



ST ANNE'S NEWS

A monthly newsletter brought to you by Mrs Julie Sutcliffe, Headteacher

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to my first newsletter of the academic year.

Following on from our much-improved results in GCSE English and Maths, we look forward with confidence to the year ahead. I am delighted to report that the vast majority of children have returned with a positive attitude to learning, ready to embrace the St Anne's Way. This bodes well for the rest of the year. I hope that you enjoy reading about all things St Anne's!



St Anne's School Prayer

Lord, through the grace of the Holy Spirit, help us appreciate this day you have given us. Guide us to become the people you created us to be, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ. Allow us to lift each other up in mind, heart and spirit, uniting our St Anne's family in our mission to give glory to God and make the world a better place.

Amen

St Anne, pray for us.

Dates for your calendar: October

- 7th October – Key to Success Evening: Year 8
- 8th October – Open Evening
- 21st October – PROUD Event and Year 7 Key to Success Evening
- 23rd October – Year 11 Parents' Evening



THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

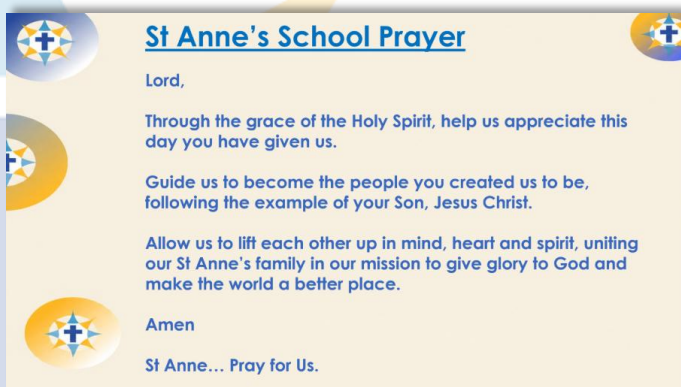
Staff celebration of the word

The staff began this academic year with a reflective Celebration of the Word on our INSET day. This was led by Mrs Ormsby-Scott, Mrs Sutcliffe, Mr Gallagher, Mr Boughey, Mr Bentley and Ms Weldon. At the beginning of the new academic year, staff gathered to reflect on their shared mission of educating and supporting young people, while celebrating the Season of Creation and seeking God's guidance for the year ahead. Through the Gospel and reflection, they were reminded that Jesus taught through service, sacrifice and example, challenging all staff to lead with kindness, hope and compassion in their daily work. The liturgy concluded with prayers for the Church, the school community, staff, pupils and new starters, and with the new St Anne's school prayer asking for unity, guidance and strength in their mission.



Launch of the New School Prayer

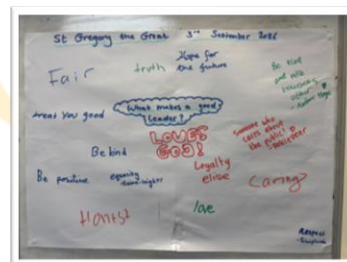
The new St Anne's School Prayer was launched as a key part of the school's Catholic life and mission. Rooted in the vision of To Love You More Dearly: The Prayer and Liturgy Directory for Catholic Schools, Academies and Colleges in England and Wales, the prayer reflects the Directory's call for prayer to be formative, inclusive and centred on a personal relationship with Christ. It invites members of the school community to recognise God's presence in everyday life, grow into the people God created them to be, follow the example of Jesus, and work together in service of others, embodying the mission of Catholic education through prayer, community and action.



Celebrating Feast Days

St Gregory the Great

We began our feast year celebrations this year with St Gregory the Great. Students learnt about St Gregory in form time and were invited to have a moment of reflection and add to our spider diagram about leadership in the chapel.



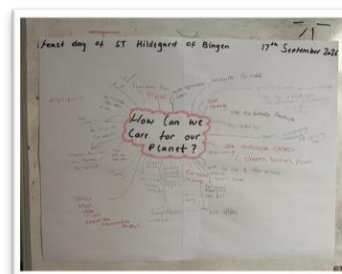
The Nativity of the Blessed Mary

On 8th September, we celebrated the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Students were invited into our school chapel to create birthday cards for Mary, reflecting on her importance within our Catholic faith and her willingness to say 'yes' to God. The cards have created a wonderful display in the chapel and provided students with a simple but meaningful way to mark this important feast day.



