

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the final newsletter of this academic year, I want to thank our students, staff, governors and families for a year of real progress at St Anne's. Together we have strengthened The St Anne's Way and our EIGHT pillars, seen this year's new intake oversubscribed for the first time, and continued to raise expectations so that more students benefit from the excellent teaching and pastoral care we are determined to deliver.

I am proud of the resilience shown by our young people, especially those who are our most vulnerable students, and grateful to colleagues for their hard work and to parents for their partnership.

Please enjoy a restful summer; we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September as we continue our journey to be outstanding in all we do.

With best wishes

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

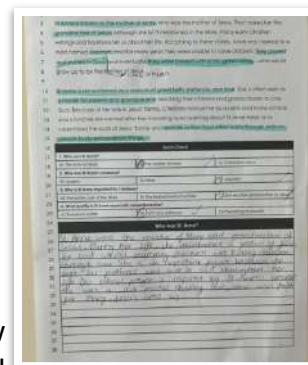
SACRED Day 2026 - Celebrating St Anne

Our third SACRED Day of the year was dedicated to celebrating the Catholic identity of St Anne's. This year's theme focused on **St Anne**, the patron saint of our school. Traditionally recognised as the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary and grandmother of Jesus, St Anne is remembered for her faith, wisdom and the important role she played in nurturing Mary's relationship with God. Throughout the day, students explored how her example continues to inspire our school community to grow in faith, service and compassion.



Form Time - Discovering St Anne

The day began with a form time session introducing students to the life and legacy of St Anne. Students learned about her place within the story of salvation and reflected on the virtues she demonstrated through her faithful witness. This provided an opportunity for students to consider how they too can live out these qualities in their daily lives, helping to strengthen our shared Catholic identity.



Catholicity Across the Curriculum

Throughout the day, students took part in a range of lessons demonstrating how Catholicity can be explored across every subject. In Mathematics, students investigated the significance of numbers within the Bible, while English students used the influence of St Francis de Sales to in their letter writing. Science explored the relationship between faith and scientific discovery, and Music students contributed ideas towards the development of our new school hymn. These sessions highlighted that faith is not confined to Religious Education but enriches every aspect of school life.

The One Hope Project

We were delighted to welcome The One Hope Project on SACRED Day. The One Hope Project are a young and vibrant worship collective that have emerged out of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the UK. They desire to help build God's Kingdom on earth through impactful music, fresh creativity and building community with each other and across the Church.



Chip Kendall – Worship

Christian worship leader Chip Kendall led energetic sessions centred on charismatic worship and the work of the Holy Spirit. Through music, games and participation, students experienced a different expression of Christian worship while considering how the Holy Spirit continues to inspire, guide and strengthen believers in their everyday lives.



Learning from Our External Partners

We were privileged to welcome several organisations who enrich Catholic education both locally and globally. Students learnt about the work of **Caritas Diocese of Salford** who support vulnerable people across our diocese; **Aid to the Church in Need**, which supports persecuted and suffering Christians around the world; and **CAFOD**, the Catholic aid agency tackling poverty and injustice internationally.

Beth from Christians in Schools and Andy from Coach House Church explored the ministry of Jesus through Scripture, while Charlie Aky led a thought-provoking workshop on music and mental health, encouraging students to recognise the importance of caring for their wellbeing in light of the Catholic belief that every person possesses inherent dignity because they are made in the image and likeness of God.



A particular highlight of the day was our 'Grill the Priest' question and answer session with Fr Mark and Sr Benedicta. Students were invited to ask honest and challenging questions about faith, the Catholic Church and religious vocation. The session provided an open and respectful forum for discussion, allowing students to explore important issues while hearing first-hand about the lived experience of priesthood and religious life. It was a valuable opportunity to deepen understanding and encourage thoughtful dialogue about faith.



Looking Ahead – Year Group Saints and Our New School Prayer

The day concluded with students meeting their Year Group Patron Saint for the next academic year, providing each year group with a saintly role model to accompany them on their journey of faith. Students also contributed ideas towards the development of our new school prayer, ensuring that it reflects the values, hopes and mission of our whole school community. It was a fitting way to end a day dedicated to celebrating what makes St Anne's such a distinctive and vibrant Catholic school.



Transition Day: Planting Seeds for the Future

As part of Transition Day, our new Year 7 students took part in a special activity inspired by Jesus' **Parable of the Mustard Seed**. Each student planted their own mustard seed as a reminder that, although they may feel small as they begin their secondary school journey, they have the potential to grow into confident, compassionate and successful young people. Just as the tiny mustard seed grows into a great shrub, we hope our newest students will flourish during their time at St Anne's. We are delighted that many of the seeds have already begun to sprout, providing a wonderful symbol of the exciting journey of growth that lies ahead.



Emmaus Trust Mass

Six of our students had the privilege of representing St Anne's at the annual Emmaus Trust Mass held at St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst, joining students from schools across the Trust in a celebration of our shared Catholic faith. The students proudly processed with our newly updated school cross, representing the values and identity of St Anne's with great reverence and maturity. We are incredibly proud of the way they conducted themselves throughout the celebration and thank them for being such excellent ambassadors for our school community.



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK

The final week of term has certainly felt a little quieter around school without our Year 10 students! Throughout the week, they have been taking part in Work Experience Week, gaining valuable insight into the world of work through placements with a wide range of local businesses, organisations and schools.

Work Experience Week is an important milestone in preparing our students for their future pathways. Whether they have explored careers they are already passionate about or discovered new interests, the experience will help them make more informed decisions about their next steps beyond school. We are incredibly proud of the way our Year 10 students have represented our school within the local community and would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the employers and organisations who generously gave their time to support, mentor and inspire our students throughout the week.

