th June	Year 3	First Holy Communion Mass 11am
Fri 19 th July	Whole school	End of school year for pupils
Mon 22 nd July	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS	

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

Week beginning Monday 4th March:

Reception – **Wednesday**

Y1 – **Monday**

Y2 – **Tuesday**

Y3 – **Swimming on Tuesday, PE on Friday**

Y4 – **Tuesday**

Y5 – **Friday**

Y6 – **Wednesday**

PE days



Please remember that pupils need to come into school in their PE kits on these days, and they should be plain white t shirts (or those with the school badge on) and **PLAIN** black shorts/tracksuit bottoms/leggings.

Head Teacher's Awards



Congratulations!

Reception – Erin – For always making the right choices and shining like Jesus everyday.

Year 1 – Lincoln – For always shining like Jesus.

Year 2 – Lillie – For being a kind Kagan partner and always trying your best! 😊

Year 3 – Harley – For an amazing week and always making everyone smile!

Year 4 – Ruebee – For being a ray of sunshine and putting a smile on everyone's face.

Year 5 – Lilly-Mae – For always thinking of others before herself. Living out our school motto: 'Actions speak louder than words.'

Year 6 – Louie – For amazing, faith-filled responses when preparing for your Confirmation.

Mr K Scanlon, Head of School