Feast day of St Hildegard of Bingham, Patron Saint of Ecology

On 17th September, we celebrated the feast day of St Hildegard; students contributed ideas to a mind map which we are turning into an eco-pledge to display in school as a contribution to the Catholic Social Teaching of 'caring for our common home'.



First Mass of the year in our School Chapel

On 15th September, we were delighted to celebrate our first Mass of the new academic year in the school chapel, celebrated by Fr Peter from the Church of the Holy Family. Thank you to all the students and staff who gave up part of their lunchtime to attend and celebrate together. We hope this will be the first of many opportunities to celebrate Mass throughout the year as we continue to strengthen the prayer and sacramental life of St Anne's.



Retreat days

Our Year 7 students have enjoyed a wonderful opportunity to step away from their usual school routines and spend time together during their **Year 7 Retreat Days at Coach House Church**.

Starting a new school can be an exciting but sometimes daunting experience, so these retreat days provided a valuable opportunity for our students to pause, reflect and build new friendships as they begin their journey at St Anne's. Away from their normal lessons and the busy school timetable, students were able to relax, have fun and get to know their new classmates and form tutors in a different setting.



Throughout the days, students took part in a range of activities inspired by and rooted in the Christian faith. These encouraged them to think about what it means to be part of a community, how we can support and care for one another, and the importance of building positive relationships with those around us.



The retreat also gave students the chance to work together, share experiences and discover more about one another. Through a mixture of team-building activities, reflection, discussion and fun, our Year 7 students began to develop the strong sense of belonging and community that we hope will continue throughout their time at St Anne's.

It was fantastic to see students getting involved, supporting one another and embracing the opportunity to make new connections. The enthusiasm, positivity and sense of fun shown by our Year 7 students made the retreat days a real success.



We would like to thank **Coach House Church** for welcoming us and helping to provide such a memorable experience for our students.

GIFT

GIFT Update: GIFT team members will now take responsibility for working on ideas for the prayer each week and will present to the rest of the GIFT team. Previously, Miss Coyne presented the theme, and students wrote a line for the prayer. As we move towards students being more involved in leading collective worship, GIFT members will now work on the theme of the prayer in their own time and lead in presenting.

During the week beginning 14th September, the weekly GIFT prayer commemorated the *Exaltation of the Holy Cross* (celebrated Monday 14th September) which symbolises Christ's sacrifice and unconditional love for humanity. The cruelty of the Cross is not what is worshipped, but rather the love that God showed to humanity by accepting death on the Cross. John's Gospel reflects this theme: *"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."* (John 3:13-17). In the prayer, we consider what the Cross shows us about Jesus' love and sacrifice, and how we can draw inspiration from the Cross.



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Father,

This week, we give thanks and appreciation for Jesus' sacrifice on the Holy Cross. Help us remember that Jesus sacrificed His own life so that we may be free from the bondage of sin. Thank You for offering Your Son to save us; let us try to demonstrate the love You so unconditionally continue to show us.

Exaltation:
adoration/praise.

Holy Cross: the cross Jesus carried and was crucified on.

May we carry out the spirit of the Cross in our lives through kindness, forgiveness or service to others. Inspire us to sometimes sacrifice ourselves for others, in whatever small way we can.

Allow the students and staff at St. Anne's emulate Jesus' strength on the Cross through determination and compassion. Let us be united in faith and love with Your Son as our guide; may He lead us through each day.

Today, we exalt the name of our Lord, Jesus, and we commemorate His deliverance.

St. Anne - pray for us.
Amen.



Caritas and training

Caritas began this year with a training session delivered by the Diocese of Salford. During the session, we explored how we can be role models of faith by putting love into action and living out the values of the Gospel. We also discussed how we can strive to achieve as many principles of Catholic Social Teaching as possible throughout the year, supporting those in need and making a positive difference in our community. Our Caritas Ambassadors will be working hard throughout the year to lead charitable initiatives, raise awareness of important causes, and encourage others to put their faith into action. All our ambassadors can be identified by their red Caritas badge.