This invaluable opportunity has enabled students to develop new skills, build confidence and experience working in professional environments. It has also provided them with a greater understanding of workplace expectations and the qualities needed to succeed in a variety of careers.

We are looking forward to welcoming our students back in September as they begin their final year with us as Year 11. We are excited to hear all about their experiences and look forward to reading the feedback from employers, which will provide a valuable reflection on the commitment, enthusiasm and professionalism they have demonstrated throughout the week. We hope they have enjoyed this rewarding experience and wish them every success as they continue their journey towards the future.



IMPORTANT UPDATE: MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOLS (Effective from 29th June 2026)

On 29th June 2026, the Department for Education made its guidance on mobile phone use in schools mandatory. The guidance is designed to support safe, calm and purposeful learning environments for all students.

At St Anne's we already expect students to learn free from unnecessary distractions. Evidence and our experience show that removing mobile phone use during the school day improves concentration, supports positive behaviour, strengthens face-to-face social interaction and protects students' wellbeing. Please read and reinforce the expectations below with your child.

Current mobile phone expectations

- Students may bring a mobile phone to school but it must be switched off before entering the school site.
- Phones must remain out of sight throughout the school day, including at breaktime and lunchtime.
- If your child needs access to a phone for medical or safeguarding reasons, please contact the school so we can agree appropriate arrangements.

If a student does not follow these expectations, the phone will be confiscated and will be returned in line with our Behaviour Policy.

We appreciate that many parents want their child to carry a phone for the journey to and from school. These expectations do not prevent that, they simply ensure phones do not interfere with learning or wellbeing while school is in session.

Urgent contact during the school day

If you urgently need to contact your child during the school day, please call the school office and we will get a message to them.

Further information

The DfE guidance became mandatory on 29th June 2026. If you would like to read it, see [Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK](#) or contact the school office and we will share the details.

Thank you for supporting St Anne's in maintaining a calm, focused learning environment where every student can thrive.

ECT BREAKFAST

This half term, our Early Career Teachers (ECTs) came together for their final breakfast meeting of the academic year, to reflect on their journey and celebrate everything they have achieved. A special congratulations goes to Ms Coyne, Ms Bennett and Mr Boughey, who have successfully completed their ECT induction period - an important milestone in their teaching careers.

Our ECTs progressing into their second year have also been a credit to the programme, engaging enthusiastically and making valuable contributions to discussions throughout our CPD sessions and breakfast meetings. We are incredibly proud of all they have accomplished this year and look forward to seeing them continue to flourish.



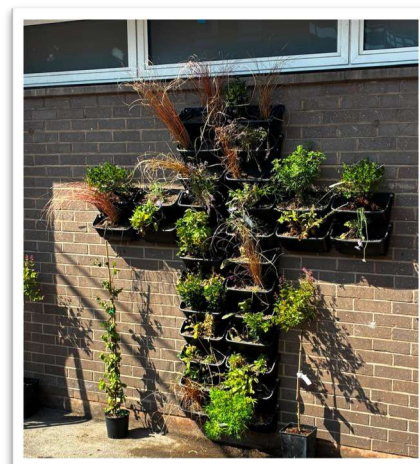
CREATING GREENER SPACES FOR OUR COMMUNITY

This term, we have been working on projects to make our school site more welcoming, peaceful, and environmentally friendly.

One of our biggest achievements has been the creation of a Peace Garden at the front of the school. This special space has been designed to provide students and staff with a calm and relaxing area where they can take a break from the stresses of the school day. Whether it's a quiet moment to reflect, read, or simply enjoy being outdoors, the Peace Garden offers a peaceful retreat that supports everyone's wellbeing.

Alongside this, we have also installed the first of what we hope will be many living walls around the school. These vertical gardens are filled with plants that will help bring more greenery into our surroundings, making the school a brighter and more attractive place to learn and work. Living walls also provide environmental benefits by improving air quality, supporting local wildlife, and encouraging biodiversity.

These projects are just the beginning of our plans to create a greener, healthier, and more sustainable school. We are proud of what has been achieved this term and look forward to expanding these initiatives in the future, helping to make our school an even more enjoyable place for everyone in our community.



NO FILTER COFFEE MORNING

On **Thursday 2nd July**, parents and carers were invited to join **Mrs Brown** and **Miss Morgan** for an informal coffee morning to discuss any questions or concerns relating to **SEND provision** and students' transition into the next academic year.

The event provided a relaxed and welcoming opportunity for families to share their thoughts, ask questions, and talk about the support available for their children. Over tea, coffee, biscuits and refreshments, parents were able to have open and constructive conversations about how we can continue to meet the needs of every student and ensure they feel happy, supported, and ready for the year ahead.

It was wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers, along with some very special younger visitors who came along too! The informal atmosphere helped to create meaningful discussions, allowing us to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to the morning. Working together with families is an essential part of ensuring that every child receives the support they need to thrive, and we look forward to continuing these conversations throughout the next academic year.



YEAR 11 PROM

On Friday 26th June, our Year 11 students celebrated the end of their GCSE examinations in style at the Village Hotel in Cheadle. It was a fantastic evening and a wonderful opportunity to reflect on their time at school, celebrate their achievements and mark the end of an important chapter in their educational journey.

The students made a spectacular entrance, looking absolutely incredible in their elegant dresses and smart suits. There were plenty of memorable arrivals too, with students travelling in style on motorbikes, in an army vehicle and in a range of impressive sports cars, adding an extra touch of excitement to the evening.

The celebrations continued inside with a delicious meal, plenty of laughter and a lively atmosphere throughout the night. Despite the warm weather, both students and staff danced the night away, enjoyed karaoke performances and created lasting memories together. One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the fun awards, with categories including *Most Likely to Be Our Prime Minister*, *Most Supportive Friend* and *Most Likely to Come Back and Work Here*. These awards recognised the unique personalities, friendships and contributions that have made this year group so special.

