



Our Lady and All Saints
Catholic Multi Academy Company

Strong in Faith

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Executive Head Teacher: Mr C. Flaherty

Head of School: Mr K Scanlon

Friday 2nd February 2024

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



I don't want to live in the kind of world where we don't look out for each other. Not just the people that are close to us, but anybody who needs a helping hand. I can't change the way anybody else thinks, or what they choose to do, but I can do **my** bit.



Charles de Lint (author)

This week some of our gifted artists created images of Mary to be displayed at Bethany House – the home of our MAC, 'Our Lady and All Saints'.

Well done to Anna and Jiyaa (Y1), Gabija and Joseph (Y2), Eniwaju and Chaney (Y4), Harry and Hanna (Y5) and Goda and Jake (Y6) – we are sure you will agree that their masterpieces are fantastic!



Year 3 led us in a beautiful whole school mass today. It was lovely to see so many family members able to attend for this special feast day: The Presentation of the Lord. Today is also known as Candlemas so we took the opportunity to bless the candles that we will use in our collective worship this year.



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.

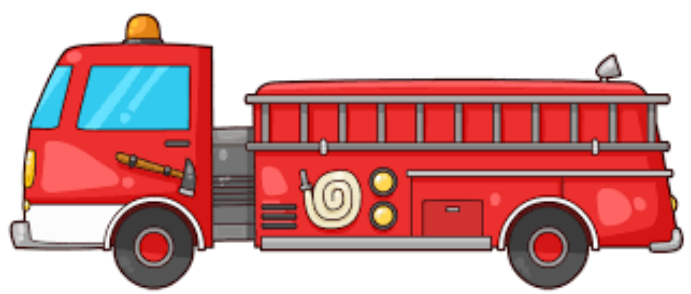
Following this new funding announcement, we are already receiving applications for places in Tiny Ants for the Summer term (beginning after the Easter holidays) and for September.

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.

This week has been very exciting for **Tiny Ants** as we were lucky enough to have a visit from our local fire station. The children loved learning all about the fire truck, the equipment they used and how they rescue people. Roman said "Hose is heavy", Sydney shouted "that siren is loud!" and Billy shared "fire hat". We even had some firefighter resources out in the classroom so the children could role play being fire fighters. We are also learning a colour and number of the week, the colour was orange and number was 1. The children colour mix yellow and red paint on their hand to make orange and mixed it into the water tray. Lastly we have loved the warmer weather and getting outside to make our own obstacle courses.



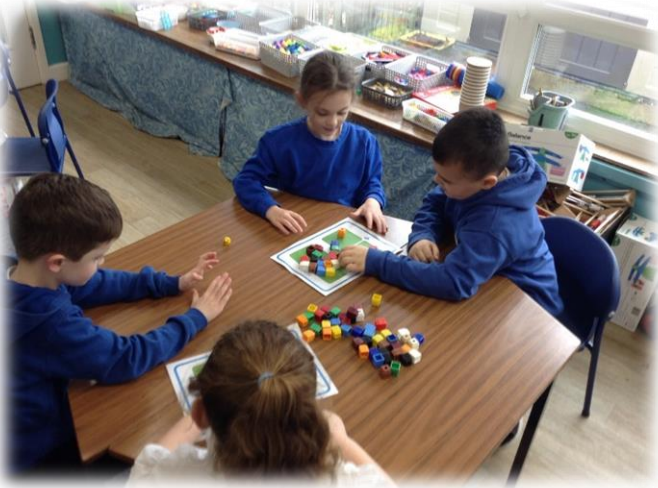
EYFS loved the visit from the fire service this week. They demonstrated how they use all their specialist equipment and even let us use it with their supervision! The fire fighters played the sound of their fire engine so we know what to listen out for. A big thank you to Sheldon fire station for paying us a visit: you really have inspired some young minds at St Anthony's.