Praying more during the school day

This year, we are continuing to develop opportunities for prayer throughout the school day. Alongside our school prayer each morning, students are now saying Grace before meals and Grace after meals at lunchtime. These short prayers encourage students to pause during their busy day, give thanks to God for the food they receive and remember those who may go without. Through these everyday moments of prayer, we hope students will develop a deeper sense of gratitude for God's blessings.



Graces:

Grace Before Lunch (P4)

Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts which we are about to receive from your bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grace After Lunch (P5)

We give you thanks, Almighty God, for all your benefits, who live and reign, world without end. Amen.



BEHAVIOUR

As we settle into the new term, we want to thank all families for their continued support in helping our students uphold the high standards that make our school such a wonderful place to learn. Our students thrive when routines are clear, expectations are consistent, and everyone works together and it's your partnership makes all the difference.

A few key reminders will help us maintain a calm, focused environment. **Mobile phones must not be seen or heard anywhere on site.** If a phone is used or visible, it will be taken and returned only when a parent or carer collects it. We also ask that students follow our uniform expectations: **no make-up, natural hair colours only, and no jewellery—including clear studs.** Watches are welcome, but **smart watches are not permitted.**

Healthy habits matter too. **No fizzy or energy drinks** should be brought to school, and water is readily available so please ensure your child has a water bottle each day. Every student needs a **school bag large enough for an A4 folder**, along with full equipment each day. This includes their **journal**, which contains prayers used in every lesson. Being fully equipped ensures students can engage straight away through our equipment mats and start learning without delay.

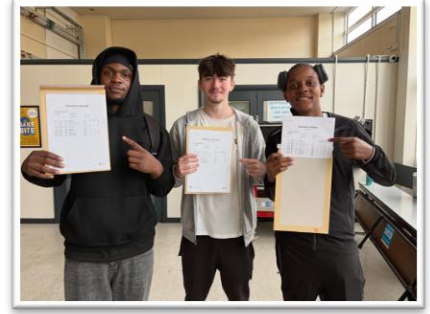
Punctuality is essential. **Line-up begins at 8.40am**, and the gate closes at **8.38am** to ensure students are ready to line up on time.

Finally, our new behaviour mantra **GROW** sits at the heart of our curriculum and shapes the way we support every child. Through GROW, we **Give Praise, Reward Throughout, Offer Support, and Work through and discuss.** This approach helps us recognise and celebrate positive choices, guide students when challenges arise, and restore relationships so learning can continue positively. GROW reminds us that behaviour is something students learn over time, just like any other part of the curriculum. By working together - students, staff, and families - we can nurture confidence, resilience, and strong character, ensuring every child feels valued and able to achieve their very best.



GCSE RESULTS 2026

A huge **congratulations to the Class of 2026** on their fantastic exam results and, most importantly, on the hard work, determination and dedication they demonstrated throughout their studies.



Results Day was a particularly special occasion, with a wonderful atmosphere across the school, as students gathered to receive the results they had worked so hard to achieve. There were plenty of smiles, celebrations and moments of pride as students reflected on their achievements.

We are particularly pleased to see the continued **year-on-year progress** in our results. This is a fantastic reflection of the commitment and perseverance of our students, alongside the dedication and expertise of our teaching staff and the encouragement and support provided by parents and carers. There were many outstanding individual achievements across the year group, with students celebrating excellent results in a wide range of subjects. We would like to give particular recognition to **Layyan, Praise, Sofia, Marvwa, Noah, Liam and Ruari**, who each achieved an **average grade of 7 or above across all of their subjects**. This is an exceptional accomplishment and one of which they should be extremely proud.

We would like to wish all members of the Class of 2026 every success and happiness as they take their next steps, whether continuing into further education, beginning an apprenticeship, entering employment or pursuing other exciting opportunities. We look forward to celebrating their achievements together at our **Presentation Evening on 5th November 2026**, when we will recognise the successes of the Class of 2026 and celebrate the journey they have shared.

STUDENT LEADERS

We have been absolutely delighted by the overwhelming response to this year's Student Leadership applications. With opportunities available across **eight different leadership groups**, it has been fantastic to see so many students willing to step forward, serve their school community, and make a positive difference.