The Prom was a fitting celebration of the hard work, resilience and determination our Year 11 students have shown throughout their GCSE exams and during their time at school. It was wonderful to see everyone relaxing, celebrating together and enjoying the company of friends and staff before embarking on the next stage of their journey.

We are incredibly proud of everything our Year 11 students have achieved and the positive impact they have had on our school community. We wish each and every one of them the very best of luck as they move on to sixth form, college, apprenticeships or new opportunities.

Congratulations, Year 11 – we look forward to hearing about your future successes!



YEAR 10 VISIT TO MANCHESTER COLLEGE

A group of our Year 10 students recently visited Manchester College as part of our ongoing careers and post-16 education programme.

During the visit, students explored the college campus, learned about the wide range of courses and career pathways on offer, and took part in interactive taster sessions designed to give them a flavour of college life.

They asked considered questions, engaged enthusiastically with the activities, and gained valuable insight into the opportunities available after Year 11. The visit was an excellent opportunity to help students begin planning for their future, and we were delighted with the mature and respectful manner in which they represented the school throughout the day. Well done to everyone who took part!



YEAR 10 VISIT TO XAVERIAN COLLEGE

A number of our Year 10 students recently enjoyed an inspiring day at Xaverian College, where they took part in a range of engaging taster sessions across subjects including Criminology, Sport, and Philosophy. The visit gave students the opportunity to experience learning in a college environment, explore new areas of study, and gain an insight into post-16 education.

Throughout the day, our students embraced every activity with enthusiasm, curiosity and a willingness to challenge themselves. They asked thoughtful questions, worked collaboratively, and demonstrated a genuine interest in each subject, leaving a lasting impression on the Xaverian staff.

We were incredibly proud of the way our students represented the school. Their outstanding behaviour, positive attitudes, and exemplary conduct were praised throughout the visit, making them excellent ambassadors for our school community. The experience not only broadened their understanding of future educational pathways but also helped to build their confidence as they begin to consider their next steps beyond Year 11.



NEW YEAR 7s

Transition Evening

Our Year 7 Transition Evening was a wonderful opportunity to welcome our new Year 7 students and their families to St Anne's.

The evening began with students and parents meeting their form tutors in their form rooms, helping everyone to feel settled and familiar with their new surroundings. Students then headed to the Sports Hall with their Head of Year, [Miss Waghorn](#), where they took part in a range of fun team-building games and activities, providing a great chance to make new friends and begin building relationships with their peers.



Meanwhile, parents attended a presentation led by senior members of staff, who outlined our expectations, introduced key aspects of the curriculum, and shared the Catholic values that are at the heart of life at St Anne's.

The evening was a fantastic success, and we look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 cohort in September.

Transition Day

The school certainly felt full on 2 July as our Year 6 pupils joined us for their Transition Day! Experiencing life as a St Anne's student for the day, they attended lessons, navigated the school and embraced the routines of secondary school with great confidence and enthusiasm.

Supported by our fantastic prefects throughout the day, pupils enjoyed a range of lessons across different subject areas, giving them a real taste of what awaits them in September. It was wonderful to see how quickly they settled in and engaged with school life.

We were delighted by how confidently the Year 6 students navigated their first taste of life at St Anne's. Seeing them enjoy the library so enthusiastically is a great reminder that it is much more than a place to borrow books - it is a welcoming hub where pupils can learn, socialise, and feel part of our school community.

We are incredibly excited to welcome them back in their St Anne's uniforms on 2nd September and officially welcome them into the St Anne's family. We know they will make an excellent addition to our school community.



INSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Humanities

This half term, our Key Stage 3 geographers have been exploring the fascinating world of the FIFA World Cup through a geographical lens. Using one of the world's biggest sporting events as a case study, students have investigated a range of thought-provoking questions, including whether a country's level of development influences the success of its national team.

Lessons have also explored the role of migration in shaping international football teams, as well as the environmental impact of hosting major global sporting events. These topics have encouraged students to think critically about the links between geography, society, economics, and sustainability, while developing their analytical and discussion skills.

The World Cup theme has brought Geography to life, with pupils fully engaging in debates, activities, and investigations throughout the unit. It has been fantastic to see such enthusiasm for learning, and the topic has proved to be both educational and great fun!

Congratulations to Taio W, Eliza H and Ava B on their outstanding achievement of scoring **100%** in their end-of-year assessments! Taio and Eliza achieved perfect marks in Geography, while Ava earned an impressive 100% in History.

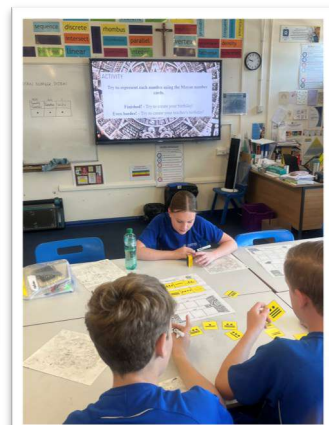
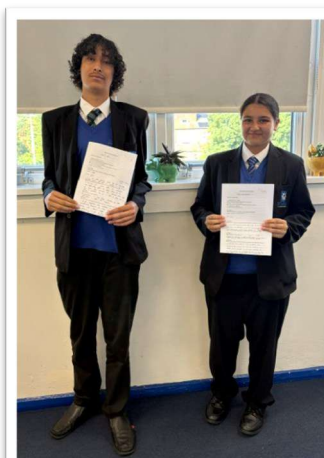
This is a fantastic accomplishment that reflects their hard work, commitment, and excellent subject knowledge throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of their success and hope they continue to build on this achievement in the future. Well done to all three students!

