



St Antony's Newsletter November 2024

In the month of November, we remember all those who lost their lives through conflict and war, and pray for peace and freedom throughout our world. Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Mrs McGowan's Message



Dear families,

May I take this opportunity to thank you all again for your support during our inspections this week. We are looking forward to sharing the messages from the inspectors with you- we are so happy and feel very proud.

Personally I am filled with gratitude to the staff and pupils who have worked so hard to create the school family we have today. It has definitely been a faith and learning journey! Your children were amazing with the inspectors, a special thank you must be given to Archie and Natalia in Year 6 who toured the HMI inspector around the school and answered her many questions so eloquently!

With all of that in mind, please join me in a prayer of gratitude to St Anthony.

St. Anthony, glorious worker of wonders, you have assisted me with great kindness and have consoled my soul. I express to you now my heartfelt gratitude and thanks for all your heavenly aid. Accept my prayer, and my sincere promise, to strive to live always in the love of Jesus Christ and of my neighbour.

Amen

Attendance



Children with poor attendance do less well at school.

Our whole school attendance target is **96%**.

If you are unsure on whether your child can come to school when they are ill please follow the link below: [NHS Guidance](#)

Nursery	- 96.5%
Reception	- 95.3%
Year 1	- 97.1%
Year 2	- 95.7%
Year 3	- 96.2%
Year 4	- 95.8%
Year 5	- 95.1%
Year 6	- 96.1%

Our whole school attendance so far this year is **95.9%**.

If your child has an appointment during the school day please still bring them in at normal times then collect them for their appointment. This way your child will still get their attendance marks, you will be signed out and back in for the appointment time only.

Information on the new statutory guidance from August 2024 has been sent out on class dojo. Please follow the link to the [DFE Working Together To Improve School Attendance](#)

If your child is absent the class teacher will send home any key pieces of work they have missed so that, when they feel better you could help your child by talking through or

completing the work together. That way they will be able to re-join their learning journey without feeling behind or confused.

Thank you for your support.



Did you know...

- 90% attendance might sound like a good percentage however it is the equivalent to a pupil missing 1 full day per 10 days or missing 4 whole weeks over the year - approximately 120 lessons per year missed.
- You can talk to Ms Ali or Mrs Saunders if you are struggling to get your child into school. We are always here to help where we can.

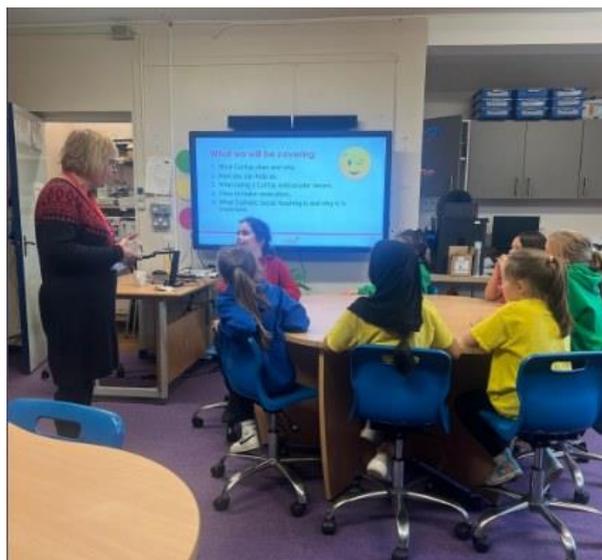
Catholic Life and Mission



- We gathered as a school family to celebrate the feast day of All Saints. We were reminded of Pope Francis' call of sainthood for us all. In classes we learnt about our class Saint in RE and how they lived the mission of Christ.
- We have recently had our Catholic Schools Inspection where the inspectors spoke with children and visited classes. The inspectors found behaviour for learning to be exemplary and all children were polite and friendly. Our pupil leaders - chaplains and caritas ambassadors spoke with passion about their role in school. We are so proud of our staff and children and cannot wait to share the outcome with you.
- Our Eco Team received the delivery of the new compost bins and have already started to fill them up. #Laudatosi #careforourcommonhome #praisebe.