Students applied for roles within our **GIFT Team, Caritas Group, Literacy Leaders, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, Mental Health Ambassadors, Sports Leaders, Student Council, and Culture and Diversity Leaders**. The number of applications received reflects the enthusiasm, commitment, and sense of responsibility that our students demonstrate every day.

The quality of applications was exceptional, with students showing a genuine passion for supporting others, improving school life, and living out our school values. We are incredibly proud of everyone who applied and the confidence they showed in putting themselves forward for leadership roles.

We look forward to working with our student leaders throughout the year and seeing the positive impact they have across the school community. We are excited to watch them develop their leadership skills, inspire their peers, and help make this another successful year at St Anne's.

Year 7 Subject Stars

Each week, students are celebrated in class for the amazing work they do, and certificates are given in assemblies for these Subject Stars of the Week. This month, we are featuring our **Year 7 Subject Stars**. Well done to them – keep up the good work.



RE	ENGLISH	MATHS	SCIENCE	SPANISH
Chikamso Bella Sam	Isabella Joe Mutaz	Avelliyah Amber Daisy	Junior Theo Akram	Sameka Olivia
GEOGRAPHY	HISTORY	TECHNOLOGY	CREATIVE ARTS	PE
Pearl Danyal Theo	Sophia Eliza Chikamso	Amelie Theo Peaches	Rowan Lucyann	Pearl James Ellis

English

Year 7 – Literature Through Time: Year 7 have made a fantastic start to secondary English and are beginning our exciting Literature Through Time journey. Students are exploring how stories, characters and ideas have changed throughout history, from myths and legends through to some of our most important classic texts. Along the way, they are building their vocabulary, reading stamina and confidence when discussing literature. A special ‘shoutout’ goes to: Azaan for his fantastic effort in all English lessons. He has already made noticeable progress in structuring and organising his work.

Year 8 – Gothic Literature: Year 8 are diving into the dark and mysterious world of Gothic Literature! Students are exploring what makes a story Gothic, studying suspense, setting, character and the supernatural. They are developing their understanding of how writers create atmosphere and tension, while building their own vocabulary and analytical skills.

Year 9 – The Crucible: Year 9 are studying Arthur Miller's The Crucible, exploring the themes of power and authority and considering how individuals and communities can be influenced by fear and suspicion. Students are developing their critical thinking and learning to express increasingly sophisticated ideas about characters, themes and the writer's intentions.

Year 10 – GCSE English Language: Year 10 have jumped straight into their GCSE English Language studies! They are currently focusing on Paper 1, developing the skills needed to analyse fiction texts and craft their own creative writing. We are establishing strong foundations now that will support students throughout their GCSE journey.

Year 11 – An Inspector Calls: Year 11 are beginning their final GCSE Literature text, J.B. Priestley's ‘An Inspector Calls’. Students are exploring the play's characters, themes and ideas about society and responsibility, while developing the quotation knowledge and analytical skills they need to succeed in their GCSE examinations. Special shutout to Sheraz - his enthusiasm and effort in English have been exemplary.

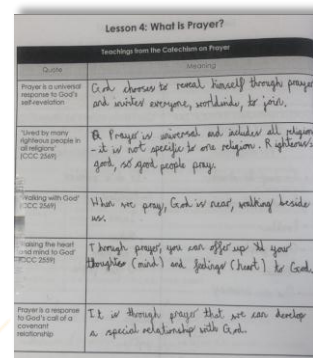
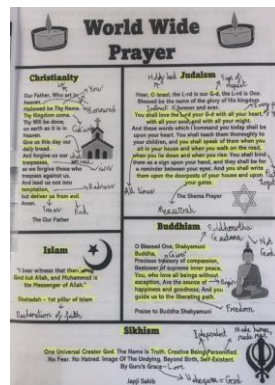
Across all year groups, we are encouraging students to go beyond simply knowing a text. We want our students to become confident readers, critical thinkers and articulate writers who can discuss ideas thoughtfully, use ambitious vocabulary and make connections between literature and the wider world.