Maths

Students in Maths enjoyed a range of engaging activities as part of Culture Day, exploring how mathematics is used and celebrated in different cultures around the world. One of the highlights was learning about the fascinating Mayan number system, giving students an insight into the history of mathematics and the innovative ways ancient civilisations represented numbers.

The variety of activities sparked curiosity and encouraged students to appreciate the global nature of mathematics, with many thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to discover different cultures through their Maths lessons.

With the recent warm weather, students have also been able to swap their hot classrooms for outdoor learning in the shade. These sessions have provided a refreshing change of environment while allowing students to remain focused, engaged, and enthusiastic about their learning.



Spanish

On Culture Day, the Spanish department brought a taste of Spain to St Anne's with an exciting **Barcelona Escape Room** challenge, inviting both students and staff to put their teamwork, problem-solving and geographical skills to the test.

Participants had just 35 minutes to "escape" the city by solving a series of clues using Google Earth and Google Maps, exploring some of Barcelona's most famous landmarks, including La Rambla, the Sagrada Família, Park Güell and Montjuïc. Along the way, they learned fascinating facts about the city's culture, history and architecture while working together to unlock the secret password.

The challenge proved to be a huge success, with enthusiastic participation from across the school. It was a fantastic way to celebrate Spanish language and culture while encouraging curiosity, collaboration and digital mapping skills in a fun and engaging way.



Science: Science Club

As we come to the end of another fantastic year of Science Club, it has been wonderful to reflect on everything our young scientists have achieved. This half term has been particularly exciting, with students exploring the theme of adaptation through a variety of activities, research projects and thought-provoking discussions. One of the highlights was designing speculative alien life forms. Using their understanding of adaptation and their IT skills, students imagined how living things might evolve to survive on distant planets with different environments. The creativity and scientific reasoning behind their designs were truly impressive.

Our practical investigations included making non-Newtonian liquids, giving students the opportunity to explore materials that behave as both liquids and solids under different forces. It was a messy, engaging activity that sparked plenty of questions and curiosity. We also said goodbye to Mrs Cooper and all the fantastic work she had done towards keeping our science club activities lively and engaging.

Students also researched invasive species, examined the impact they can have on ecosystems around the world, and the solutions that have been employed to control them. They considered the importance of protecting biodiversity and discussed how human actions can influence the natural environment.

As well as developing scientific knowledge, Science Club has encouraged students to think critically about the wider role of science in society. During our discussions on ethics in scientific research, students thoughtfully considered the responsibilities of scientists and the moral questions that can arise alongside scientific advances in the development of medicinal drugs and psychological experiments.

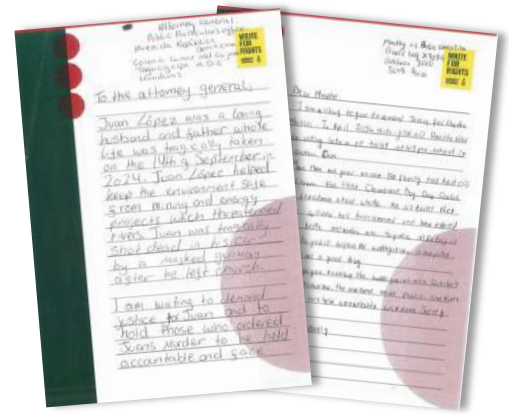
We concluded the half term with a debate on nuclear power, where students confidently presented balanced arguments, evaluated evidence and respectfully challenged one another's arguments. It was wonderful to see how much their confidence and communication skills have developed throughout the year and their willingness to dutifully argue both sides of a discussion.

Science Club has been a fantastic opportunity for students to explore science beyond the classroom, developing curiosity, resilience and a love of discovery. I would like to thank all our members for their enthusiasm, creativity and willingness to get involved throughout the year. I hope they leave inspired to keep asking questions, exploring new ideas and discovering the fascinating world of science.

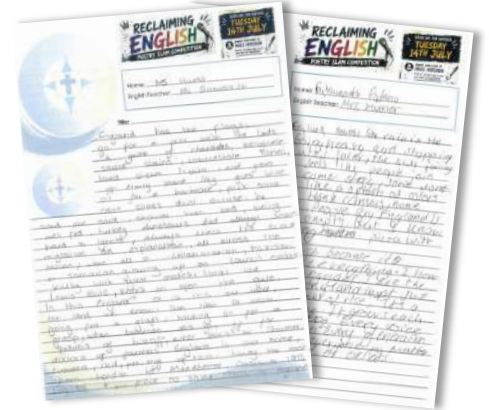


English

As part of our **SACRED Day**, inspired by the values of St Francis of Assisi - particularly his commitment to peace, compassion and standing alongside those most in need - students took part in Amnesty International's Write for Rights campaign. They explored real-life stories from around the world before writing thoughtful letters and messages of support to individuals whose human rights have been denied. Through this work, students saw how the written word can be a powerful tool for justice and positive change. Their empathy, maturity and persuasive writing were outstanding, and we are delighted to share a selection of their work.



For **Culture Day**, students explored the rich history of England, tracing the development of our country, its people and the English language from its earliest origins to the present day. They then reflected on what it means to be English today, producing thoughtful and creative poems that celebrated identity, heritage and belonging. We are incredibly proud of the insight and originality shown in their writing.



The winner of the 'Reclaiming English' poetry slam competition was Leila M, Yr 10 who gave us this fabulous piece of work... well done Leila.