This week in **Reception**, we are carrying on with our learning regarding 'people who help us'. We were lucky enough to have a visit from some fire fighters this week and got to learn more about the job they do and the equipment they use. We also got to listen to the loud siren, and we loved comparing it to the one we heard during our visit from the police! For our 'Understanding of the World' learning, we carried out another science experiment. This time, we were exploring ice and the best ways we could melt the ice to rescue our toys that were frozen inside. We all watched as Miss Carson poured warm water and cold water onto the ice to see which worked best and then had our own turn exploring the ice in our water tray.



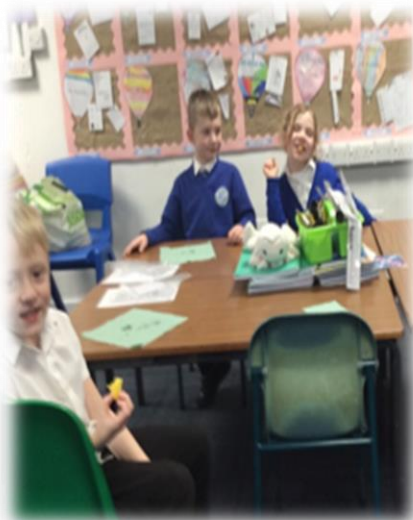
Moving on from showing half of an object last week, this week in **Year 1** we have looked at halving an amount. The children worked with their partners to find out which numbers can be halved.



Thank you for all of the amazing creations for our Gruffalo book corner. As you can see, it is looking amazing.



Year 2 have had a wonderful week. We began by tasting different fruits and vegetables in Science and discussing whether we liked them or not. Then, we learnt the 5 different food groups and how they help our bodies to function. We have also been writing different poems about the wind which the children have really enjoyed.



Wednesday 31st January
WALT: Compose a poem about the wind

I have used:	Pupil	Teacher
Adjectives to describe the noun (leafless trees)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Similes (like a ballerina)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The theme of the wind	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A repeated verse from the original poem	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Presentations

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Wind
Swishing leaves like spinning pinions
Dirty litter blowing like printed papers
Colorful dresses blowing like a silver willow
Howling hairs like swishing turtles

It rattles your rooftop
It cracks past each tree
It charges down chimneys
And roars with the sea

Clouds dance like boating drams
Beautiful lanes wave in the sky like a tornado
The lights dance like a ballerina
Plastic bags fly like the colorful bird

It rattles your rooftop
It cracks past each tree
It charges down chimneys
and roars with the sea

Wednesday 31st January
WALT: Compose a poem about the wind

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Adjectives to describe the noun (leafless trees)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Similes (like a ballerina)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The theme of the wind	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A repeated verse from the original poem	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Presentations

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Wind
Leaves twist like camelion tails
Birds flew like airplane gliders
Icy icicles are as sharp as a lion's t-
ooth
Branches snap like a horrifying tornado.