RE

KS3 curriculum update – Ambition

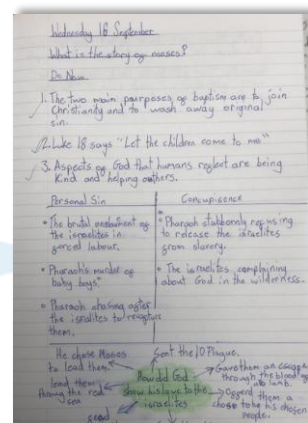
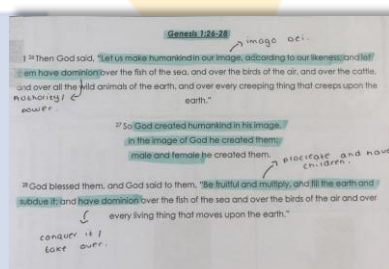
Year 7 have been exploring the nature of God, including God's revelation and relationship with humanity and the world with reference to the Genesis creation accounts. They will later consider the compatibility of science and faith from a Catholic perspective before moving on to considering how they can promote stewardship.

Examples of Year 7 work



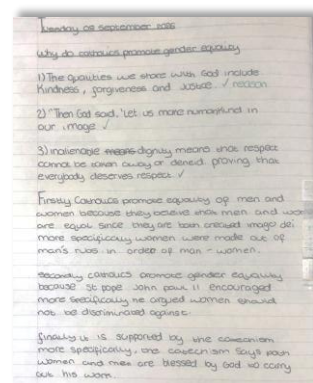
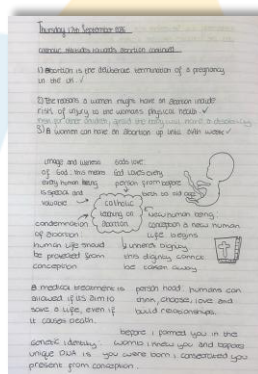
Year 8 have been studying the impact of the Fall on humanity. This includes understanding that the sacrament of Baptism and God's commandments are necessary to help bridge the gap between God and humanity, created by Adam and Eve.

Examples of Year 8 work



Year 9 have been considering what it truly means to be a human made Imago Dei, including considering Catholic teachings on ethical topics such as abortion. Year 9 have enjoyed debating these issues and have done so in a mature, respectful way.

Examples of Year 9 work



Across KS3, students are being encouraged to develop not only their knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith, but also their ability to think deeply, ask challenging questions and engage thoughtfully with complex issues. The curriculum provides students with opportunities to reflect on their own beliefs and values, listen respectfully to different perspectives, and apply their learning to the world around them. Through discussion, debate and independent reflection, our students are developing the confidence and ambition to become curious, compassionate and well-rounded young people, ready to make a positive contribution to their communities and the wider world.

Science

Students have been working hard in Science during the first term of this year.

In KS3, Year 7 have had a busy start with their Introduction to Science week where they have learnt about health and safety in the laboratory, scientific equipment, variables and scientific method. They have now moved onto their Particles unit and have spent this week completing a practical on Stearic acid in order to find its melting point. There have been super Science experimental skills on show all round. Mr Flynn has especially enjoyed meeting and teaching Year 7 and particularly 7YC and 7XC. He would like to commend them on their enthusiasm, great questioning and interest in the subject - especially during practical work!

Year 8 have begun the year learning about the periodic table and Year 9 have begun the year learning about reactions. Students in Year 9 have been doing the thermal decomposition practical this week, breaking copper carbonate down using heat and have done a superb job all round. Students in both Year 8 and 9 have had formative assessments this week on their work on thermal decomposition and combustion so have had a chance to show off what they have learnt so far. Mrs Rogerson would like to give a special mention to Benjamin for his excellent formative assessment in 8XA. Well done, Ben! Mr Swift would like to commend Jenson and James in 9XC. Well done, boys! Mr Flynn also says that 8YA are a wonderful class and have shown their knowledge and skills in their recent formative assessments too.