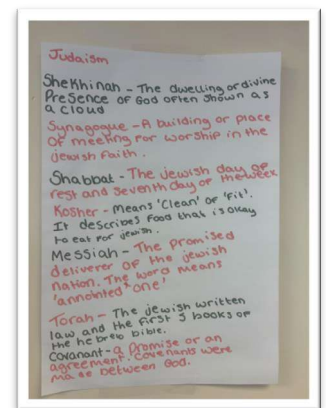
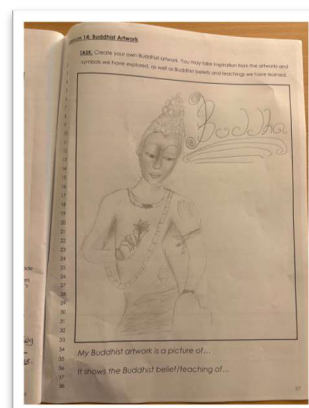
Proud to be British,
Proud to be British not because
of where we're from or our flawless pride,
but because we face truths
before us.
The history holds both
pride and pain,
lessons learned so we don't
repeat again.
No soul so 'pure'
we've always grown.
Built by many, we one place
called home.
From factory towns to
Wembley roars,
football welcomes through
open doors.
Proud to be British,
standing together beneath the same sky.
One flag is still held high,
not proud of the past yet future
holds freedom.
We're not just for one
but for all,
we all "come home" together.

RE

This term, students in RE have been exploring a range of world religions, developing their understanding of different beliefs, practices and traditions while reflecting on the values that unite communities. Years 7, 8 and 9 have studied Buddhism, Islam and Hinduism, whilst Year 10 have continued studying Judaism.

Through engaging discussions and thought-provoking activities, students' have deepened their appreciation of religious diversity and the importance of respect, empathy and open-mindedness.

Year 8 students have focused on interfaith dialogue between Christianity and Islam, examining the shared beliefs, values and history of both faiths, as well as their distinct traditions. They have considered how meaningful dialogue and mutual understanding can help to challenge stereotypes, build stronger relationships and promote peaceful coexistence in our increasingly diverse society. The unit has encouraged students to think critically about the importance of respect, cooperation and finding common ground across different faith communities.



SPORT AT ST ANNE'S

As the year comes to the end, sporting competitions at school have eased off which is somewhat a relief in this heat! However, we are excited to share some good news with you...

We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of two of our Year 11 leavers, Josh C and Ruby W, who have been recognised for their outstanding contribution to PE and sport over the past year. Competing against students from schools across Stockport, Josh was named Secondary Sports Achiever of the Year, while Ruby received the Secondary Leader of the Year award.



Josh has been an integral part of our basketball programme throughout his time at St Anne's. As a key member of the team, he helped lead them to an unbeaten season and the Stockport league title. Josh will be continuing his basketball journey at Xaverian College, where he successfully secured a place on their basketball team following his trial.

Alongside his own playing commitments, Josh has selflessly dedicated his time to supporting others. He has refereed Under-13 fixtures, coached our Year 10 teams, and consistently given up his own time to help develop younger students. During one fixture in which he officiated, a member of staff from the opposing school praised Josh not only for his excellent refereeing but also for going above and beyond by coaching players throughout the game, helping them understand the rules and improve their skills. His calmness, kindness and professionalism make him a fantastic ambassador for school sport, and we are incredibly proud that his dedication has been recognised with this award.

Ruby has been an exceptional ambassador for netball throughout her time at St Anne's. During her final year, she dedicated every Wednesday to supporting our Key Stage 3 students, assisting staff with training sessions and fixtures. She regularly coached teams and refereed matches, always demonstrating patience, encouragement and enthusiasm. Ruby has played a significant role in helping younger students develop both their skills and their understanding of the game, creating a positive and supportive environment for everyone involved.

Ruby has embodied the values of St Anne's throughout her time with us, and we have no doubt she will continue to thrive in whatever path she chooses next.

Both Josh and Ruby have been exceptional role models for our students and have helped create a positive sporting culture within our PE department. They have consistently demonstrated the values of St Anne's through their commitment, leadership and willingness to support others. We thank them for everything they have contributed to our school community and wish them every success in the future. Congratulations to you both on these well-deserved awards!

And congratulations go to our very own PE department, who recently won an award in recognition for their commitment to Sporting Competition, Inclusion, Participation in PE and Sport & Physical Activity, awarded by Stockport Shapes Alliance. This award recognises participation and inclusion in PE and sport. It's a reflection of the opportunities we providing for our students, particularly those who may not otherwise have access to sport outside of school. It is a tremendous testament to the hard work and dedication of Mr Gallagher, Mr Boughey and Miss Burton. We are very proud of everything they and the students under their direction have achieved so far.



SPORTS DAY

This year's Sports Day was a fantastic celebration of teamwork, determination and school spirit, with students from Years 7, 8 and 9 enjoying a full day of competition and encouragement.

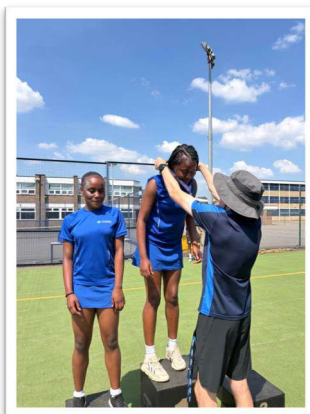
The morning saw students taking part in a range of field events, including shot put, discus, high jump and the ever-popular tug of war. Throughout the morning, competitors demonstrated impressive skill, resilience and determination, while classmates cheered on their peers and celebrated every achievement.

In the afternoon, attention turned to the track as students competed in a variety of races. From the sprints to the longer-distance events and relay races, every participant gave their best, creating an exciting atmosphere filled with enthusiasm and friendly competition.

The day was about much more than winning medals or breaking records. Students showed outstanding sportsmanship by encouraging one another, celebrating personal achievements and demonstrating resilience in every event. Whether competing, officiating or cheering from the sidelines, everyone played a part in creating a positive and inclusive atmosphere that reflected the values of St Anne's. Moments like these remind us that Sport Day is not only about competition but also about building confidence, strengthening friendships and creating lasting memories.