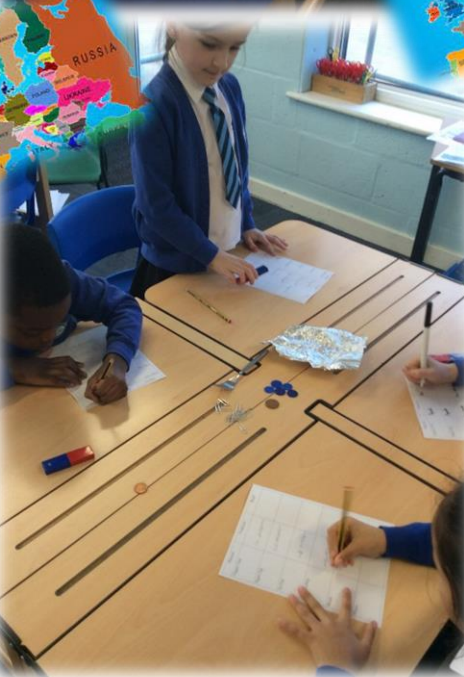
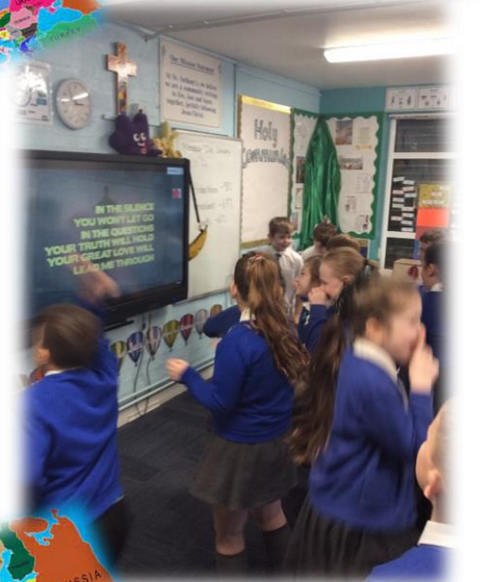
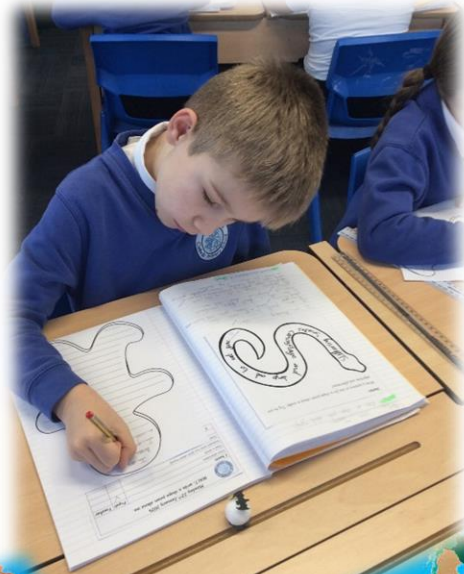
It climbs with each cloud
it dives down below
for wind is with you
wherever you go.

Clouds danced in the sky like
dancers.
Grass rattled like plastic foil
Squirrels quickly run like cheetras
Houses stood still like giant frozen
ice-cubes.

It climbs with each cloud
it dives down below
for wind is with you
wherever you go.



Year 3 have had a fantastic week: we had a lovely boogie as we recapped the seven continents and plotted European countries on a map; we did a science experiment using magnets; and the quiet critters even joined us as we wrote our poems!



This week in **Year 5** we have been learning about squared and cubed numbers. We are fantastic mathematicians!!

PE this week has been really exciting: we were able to use all the climbing equipment in our gymnastics lessons. We learnt how to balance and pose.



Cubes	1	8	27	64	125
	216	343	512	729	1000
Squares	1	4	9	16	25
	36	49	64	81	100





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.



The results of this week's battles are in!

In 1st place were Year 4, 2nd place Year 5, 3rd place Year 2, 4th place Year 6 and 5th place Year 3

Well done to the 'Most Valuable Players' (MVPs) in each class:

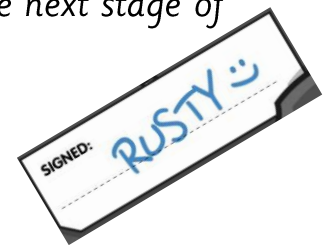
	MVP	2 nd MVP	3 rd MVP
Year 2	Ngoc Anh	Ivy	Patryk
Year 3	Harlow	Lily-Mai	Adam
Year 4	William	Oliver	Kaya
Year 5	Gracie	Lois	Hope K
Year 6	Bobbie	Freddie	Ana

Next week it's Y2, 4 and 6 boys v Y2, 4 and 6 girls and Y3 and 5 boys v Year 3 and 5 girls

The battle will end on Thursday 8th January at 8:30pm.



Congratulations to **Noah** and **Maja** in Year 1 who have completed the next stage of their story map this week.



The winner of this week's attendance raffle is **Ivy** in Year 2.



Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 6th February 2024

SAFER INTERNET DAY

**Inspiring change?
Making a
difference,
managing
influence and
navigating**



Save the date!

6th February 2024
Safer Internet Day

Register your support



Parents and carers

Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity to focus on online safety with your child, whatever their age. This year's theme is all about **change and influence online** and we have created a range of pages to help you talk about these issues and ideas with your child, no matter how much time you have and in an age-appropriate way.

Safer Internet Day 2024 is celebrated on 6th February 2024, with thousands of people across the UK working together to champion youth voice and engage in conversations about how we can all work together to make the internet a great and safe place.

To find our more please use the following link: [Parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PERSUASIVE DESIGN ONLINE

'Persuasive design' refers to the techniques that companies employ to influence our thoughts and behaviours when we're on the internet. These approaches can be spotted on websites, in apps and even as part of some video games. Persuasive design means that this content has been deliberately presented in a way that's intended to encourage you to spend your time or money (or both). These methods often prove highly effective at keeping people engaged and invested for longer than we might expect.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POTENTIAL ADDICTION

In the digital world, persuasive design can make certain activities more addictive and harder to walk away from: some people may begin to feel anxious or irritated without access to their device or their favourite app, for example. It can also often leave users feeling isolated, as – if they spend most of their time on social media – they may start to find it difficult to talk to other people in real life.

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Scrolling online or gaming without regular breaks is proven to be harmful to our mental health. The constant bombardment of news stories (many of them negative), images and influencers' posts can create sensations of unease, uncertainty and FOMO (fear of missing out). Young people can get so immersed in this environment that they become less likely to spot misleading posts.

PROLONGED SCROLLING

Social media can draw any of us – regardless of age – into a continuous pattern of refreshing our screen, following posts and links down rabbit holes or reading countless comments made by others. This aimless scrolling can eat up time which could have been spent on more productive activities. It could also lead younger users into areas of the online world which aren't age appropriate.

SENSORY OVERLOAD

Repetitively scrolling, clicking on links or playing games can create an unending stream of new information and visual stimuli. Put it this way: social media isn't exactly renowned as a carefree, chilled-out environment. Such overstimulation can become too much for young people to handle, resulting in sensory overload and causing them to feel stressed, overwhelmed and exhausted.

COSTLY ADDITIONS

Video games sometimes display offers for downloadable content or loot boxes which can be bought with real money. While these 'microtransactions' temptingly promise to improve a player's gaming experience, most of the time they are money sinks. Young people in particular, excited by the chance of enhancing their game, could spend quite a sizeable sum very quickly indeed.

PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES

Hours spent sitting and scrolling means far less time moving around and getting exercise: hardly ideal for a young person's physical health. Additionally, prolonged exposure to the light given off by a phone's screen can lead to eye fatigue and discomfort, especially if viewing it in the dark. Extended phone use before bed can also impact on sleep quality, affecting mood and energy levels over the following days.

KEEP SCROLLING

WIN TO WIN

27 new posts

Advice for Parents & Carers

ESTABLISH LIMITS

Talk to your child about setting some time limits on how long they can use their phone, tablet or console in the evenings or at weekends – or perhaps how often they can go on a specific app, game or website. You could also decide to involve the whole family in creating this shared screen time agreement, making things fair (and healthier) for everyone.

NIX NOTIFICATIONS

Stop knee-jerk responses at the source by turning off push notifications and alerts. Whether it's a gaming notification or a social media update, these not-so-gentle reminders are designed to catch our attention and lure us back to our device. Switching them off – or even deleting any particularly intrusive apps – can help prevent your child from being reeled back into the online world.

ENCOURAGE MINDFULNESS

Acknowledging any addiction is key in overcoming it – and compulsive scrolling is no different. If anything mentioned in this guide sounds familiar, it could help to have an honest, open chat with your child about how much time they spend online. Get them to think about how often they scroll through social media aimlessly or habitually open it up whenever they have a spare moment.