In KS4 Year 10 have begun their GCSE course with units B1, C1 and P1 learning about cell biology, energy and atomic structure and the periodic table. Year 10 have had an excellent start. Mrs Rogerson would like to commend all students in 10YB for their excellent use of scientific vocabulary when studying separating techniques as part of their atomic structure unit. Their recall of the key words really has been quite impressive! Mr Flynn would like to celebrate the students of 10YB as, for him, they have demonstrated wonderful skills when completing their recent microscope and slide preparation required practical with all making up great specimen slides and managing to focus their image successfully. "They are a joy to teach". Well done, 10YB! Miss Poscha would like to celebrate 10XA and their work on energy equations, with the majority completing 6 mark GCSE questions to an excellent standard. Well done, 10XA! Miss Poscha would also like to celebrate the efforts of Sean S in 10XC and Daisy H for successfully solving the crime scene assassination attempt kinetic energy equation task in super quick time!

Whilst Year 11 have begun their Year 11 content learning about forces, rates of reaction and ecology and bioenergetics, Mr Swift would like to commend Lucas and Lily for their efforts in their biodiversity end of unit test. Keep up the good work! In 11XB, Scarlett has been a superstar so far this term, completing all work to date to the best of her ability, with enthusiasm and active engagement. Well done, Scarlett! 11XA have completed the ecology required practical using quadrats exceedingly well, **and for the first time in 17 years**, a student has successfully balanced an irregular shape on the nib of a pencil in the centre of mass practical – a huge well done to Ore. He was rewarded with 10 golden tickets!

We urge all students in Year 11 to have a revision guide in order to support their revision for end of unit tests and their upcoming mocks.

Technology

Exciting projects are underway in Design Technology this term! Year 7 students are exploring inclusive design as they create table cricket bats, learning how products can be adapted to meet the needs of a wide range of users.



In Year 8, students are developing their craftsmanship skills by designing and casting unique pieces of pewter jewellery, combining creativity with traditional manufacturing techniques.



Meanwhile, Year 9 are drawing inspiration from the bold colours and striking imagery of Pop Art as they design and make decorative lamps. These engaging projects help students develop creativity, practical skills and an understanding of real-world design challenges.



Creative Arts

Music

It has been a fantastic and musical term so far, with students across all year groups showing great enthusiasm, creativity and commitment to developing their musical skills.

Year 7 have been working hard to prepare for their upcoming PROUD concert on 21st October. They have been developing their performance skills and, most importantly, building their confidence. It has been wonderful to see them grow as musicians, and we are very much looking forward to seeing them perform and share their hard work with an audience.

Year 8 have been discovering the secrets behind a catchy pop song! They have explored what makes music memorable and have been putting this knowledge into practice by creating their own riffs. The results have been fantastic, with students producing some wonderfully creative ideas.

Year 9 have been building on the key musical skills they developed in Years 7 and 8 while exploring the exciting world of film music. They have been investigating how composers create atmosphere, tension and emotion, as well as discovering how advances in technology have transformed film music over a relatively short period of time.

Our GCSE Music students have been working incredibly hard, developing and refining their composition skills as they work towards their coursework deadlines. Their creativity, determination and commitment have been fantastic to see.

We are incredibly proud of the progress being made across the Creative Arts Department and look forward to sharing even more of our students' achievements with you throughout the year.

Art

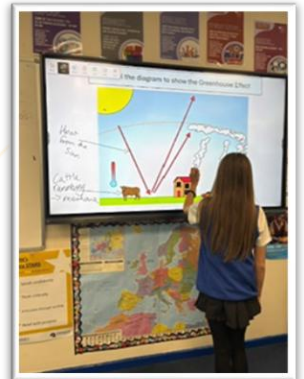
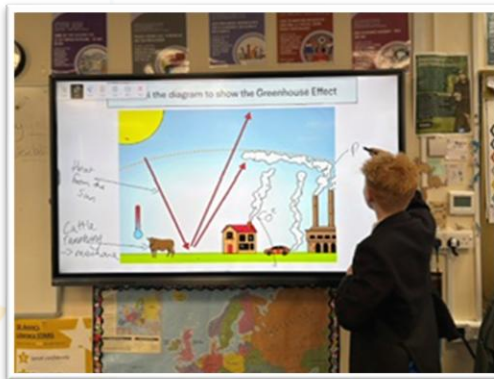
Year 7 have been developing their fundamental art skills, exploring techniques and building confidence with the basics.

