



St Antony's Newsletter May 2024 -  
**Rosary Term**

## May, the month of Our Lady



Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

### Mrs McGowan's Message

Dear families,

Firstly, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have generously contributed to the fund for St Joseph's repairs. Your support is truly appreciated and for those who still wish to contribute, you will have the opportunity to do so next week.

As we look ahead, we are excited to announce that, together with the parish, we will be organising a group to help refurbish the community centre at St Joseph's. We will be undertaking tasks such as painting and decorating, and your help in this endeavour would be invaluable. We welcome volunteers who are willing to lend a hand in any capacity they can.

I also want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the effort you put into ensuring your children come to school in smart uniform. It warms my heart to see that the vast majority of our

students now wear black shoes, their ties, and school jumpers. This not only promotes a sense of unity and pride within our community but also enhances the overall learning vibe in school.

I would like to remind you of the importance of using our school libraries. For KS1 parents, the library is open every Friday morning from 8:20 am for you to accompany your children. KS2 children have the opportunity to change their books themselves during lunchtimes. Encouraging a love for reading from a young age is essential, and we hope to see an increase in library usage among our students. Thank you to our lovely parent volunteers that make this happen.

We are updating our school website and would welcome your thoughts and suggestions. Please let us know! <https://www.stantonysrc.co.uk/>

Lastly, as we approach the bank holiday weekend, I encourage you to take some time to relax and enjoy quality moments with your loved ones. Additionally, I kindly ask for your thoughts and prayers for our Year 6 students who will be taking their SATs. These exams mark a significant milestone in their educational journey and your support in wishing them well is greatly appreciated. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our Year 6 team in preparing the students for these assessments.

Thank you once again for your continued support and cooperation. Together, we can ensure the success and well-being of all our students at St Antony's Primary School.

Warmest regards,

## Attendance



**Children with poor attendance do less well at school.**

Our whole school attendance target is 96%. **We have 101 pupils above our school target. 17 of those pupils have perfect attendance this year.**

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

Reception - 91.9%

Year 1 - 91.1%

- Year 2 - 94.8%
- Year 3 - 93.4%
- Year 4 - 93.2%
- Year 5 - 95.0%
- Year 6 - 95.1%

Our whole school attendance so far this year is 93.5%.

We need to work together to improve this.



### Did you know...

- 90% attendance is the equivalent to a pupil missing one half day per week 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.

## Extra-curricular Clubs

# EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Our extra-curricular clubs are well underway. Engaging in extra-curricular clubs allows our pupils to explore their passions and God given talents, develop teamwork and leadership skills and build confidence outside the classroom environment.



Rosary

### Extra-Curricular Clubs



Lunch times

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mine Craft	Mine Craft	Mine Craft	Eco Club KS1	Choir
Pupil Chaplains		God Squad <i>(Chaplain led Bible study and Craft KS1)</i>	Fantastic Books Awards KS2	Jewellery Making
Mindful Colouring	Mindful Colouring	Chess	Chess	Chess
Spanish Club	Recorders			Drama

\*Library is open every day at lunchtime for the children to read and recommend books to their peers.

After School

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
TTRS Y4	TTRS Y4	TTRS Y4	TTRS Y4	TTRS Y4,5 and 6	Morning
Ed Start Multi-skills <i>(Coach Jake)</i>			Orienteering <i>(Year 1 and 2 Mr Close)</i>		Rec. and KS1 Classes
Sacramental Programme <i>(Mrs Mausk)</i>	Fashion Show Prep <i>(Mrs Brown with Fosa Group)</i>	Ed Start Multi-skills <i>(Coach Jake)</i>	Gymnastics <i>(Coach Jill)</i>		KS2 Classes
Archaeology Club <i>(Mr O'Brien)</i>	Micro Bits <i>(Mr Bleasdale)</i>	Relaxation and Mindfulness <i>(Mrs Seaberg)</i>	Poetry Performance <i>(Mrs McGowan)</i>		
Sewing Club <i>(Mrs Doubury &amp; Mrs Cooper)</i>					
Homework Club <i>(Mrs McGowan)</i>					



*1 - The rain did not stop Mr Close or the children from getting mapping club underway. The children learnt the fundamentals of map reading then took their learning outside where they had to find different features.*





*2 - Archaeologists at work! We have investigated the Stone Age and learned how to unearth an artefact, take care of it and hypothesize what it may have been used for. We will be looking at the Neolithic age and investigating an array of arrowheads.*



Fund Raising



💛💙 THANK YOU SO MUCH! 💛💙

What a fantastic turn out we had for our Easter Bingo!

Huge thanks especially to the parents who got up and joined in! We raised over £230! That will pay for more rewards and treats for our children.