MAKE A CHECKLIST

Considering a list of relevant questions can be an effective way of helping children figure out why they're scrolling on certain sites or consuming particular pieces of content. A checklist can prompt young people to ask themselves if they're learning anything or benefiting from this activity – or if they're wasting their time. Taking a step back can sometimes help us to see things more clearly.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings has more than 20 years' experience in the field of relationships, law and health education (RHE), as well as delivering workshops and training for young people, parents and schools. She is also a subject matter expert on RHE for the Department of Education.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



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

Reception	Thursday 18 th April 9am
Year 1	Thursday 21 st March 9am
Year 2	Thursday 29 th February 9am
Year 3	Thursday 11 th April 9am
Year 4	Thursday 8 th February 9am
Year 5	Thursday 14 th March 9am

Parents' Evening will take place on **Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd February**. Please sign up for a slot ASAP.

The next of our Spring term reading masses will be led by **Year 5** and will take place on **Wednesday 6th March at 9:30am**. Parents / family members from all year groups are most welcome to join us.

Miss Meek has organised a coffee morning for parents of pupils who currently have a diagnosis of ASD and those who are currently completing referrals or have a child on the waiting list. This will take place on **Wednesday 13th March from 9am – 11am**.

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.



Free and fun

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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



Head Teacher's Awards



Congratulations!

Reception – Isobelle – For persevering with her sentence writing in phonics and never letting a challenge stop her!

Year 1 – Alice – For her amazing attitude towards learning.

Year 2 – Tommy – For always trying your best and being a model student.

Year 3 – Adam – For always coming to school with a beaming smile on his face. 😊

Year 4 – Dylan – For showing excitement and joy in all lessons.

Year 5 – Leo – For your fantastic efforts in our Mathematic lessons. Well done! Very proud of you.

Year 6 – Goda – For showing a perfect, mature attitude to all aspects of school life.

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.

2024

Date and Time	Year Group	Event
Tues 6 th Feb 9am	Nursery parents	Communication and Language meeting for parents – 9am in the school hall
Weds 7 th Feb 3:30pm	Y6 Confirmandi and parents	Parent meeting for parents of Roman Catholic pupils in Year 6 who are making their Confirmation (pupils attend)
Thurs 8 th Feb	Y4 parents	Reading workshop – 9am in the school hall
Friday 9 th Feb	Whole school	Break up for half term
<u>Half term</u> Mon 12 th Feb – Friday 16 th Feb		
Mon 19 th Feb	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS	
Tues 20 th Feb	Whole school	Return to school
Weds 21 st and Thurs 22 nd Feb	All parents	Parents Evening
Weds 28 th Feb	Year 6	Year 6 Confirmation 6pm
Thurs 29 th Feb	Year 2 parents	Reading workshop – 9am in the school hall
Friday 1 st March	Year 4	Trip to Blakesley Hall
Mon 4 th March	Tiny Ants & Nursery parents	Collective Worship - 11am in the school hall
Weds 6 th Mar 9:30am	R – Y6	Whole school Mass – Year 5 leading
Thurs 7 th Mar	Whole school	World Book Day (pupils to dress as a character from a book)
Fri 8 th Mar	Reception parents	Collective Worship - 2:45pm in the school 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
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 Mar 9:30 am	R – Y6	Whole school Mass – Faith Ambassadors leading
Fri 22 nd Mar	Whole school	Break up for Easter holidays



Diary Dates



Date and Time	Year Group	Event
<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
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
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 5th February:

Reception – **Thursday**

Y1 – **Monday and Tuesday**

Y2 – **Wednesday and Friday**

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

Y4 – **Tuesday and Thursday**

Y5 – **Monday and Thursday**

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.

Please ensure you have responded to the **Microsoft Form** sent out regarding the **MMR** vaccinations that your child has received.



As you will be aware, there has been an increase in the number of measles cases locally, therefore it is vital that our records are up to date so that we can keep our children as safe and protected as possible.

Mr K Scanlon, Head of School