- Four chaplains will be going to St Edwards Primary school, Darwen for an Advent retreat morning where they will work with other chaplains to plan Advent Liturgies to share with the children at school. Collective worship is an integral part of our school life and pupil led worship is at the heart of St Antony's.
- Our newly established Caritas team have received their training and have had their first official outing to the foodbank. Thank you again for all your generous donations. Photos below.
- Year 1 and Year 3 have hosted Stay and Pray sessions, a chance for parents and carers to celebrate the Word of God together. These have both been well attended, thank you for your support. Stay and Pray will be hosted by Year 5 and Year 6 over the next couple of weeks. Please do come along if you can.
- Year 6 have led the Remembrance Poppy Appeal in school over the last couple of weeks. Thank you again for your generosity.
- The Sacramental Programme is now underway with our first session completed last Monday. Attendance at mass is very important in order to support your child on their spiritual journey. If you would like your child to join this programme please contact Mrs Malak.
- Year 5 celebrated the very FIRST Mass in our school Chapel. This was a very special moment for all with the theme being listening. Many of our Year 5 pupil's have have recently listened to God's call of Pupil Chaplaincy. We thank Father Barry for the beautiful Mass.

Please keep your eyes peeled on dojo and our school website for more information.







Friendship Week



This week we have celebrated Friendship Week in school. The theme has been respect. The PSHE ambassadors led an assembly on Tuesday morning about the importance of valuing others despite differences. At St Antony's we celebrate diversity and recognise we are all unique gifts from God who should be treated with respect and care. We made reference to our inspiration Jesus Christ as He always showed love to all. In PSHE lessons this week children have been learning about healthy friendships and what to do if they are feeling sad and lonely.

Dear Jesus help me to care for others.

Uniform



At St Antony's School, we place great importance on the wearing of a school uniform.

The school ties can be purchased from the school office for £6.

It is also important to note that earrings are not allowed to be worn as part of the uniform.

To maintain consistency and uphold the school's standards, uniform **MUST** be correct. This includes shoes, socks, hair accessories and PE kit.

In regards to PE, children are required to wear plain black leggings, joggers or shorts without prominent logos. Additionally, they are expected to wear PE hoodies and t-shirts in red, blue, yellow, or green. This allows for easy identification during physical activities and encourages a sense of team spirit.

Please adhere to the following:

- No jewellery, including no earrings

At St Antony's, we prioritise the safety and wellbeing of our students above all else. We encourage all parents to reach out if they have any concerns or need support during this time. Remember, safeguarding our children is a collective effort, and together we can create a safe and secure environment for all.

Below is some information on how to stay safe online and some helpful links:

[Domestic Violence Helpline](#)

[Wish Centre](#)

[Salvation Army](#)

[Mind](#)

[Kooth - Mental Health Support For Young Children](#)

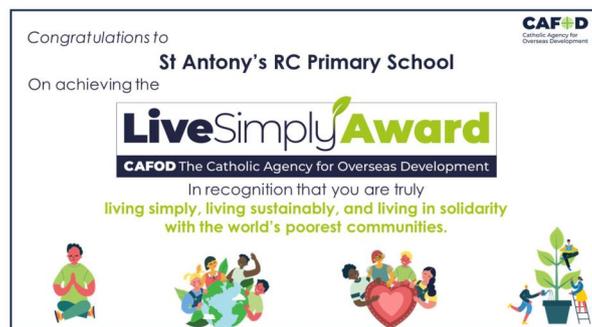
[Andy's Man Hub - Mental Health support For Men](#)

[NSPCC Online Safety](#)



1 - Our school Parenting course has begun and is running on Wednesday mornings at 9am-10:30am, running over 6 weeks. We will be covering parenting styles, barriers to effective parenting, routines, boundaries, behaviour management, parental wellbeing and much more. It is always a fun and interactive course and we have had great feedback in the past. Please let Mrs Ali know if you would like to attend. ❤️❤️😊

Accreditation and awards



2 - Mrs Malak and some of our wonderful children completed the CAFOD Live Simply assessment. In the words of the assessor 'St Antony's passed with flying colours'. The Eco Team have continue to Live Simply by collecting leaves and putting them into our compost bin. They are hoping to have enough compost to plant our bulbs in spring.

School Trips This Term



- 14th November cinema trip - Reception, Year 1 & Year 3
- 20th November - Cinema Trip - Year 2
- 21st November - Ribchester Museum - Year 4
- 22nd November - Imperial War Museum - Year 6
- 29th November - Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime - Whole school

Please make payment for these via the School Gateway App.