A special 'thank you' goes to the many members of staff who came along to support the students throughout the day. Your presence made a real difference. For many students, hearing words of encouragement from a member of staff is incredibly meaningful, and together we continue to build the positive, supportive culture that makes St Anne's such a special place. Sports Day is a wonderful opportunity for staff and students to come together, celebrate success and enjoy the day as one school community.

Congratulations to everyone who took part, and thank you to all the staff and students who helped make the day such a memorable success.



YEAR 5 LOVE OF LEARNING DAY

At St Anne's, we are passionate about learning, and this was certainly evident during our annual Love of Learning Day!

This year, we were delighted to welcome almost 300 Year 5 pupils from **St Thomas of Canterbury, St Winifred's, St Joseph's, and St Mary's, All Saints and Whitehill** primary schools. Throughout the day, the children immersed themselves in a variety of exciting and engaging lessons across a range of subjects, including Science, History, Geography, PE, Design Technology, Drama and Spanish.



The enthusiasm, curiosity and energy shown by the pupils were fantastic to see. It was wonderful to watch them embrace new experiences, develop new skills and discover just how exciting learning at St Anne's can be. The day was a huge success, with children leaving full of smiles and eager to tell us how much they had enjoyed learning at St Anne's. We look forward to welcoming them back to our Open Evening and seeing many of them again in the future as members of the St Anne's family.

YEAR 5 CREST SUPERSTARS

This term, the Science Department was delighted to welcome some Year 5 pupils to St Anne's for an exciting hands-on science experience, giving them the opportunity to explore the fascinating chemistry behind one of the world's most spectacular celebrations – **fireworks**.

The young scientists began by investigating what makes fireworks produce their vibrant colours. They were introduced to the safe and correct use of a **Bunsen burner**, learning about laboratory safety and how this essential piece of equipment is used in scientific investigations.

Using their new skills, the pupils carried out **flame tests** to identify a range of unknown substances. By observing the different colours produced in the flame, they discovered how scientists can identify metal salts – the very same chemicals that create the dazzling reds, greens, blues, and oranges seen in fireworks displays. The practical session encouraged curiosity, careful observation, and scientific thinking, giving everyone a real taste of life in a secondary school science laboratory.

The enthusiasm, teamwork, and investigative skills shown by all the pupils were outstanding. As a result of their hard work and successful completion of the activities, every pupil qualified for the **CREST SuperStar Award**. St Anne's was proud to present these awards in recognition of their achievements and to celebrate their growing passion for science.

Congratulations to all of our budding scientists! We hope this experience has inspired the next generation of chemists, engineers, and researchers, and we look forward to welcoming them back to St Anne's in the future.



CELEBRATION EVENING

On Thursday 9th July we held our annual Celebration Evening to recognise the hard work and achievements of our students. From the moment guests arrived, there was a real sense of pride and excitement in the air. As families made their way into the hall, they were welcomed by a wonderful exhibition of student artwork that showcased the creativity and talent of our young people. The display featured eye-catching sculptures inspired by the work of Wayne Thiebaud, detailed drawings influenced by the iconic style of L.S. Lowry, striking African masks and vibrant sunflower paintings created in the style of Vincent van Gogh. The exhibition provided the perfect introduction to an evening celebrating achievement in all its forms and was greatly admired by everyone who attended.

One of the highlights of the evening was the outstanding performance by our school choir. Six of our Year 9 and Year 10 girls performed a powerful rendition of *Six* from *Six the Musical* which filled the hall with energy and enthusiasm. The choir gave a moving performance of *You Will Be Found* from *Dear Evan Hansen* which was simply breathtaking. The choir sang with such passion and emotion that there was barely a dry eye in the audience. It was a beautiful reminder of the talent, confidence and creativity that flourishes within our school community.

The heart of the evening was the presentation of awards. An impressive 155 awards were presented across all subject areas, recognising students for both achievement and effort. These awards celebrated academic excellence, determination, progress and a commitment to learning. It was wonderful to see so many students recognised for their hard work and dedication throughout the year, with proud families sharing in these memorable moments. Alongside the subject awards, we were especially proud to present our prestigious SACRED Awards. These awards represent the very highest honour a student can receive at our school. Nominated by members of staff, the recipients are students who consistently embody our SACRED values in everything they do. They lead by example, support others, show compassion, demonstrate resilience and make a positive difference to our school community.

Throughout the evening there was a genuine sense of celebration and gratitude. We celebrated individual success, collective achievement and the strength of a school community that supports every student to flourish. The applause, smiles and moments of reflection demonstrated just how much our students have accomplished this year.

Congratulations to all of our award winners and performers. We are immensely proud of each and every one of you and look forward to seeing what you will achieve in the year ahead. The evening was a true celebration of excellence, effort and the values that make our school such a special place.



STUDENT SUMMER REWARD TRIPS

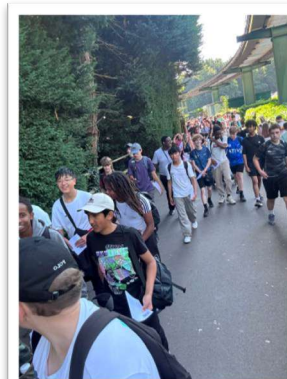
Alton Towers

Our trip to Alton Towers was an unforgettable day full of excitement and adventure! Everyone showed amazing behaviour throughout the day, making it a fantastic experience for all.

We made sure to wear plenty of suncream and packed enough snacks to keep us going. Although some of us felt a little sick on the bus, we soon forgot about it once we arrived and the excitement began.