From the fundraising we have done in each class we have donated;

- £150 to Cafod
- 150 to Caritas
- £45 to East Lancs Hospice (Leap year Challenge)

Without the support of parents and carers none of this would be possible. Thank you.



*3 - Year 6 have been selling hot chocolate with marshmallows and biscuits to raise money towards their end of year hoodies.*



4 - Poppy won 'Guess the name of the Bunny'. Year 5 raised money to go towards Cafod.

## St George's Day

🇬🇧🇬🇧🇬🇧🇬🇧🇬🇬🇧🇬🇧🇬❤️🇬🇧 To celebrate our country's patron saint the children were encouraged to wear red clothing or accessories 🇬🇧🇬🇧🇬🇧🇬🇬🇧❤️🇬🇧

Our day started with a worship led by our Pupil Chaplains and RE Ambassadors. We were invited to reflect on the qualities of St. George. We may not be as physically brave as St. George but we can be brave by doing things that can make the world a better place.

Heavenly Father, give us the bravery of St. George to stand up for what we believe. Give us the strength to overcome the dragons in our lives and in the world. Where we see people in distress, give us the courage and compassion to help them.

Amen



5 - The kitchen staff went above and beyond decorating cakes and biscuits for St George's Day.



Good to be Green

It's not  
easy being  
**GREEN**



In school we promote "Good to be Green". We are very proud of the children who stay green each and every day. As a reward for their green behaviours, at the end of each half term, there is a treat for the children.

Good to be Green was celebrated at the end of last term. The children had lots of activities to choose from; these ranged from den building, glitter tattoos, mindful colouring and cake decorating.







*6 - Some of our wonderful golden clipboard children enjoyed a posh meal at the Dunkenhalgh Restaurant. They showed impeccable manners and was a credit to St Antony's*

## Earth Day

🙏🌍 Eco club have been busy around school on a litter pick. They take their role as stewards of creation very seriously, not just on Earth Day but every day. 🌍🙏

Some of our Eco Warriors have also been making bird feeders. These have been given out at St. Joseph's Church to the parishioners to hand on their

“Care for the Earth is not an Earth Day Slogan, it is a requirement of faith. we are called to protect people and the planet.”Pope Francis; US Conference of Catholic Bishops





## National Institute of Teaching Trainees



St Antony's welcomed 20 students from the National Institute of Teaching. They observed lessons in EYFS, KS1 and KS2. Below is some of the feedback given by the trainees and the tutor.

- What a fantastic day for our trainee teachers at St Antony's. The team were inspirational and really went an extra mile to encourage everyone in their future careers. Meeting the pupils and hearing them explain their expectations of their own development and aspirations left us in awe of the work that goes on here. (Dr Jane Kay, tutor at NIOT)
- St Antony's school has such a natural friendly environment that allows students to thrive whilst being themselves. (Demi, NIOT student)
- Students are pushed to oracy excellence in all subjects including maths (Jonah, NIOT student)
- Great school, gradual development in the curriculum through KS1 & KS2 (NIOT student)

## Uniform



At St Antony's School, we place great importance on the wearing of a school uniform. Uniforms create a sense of unity and pride among the students, fostering a positive and respectful learning environment.

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, phone calls will be made home if children come to school in incorrect uniform.

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.

By adhering to the school uniform policy, St Antony's School aims to instil a strong sense of pride, discipline, and community among its students.

To summarise, after the holiday yellow cards will be issued for uniform breaches. Please adhere to the following:

- No jewellery including no earrings (clear plastic place holders only)
- Ties must be worn with a white shirt (no polo shirts or t-shirts)
- Black school shoes or pumps with uniform
- Trainers are only to be worn with PE kits
- Only black leggings, joggers or shorts with PE kits (No prominent logos)



*7 - A massive thank you to Tesco Community Partnership for the donation of school uniform and some spare clothing. Uniform from the swap shop can be collected from the main office.*



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

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

[NSPCC Online Safety](#)

## My Child's First Device

5 Steps to Make Phones, Tablets, and Laptops Safer

You might be deciding to give your child their first phone, tablet, or laptop (or third, fourth, fifth, or even a new update). This is a big decision! The responsibility and freedom that comes with owning a device is a big step for children - and you'll be their first "parent" for responsibility.

As a parent or carer, it's important to remember that even if a child is tech-savvy, they need to be taught how to be tech-safe. We know this can be daunting with various device brands, apps, and settings to choose from. Our online safety experts have created 5 steps to help you make that first device (or brand-new model) safer for the child or young person in your care.

**Remember!**  
This is an exciting time in your child's life! You want to be a part of that in a positive way that encourages them to share with you and trust you. If you take the time to teach them, they will be empowered in their online actions and behaviours for the better.