St Antony's Five Wells University



It has been a great start to the year with lots of children taking advantage of the extra curricular clubs we have on offer. These clubs link to the St Antony's Five Wells University. Children must attend at least 5 sessions to gain the SAFWU credits.

- Mindful - Positivity Club, Wellbeing Club
- Creative - Science Club, Arts and Crafts
- Physical - Basketball Ball, Multi-Sports, Gymnastics, Ball Skills
- Social - Choir, Nativity, Musical Theatre, Homework Club, Spanish Club
- Charitable - Food bank, Caritas, any fundraising.

The more clubs children attend the more credits they will get and could have a chance at attending a graduation at UCLAN

Extra Curricular Clubs

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Look at the scientist in science club.

All clubs can be booked on via the School Gateway App. Please remember to book and pay at the same time for any clubs that have a cost.







St Antony's RC Nursery Places Available



Does your child turn 3 this term? Or do you know anyone that turns 3 before September? Would you like a nurturing environment overseen by qualified teachers to prepare your child for formal schooling?

Our nursery is:

- a Catholic environment which nurtures your child's spirituality
- a caring and nurturing environment to grow your child's confidence
- a ethos of strong home school relationships and family support
- a smart family with full school uniform
- a place where qualified teachers oversee teaching and learning
- a classroom of high expectations of behaviour with consistent rules and routines

- a place where they will work on the same EYFS framework as they do in our Reception class
- where lessons in numbers and phonics give pupils a flying start for school
- part of the St Antony's family taking part in assemblies and exciting curriculum days
- a safe environment to play and socialise with peers but still be part of the big school
- not just childcare- a true pre school setting, preparing pupils to grow their faith, socialise and learn effectively

EXPECTATIONS

Before a pupil can start at St Antony's Nursery, we expect that they should be able to:

- visit the toilet independently and wipe their own bottoms
- put on and take off a coat, a hat and gloves (we will help with tricky buttons or zips!)
- take shoes and wellies on and off independently
- drink out of a normal cup
- not have a dummy at nursery
- separate from their adult at the door happily

From January 2025 we are going to be extending nursery hours to 32.5 hours. Nursery will run from 8:30am-3pm each day. There will be a small charge of £5 per day for snacks, lunch and playtime supervision (2.5 hours per week). Places will all be full time. No part time places will be available unless there are exceptional circumstances.

School's Social Media



Have you followed us on Instagram and Facebook.

We will be posting lots more on there so please go ahead and like and share our page.

Facebook - St Antony's R.C Primary

Instagram - stantonymsrc1

What's coming up this term?



- **Sacramental Programme class continues on Mondays until December**
- **Friday's Move and Learn with Blackburn Rovers Community Trust - Year 5 until 6th December.**
- 15th November - Move and Learn with Blackburn Rovers Community Trust - Year 5
- 18th November - Plastic Treaty Workshop for Year 5 & 6
- 19th November - Year 5 & 6 Girls Football Competition
- 21st November - Stay and Pray - Year 5
- 22nd November - Non-Uniform day in exchange for a bottle
- 27th November - Stay and Pray for year 6 - Parents welcome 2:30pm
- 28th November - Non-Uniform in exchange for Chocolate
- 2nd December - Advent service
- 2nd December - FOSA hot chocolate sale
- 5th December - Christmas Fayre from 3pm
- 5th December - Reconciliation at St Joseph's Church 6pm
- 9th December - FOSA hot chocolate sale

- 10th December - Choir to Lindon House
- 13th December - Christmas Dinner Day
- 13th December - Carol Service at St Albans Church - Year 3 & 4
- 16th December - Choir to Blackburn Hospital to sing Christmas Carols
- 16th December - FOSA hot chocolate sale
- 17th December - Year 5 music assembly - 9am Parents welcome
- 17th December - Year 3 & 4 Dance Showcase - Parents welcome from 2:15pm
- 19th December - Year 6 music assembly Time TBC
- 20th December - Last day of term finish from 1pm
- **Parents coffee morning is on every Friday morning from 8:40am (all parents welcome)**

Keep your eyes peeled on class dojo and the school website for more events.

[St Antony's Website Calendar](#)