There were so many different rides to experience, each offering something unique. We also enjoyed choosing fun accessories and souvenirs to remember the day. One of the highlights was Miss Roberts winning a huge toy, which brought big smiles to everyone's faces!

The journey home felt very long after such a busy day, but we were all chatting about our favourite moments and sharing our excitement. It was a truly memorable trip that left us with wonderful memories we will treasure for a long time.



Bowling at The Light

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 students had a fantastic time at The Light as part of their Summer Rewards Trip.

Students organised themselves into teams of six or seven and showed excellent teamwork throughout the day, encouraging one another, sharing bowling tips and techniques, and celebrating each other's successes. Even the occasional gutter ball was met with smiles and words of encouragement, making for a fun and supportive atmosphere.

After two exciting games of bowling, everyone enjoyed a well-deserved lunch of pizza, chips and drinks. Before heading back to school, students had the opportunity to visit the arcades and cool down with a refreshing Tango Ice Blast.

We are incredibly proud of the exemplary behaviour displayed by every student throughout the trip. They represented St Anne's with maturity, respect and pride within the local community. During lunch, many students voluntarily cleared away and neatly stacked their plates and cups without being asked, demonstrating consideration for others and respect for their surroundings.

It was an absolute pleasure for staff to accompany this trip. The students were a credit to themselves, their families and St Anne's, and they should be extremely proud of the way they conducted themselves throughout the day.



CREATIVE ARTS VISIT TO LONDON

A number of Creative Arts students from across all year groups enjoyed an unforgettable three-day educational trip to London at the end of this term, packed with inspiring experiences in art, music, theatre and culture.

The adventure began with a visit to the immersive Frameless Museum, where students explored spectacular digital artworks brought to life through light, sound and projection. This was followed by a fascinating tour of the former home of legendary guitarist Jimi Hendrix, offering an insight into the life and career of one of music's greatest icons. After some time to relax and enjoy the sunshine in Hyde Park, the group rounded off the day with a fun-filled evening of bowling at the O2 Hollywood Bowl.

Day two was a dream come true for many of our aspiring performers. Students were given an exclusive backstage tour of the iconic Theatre Royal Drury Lane, discovering the history and behind-the-scenes workings of one of London's most famous theatres. They then took part in an exciting workshop led by members of the cast of Disney's *The Lion King* where students learned choreography and performance techniques from professional performers, gaining a valuable insight into the skills and dedication required for a career in musical theatre. This amazing day was topped off by experiencing the spectacular performance of *The Lion King* in the West End.

The final day offered the perfect blend of entertainment and sightseeing. Students began the morning at Madame Tussauds, where they had the chance to "meet" King Charles and many other famous faces. They then enjoyed breathtaking views of the capital from the London Eye before spending time exploring some of London's most iconic landmarks, including Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, and Buckingham Palace. With lasting memories of an unforgettable trip, the group then began the journey home.

The trip was an incredible opportunity for students to broaden their creative horizons, experience world-class performances and exhibitions, and make lasting memories with friends. It was a fantastic way to end the term, and everyone returned home feeling inspired, motivated and eager for their next Creative Arts adventure.



CULTURE DAY

St Anne's Culture and Diversity Day was a tremendous success, providing a vibrant celebration of the rich cultures, traditions and backgrounds that make our school community so unique. The day showcased the incredible diversity within St Anne's, with students taking great pride in sharing and celebrating their heritage.

Many students arrived dressed in beautiful traditional cultural clothing, proudly displaying national flags and contributing an impressive selection of authentic dishes from countries including Egypt, Nigeria, Jamaica, Ukraine, India and many more. The shared food brought everyone together, giving students and staff the opportunity to experience flavours from around the world while learning about the stories, customs and traditions behind them.

Throughout the day, lessons across the curriculum embraced themes of culture, diversity and global awareness, encouraging students to explore different perspectives and recognise the value of inclusion in our everyday lives. From classroom activities to conversations at lunchtime, the event inspired curiosity, respect and a deeper appreciation of the diverse experiences that enrich our school community.

Culture and Diversity Day was a wonderful reflection of St Anne's values, promoting kindness, respect, understanding and a strong sense of belonging for all. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, maturity and generosity shown by our students, who embraced every aspect of the day with positivity and pride. Their willingness to celebrate one another's cultures and learn from each other's experiences truly captured the inclusive spirit that makes St Anne's such a welcoming and supportive community.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH SILVER EXPEDITION

Our Year 10 students recently completed their **Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award expedition**, taking on the beautiful but challenging landscape of **Grizedale Forest in the Lake District**. Over the course of the expedition, students put their preparation, skills and determination to the test as they navigated their way through varied terrain and completed their planned routes.

The expedition involved two overnight stays on a campsite, where students developed their independence by setting up camp, preparing meals using Trangia stoves and managing the challenges of life outdoors. Alongside the physical challenge of walking long distances in hot weather and across rocky terrain, students demonstrated their ability to read maps, navigate accurately, plan routes and make decisions as a team.

Throughout the experience, students showed exceptional **resilience, determination and ambition**. They supported one another through difficult moments, encouraged their teammates and showed great maturity in taking responsibility for their own equipment, decisions and progress. The expedition was a fantastic opportunity for students to step outside their comfort zones and develop valuable life skills.

The commitment, teamwork and independence displayed by the Year 10 students were outstanding. They should be incredibly proud of their achievement and the way they represented the school. Completing the Silver Award expedition is a significant accomplishment and a wonderful reflection of their perseverance, courage and willingness to take on new challenges.



READING GROUPS

At St Anne's, we proudly deliver a robust academic curriculum. This opens up more opportunities for our students post-16. However, all students need to be able to access the curriculum through reading and understanding. As part of this process, the senior leadership team is involved in weekly reading groups with the aim of improving students' comprehension skills. Below is an overview of some of these reading groups.