Year 8 have been focusing on **Realism**, developing their observational skills and learning how to accurately recreate imagery through careful attention to detail, proportion and tone.

Year 9 have been exploring the expressive work of **Vincent van Gogh**, investigating his distinctive style, use of colour, brushwork and emotion to create their own expressive artwork

Humanities

It has been a fantastic start to the year across all our year groups, with students settling back into their learning and embracing new and exciting topics. In Year 8 Geography, students have been exploring the important and topical issue of climate change, developing their understanding of its causes, impacts and the ways in which people and communities can respond to this global challenge. Meanwhile, Year 11 students have begun studying Medicine Through Time, investigating how medical knowledge, treatments and practices have developed and changed over the centuries. It has been wonderful to see students engaging so enthusiastically and demonstrating curiosity and thoughtful discussion in their lessons. Miss Riley, Miss Tyler, Mrs Armstead and Miss Waghorn are all enjoying being back at school and are looking forward to another successful and rewarding year of learning with our students.



Spanish

The Spanish department celebrated National Languages Week recently. The week provided a wonderful opportunity for our students to celebrate the diversity of languages and cultures within our school community, whilst also encouraging them to develop their curiosity and appreciation for language learning.

To add a flavour of another culture to the week, **German food was available in the canteen that week**, giving students the chance to try something new. Then, to finish off the week, **Friday lunchtime** students collected puzzle sheets and put their detective skills to the test as they work out which language facts belong to which teachers. Students and staff discovered some fascinating facts and enjoyed trying to match facts to the correct member of staff! A big thank you to all the members of staff who participated, sharing their interesting and surprising facts about the languages they speak.



We hope that the activities throughout the week will inspire students to be curious about languages, celebrate the many different cultures represented in our community and recognise the valuable role that language learning plays in understanding the wider world.

SPARX ACHIEVEMENTS

Sparx Reader and Sparx Maths

Congratulations to our SPARX Stars of 2025/26. Last year, the following students showed their determination with their English and Maths homework to be crowned the SPARX Stars – well done to the students below.

	English	Maths
Year 8	Nanda Maya	Nanda Florence
Year 9	Dominion Divine Hanon	Dominion Divine Puneeth



Students were awarded achievement badges in assembly.

English continue to use SPARX as their homework platform for all Year 7, 8 and 9 students.

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	Avangelina	Francesca	Dominion
2	Chikamso	Kaitlyn	Divine
3	Rania	Nanda	Hanon

KS3 homework is set on Monday and is due each Friday.

SENECA

Position	Top student by study time		Top student by average score	
1	Zehra, Yr 10	3h 25m	Shannon, Yr 10	100%
2	Kezia, Yr 11	3h 16m	Molly, Yr 10	100%
3	Lucas, Yr 11	2h 53m	Taio, Yr 10	100%

KS4 homework is on SENECA, set every Wednesday and due the following Wednesday.

SPORT AT ST ANNE'S

It has been great to see our extra-curricular clubs back up and running this term. Numbers have been very positive across a range of clubs; it has been fantastic to see so many pupils getting involved.

We would encourage as many students as possible to take part in the opportunities available through PE. You don't have to be great at a sport to get involved. The main thing is to enjoy being active, try something new and have the opportunity to represent the school. There are clubs available for all abilities, so please encourage your child to get involved.

As a reminder, students must wear their full PE kit at after-school clubs. Students are reminded that no food will be allowed in the Sports Hall, they must be in trainers in the Sports Hall and when the hall is at full capacity, students will be turned away (first come, first served)

Here is an overview of what is currently on offer:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch Time	Badminton (Yr 9/11)	Badminton (Yr 8/10)	Badminton (Yr 9/7)	Badminton (Yr 7/8)	Badminton (Yr 10/11)
After School	Boys' Basketball Girls' Football	No Clubs	Netball Boys' Football (Yr 7/8)	Girls Basketball Dodgeball/Benchball (Yr 7/8/9) Boys Football (Yr 9/10)	No Clubs

Football

Our football teams have already started their fixtures, with some positive performances.

Year 9 started their league campaign with a fantastic comeback against Bramhall. After going 2-0 down, the team showed great character to come back and win the game.