- 1 Do your homework**  
Make sure your home environment is secure and ready for your child to be online. Many major broadband providers offer age restriction settings so check with your provider to ensure these restrictions are put in place.  
Many retailers offer free Parental Controls to their customers. You can find Parental Control walkthroughs on most popular provider websites.  
Check the device's brand website for simple walkthroughs of where to find privacy settings on your child's specific device.
- 2 Set up the device with your child**  
Taking the time to sit down with your child and set up the device together will help you both get to know how the device works, allow you to implement SafeSearch filters on search engines, and set up in-app purchase restrictions. You can use the device settings to set up agreed upon restrictions, like Screen Time and App Limits.  
Explain why these settings are important to protect children and young people from online risks and that these restrictions will be lifted when they are old enough. Ensure your parental account is set as the Parent account and make sure your parental control PIN number is secure and random.
- 3 Discuss and agree on healthy phone and device habits**  
Once the device has been set up, take the time to agree on some healthy rules and boundaries for how they will use the device. This can include rules like when and where they can use their device, screen time allowance and which apps are allowed to be used.  
Be realistic on what will work in your household. If your child has friends with different rules, remind them that what works for one family might not work for another! As the parent or carer, you are responsible for the way your child uses their device and they will need guidance, especially if this is your child's first independent responsibility.
- 4 Check-in with your child**  
Check-in with your child about their device use. It doesn't have to be a big sit-down conversation! Informal chats over the dinner table, in the car or while watching television as a family can have the biggest impact. Ask questions like, "Tell me about your favourite app! Why do you like to use it?" or "How has your device helped you today?".  
Online safety is never a one-off conversation - it's a continuing dialogue. Show your child that you're interested in their responses and thoughts to foster an environment of openness and trust between you and the child in your care.
- 5 Keep Yourself Informed**  
We live in a digital world that changes daily. The most responsible thing you can do in keeping your child's device safe is to keep yourself informed.  
Stay alert to trends and threats that they may be exposed to. With many companies beginning to offer "kid" versions of their platforms, knowing what is safe and what is suspect will help you make the best decision for your child. Luckily, we have some excellent resources to assist you that are reliable and relevant. Visit our website and social media pages.

**ineqe** SAFEGUARDING GROUP [www.ineqe.com](http://www.ineqe.com)

**Online Safety Centre** [oursafetycentre.co.uk](http://oursafetycentre.co.uk)  
Phone: 01753 350900 | Email: [info@oursafetycentre.co.uk](mailto:info@oursafetycentre.co.uk)

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## Announcements

# ANNOUNCEMENT

- Dads and Lads drop in with Mr Shaw and Mr Saunders. A chance for dads and older lads to come together for a chat and feel a part of the school community. Please come and join us for a brew and cake 🍷🍰. Date will be posted on class DOJO.
- As some of you may be aware, St Joseph's Church has been broken into and ransacked. We will be fundraising to raise money for the church to repair the damage that has been done. We will start with having a non-uniform day on Friday 3rd May. A £1 donation is advised.
- Our school is looking for a dedicated and passionate parent governor to join our governing board. This is a fantastic opportunity to make a difference in your child's education and contribute to the overall success of our school. To be a parent governor you should have: A strong commitment to the role and to improving outcomes for children Good inter-personal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to learn and develop new skills The specific skills required to make sure the governing board delivers effective governance Follow the link below to complete the form [Parent Governor Form](#)

## St Antony's RC Nursery



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

Please click the link below to see our nursery policy.

What's coming up next term?



**1st May**

- Parents in Partnership (PIP) coffee morning
- Year 1 class assembly 9am (parents welcome)
- Year 6 fieldwork in the town centre

**2nd May**

- Year 5 Debt Aware Workshop

**3rd May**

- Non-uniform day (£1 donation for St Joseph's Church)
- Year 2 trip to Skipton Castle
- PCSO Social Media Safety talk to Yr 5 & Yr 6

**7th May**

- School Photographer (whole class photos)
- New Reception intake induction

**8th May**

- School Photographer (individual and sibling photos - if consent forms have been returned)
- Crowning of Our Lady

**9th May**

- School Photographer (for anyone missed)
- Year 2 assembly 9am (parents welcome)

**13th May**

- Start of KS2 SATS
- Stay and Play (new reception intake) 3:15-4pm

**15th May**

- Year 3 trip to National Museum in Liverpool
- Reception class trip to Woodend Farm

**17th May**

- Year 6 trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach

**20th May**

- Laudato Si Week
- Dental Check for 5 Year olds

**22nd May**

- Sports Day (Weather permitted)

**23rd May**

- Year 4 assembly (parents welcome)

**27th May**

- Finish school return on 10th June

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

[St Antony's Website Calendar](#)