Mrs Sutcliffe

We are currently halfway through our chosen book, so the boys in my Year 9 reading group have been given their copies to take home and finish over the holidays. I am looking forward to hearing their thoughts on the ending when we meet again in September.



Our latest reading sessions have brought us to a major breakthrough: River Boy finally learns that his real name is **William**. This revelation provides the first real piece of his forgotten history, but it also leaves us with even more questions about who he truly is and why so many people are searching for him.

It has been a fascinating and intriguing book to explore together, and I can't wait to hear from the boys in September about how the story concludes!

Mr Ostmeier

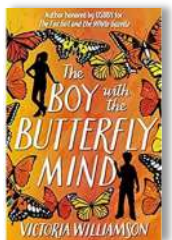
Mr Ostmeier's reading group has thoroughly enjoyed reading *The Haunting of Tyrese Walker* by J.P. Rose. The novel follows Tyrese, a young boy whose life is turned upside down after a major change, leaving him struggling to cope with his emotions. As if things were not difficult enough, he is warned that he is being hunted by the mysterious Shadow Man. Unsure of who he can trust and with his own mind beginning to unravel, Tyrese must face his fears as the danger closes in and there seems to be nowhere left to hide.



The book has sparked some excellent discussions within the group about resilience, mental wellbeing, friendship and trust. Students have enjoyed exploring the suspenseful storyline, making predictions, and reflecting on Tyrese's experiences and the choices he makes throughout the novel. It has been a gripping read that has encouraged thoughtful conversation and a real enthusiasm for reading.

Mrs Simmons

Mrs Simmons and her Year 7 class have been enjoying *The Boy with the Butterfly Mind* this term. The novel has sparked thoughtful discussions about friendship, understanding, and celebrating individual differences, with students engaging enthusiastically in exploring its themes and characters. It has been wonderful to see Year 7 developing both their reading skills and empathy through this inspiring story. The group has shown real empathy and insight, especially when considering the challenges faced by Jamie, which has led to great reflective contributions.



Mrs McGloin

Mrs McGloin and her Year 8 class have been reading *A Jigsaw of Fire and Stars* together this term. The novel has inspired thoughtful discussions about resilience, identity, and the power of friendship, encouraging students to reflect on its powerful themes while developing their reading and analytical skills. It has been fantastic to see such enthusiastic engagement with the text.



SPARX ACHIEVEMENTS

Sparx Maths

Well done to the following students who are top of the Sparx Maths Leaderboard in their year group this month:

Position	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
1	Nanda A	Dominion I	Giles G	Ire A
2	Florence M	Divine I	Lian M	Varvara S
3	Kiran S	Puneeth V	Stella-Maris A	Sheran P

As a reminder, Sparx Maths homework is set on Wednesdays and due in the following Wednesday.

Sparx Reader

Congratulations also go to the following students who are top of the Sparx Reader Leaderboard in their year group this month:

Position	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
1	Maya A	Dominion I	Nathan B
2	Nanda A	Divine I	Lord A-D
3	Peyton F	Lama E	Khalida S

Congratulations to the following Year 10 students who have ranked the top three positions for Most Study Time on Seneca:

1	2	3
Vavara S	Talia W	Erin W

As a reminder, Sparx Reader homework is set on Thursdays and due in by the following Thursday.

SUMMER LITURGIES

As we reached the end of another busy and successful school term, staff and students gathered together for their special end-of-term liturgies, providing a welcome opportunity to pause, reflect and give thanks. In the midst of the demands of school life, the liturgy offered a moment of prayer and quiet reflection, celebrating the achievements of the term while recognising the dedication, care and commitment shown by every member of the St Anne's community.

The liturgy also looked ahead with hope and gratitude, reminding us of the importance of supporting one another and living out our school values each day. It was a fitting way to conclude the term, strengthening our sense of community and shared purpose before the summer break. We thank everyone who helped prepare and lead these meaningful celebrations.



SAFEGUARDING AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT OVER THE HOLIDAYS

We all have mental health, so it's important to understand when you may need to get some help or support with how you are feeling, or to know when you may be experiencing a more serious problem. It is quite normal to feel worried, anxious or upset when things don't go as you hope or planned. School holidays can heighten these emotions so it's important to know what support there is, especially when school is closed.

Kooth.com – is a free, safe and anonymous online support and counselling services for young people aged 11-18 years, to support with mental health.

Samaritians are available 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Call 0116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org

BEAT youthline – offers online chat and telephone support to young people struggling with an eating disorder. The help line is 0808 801 0711.

HOPELINEUK – Is for young people experiencing suicidal thoughts. Call 0800068 4141, 9am – midnight 365 days a year.

SHOUT – provides free confidential 24/7 message support for anyone who is struggling to cope and anyone in crisis. Text SHOUT to 85258.

Childline provides confidential telephone counselling service for any child under 19 years old. The 24 hour help line is 0800 1111.

Childline.org.uk/get-supported/1-2-1-counsellor-chat with an online counsellor.

Support for parents of young people with mental health concerns

Samaritians - Call 0116 123 Free to call 24 hours a day

Childline – Call 0800 1111 Free to call 24 hours a day

Teen Body Image and Self-esteem – A practical guide for parents

Young Minds parent Helpline – Call 0808 802 5544

In an emergency

If your child requires urgent medical help call 999 or take them to the nearest A+E.

AND FINALLY...

And finally, thank you! As we close this academic year, I want to warmly thank our students, staff, governors and families for everything you have contributed to life at St Anne's. Please use the summer to rest and recharge safely so that when students return on Wednesday 2nd September, they are refreshed and firing on all cylinders, ready for another happy year of learning and with determination to build on this progress together.

Julie Sutcliffe

Mrs J Sutcliffe
Heateacher

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