Year 11 lost 3-1 in a very competitive match, with the scoreline not really reflecting the performance.

Both our **Year 9** and **Year 11** teams will also compete in the Catholic Cup this year, and we are looking forward to seeing how they get on. We have plenty more football fixtures coming up, with all year groups having opportunities to represent the school.



SHAPES Competitions

We are looking forward to taking part in upcoming SHAPES events, including dodgeball and 3v3 basketball, giving students another opportunity to compete and represent St Anne's. Watch this space...

Cologne Trip

Our Cologne trip will take place on 23rd October and preparations are well underway.

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended the Cologne Information Evening recently. The aim was to provide parents/carers with final information and an opportunity to ask any questions. The PE department has now securely stored passports in preparation for the trip!

We are looking forward to a busy term ahead, with lots of opportunities for students to get involved, represent the school and enjoy sport.



Manchester United Football boots – raffle

We are delighted to announce an exciting opportunity for our students to win a pair of Manchester United football boots, generously gifted by Manchester United and worth £150 per pair!

There are four pairs of boots to be won, in the following sizes:

- Size 7
- Size 7.5
- Size 8.5 x 2

Students can earn raffle tickets through their PE lessons and extracurricular activities between 21st September and 16th October. The more raffle tickets students earned, the more chances they have to win!

Tickets will be awarded to students who demonstrate:

- Going above and beyond in their learning and participation
- Outstanding effort, commitment and determination
- Enthusiasm and involvement in extracurricular sport
- Excellent teamwork and sportsmanship
- Consistently meeting our behaviour expectations

This is a fantastic way for students to be recognised and rewarded for the positive contributions they make both in and beyond PE.

Prize draw takes place from 19th October.

We wish all our students the very best of luck and look forward to celebrating their effort, commitment, teamwork and sporting achievements throughout the competition.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

It's not just the PE department that offer extra-curricular activities at lunch time and after school; we have a wide range of activities for students to get involved in. See below for this term's extra-curricular timetable:

LUNCHTIMES			
Club	Day	Location	Year Group
3D Printing Club	Wednesday	IT3	7 – 10
Badminton	Monday	Sports Hall	9 & 11
Badminton	Tuesday	Sports Hall	8 & 10
Badminton	Wednesday	Sports Hall	9 & 7
Badminton	Thursday	Sports Hall	7 & 8
Badminton	Friday	Sports Hall	10 & 11
Bible Study Group	Tuesday	RE1	All
Caritas	Friday	RE2	7 – 10
Chess Club	Daily	Library	7 – 10
Debate Club	Thursday	EN1	7 – 10
Dodgeball / Benchball	Thursday	Sports Hall	All
Friday Prayer for Muslim students	Friday B	Drama	All
GIFT and Liturgy Leaders	Monday	RE3	7 – 10
St Joseph's Centre (<i>*pass only</i>)	Daily	SJC	All



AFTER SCHOOL			
Club	Day	Location	Year Group
Art Club	Wednesday A	Art	7 & 8
Art Club	Wednesday B	Art	9
Art Intervention	Monday	Art	10
Art Intervention	Friday	Art	10
Basketball – Boys	Monday	Sports Hall	All
Basketball – Girls	Thursday	Sports Hall	All
Bugsy Malone Rehearsals	Wednesday	Drama	7 – 10
Choir	Tuesday	MU1	7 – 10
Football – Boys	Wednesday	Astro	7 & 8
Football – Boys	Thursday	Astro	9 & 10
Football – Girls	Monday	Astro	All
Homework Club	Wednesday	SJC	All
Homework Club	Thursday	SJC	All
Homework Club	Friday	SJC	All
Humanities at the Movies	Wednesday A	GG2	7 – 9
KS3 Science Club	Wednesday	SC4	7 – 9
Lighthouse Group	Tuesday	Chapel	All
Morning Rosary	Thursday	Chapel	All
Netball	Wednesday	Sports Hall	All



CHESS TEAM

Our school chess team has got off to a fantastic start this year, with lots of our new Year 7 students joining the club and showing a real enthusiasm for the game.

Our recent trials proved particularly challenging for our Year 9 Chess Masters, who was amazed by the **very high standard of play** among our students. With so many talented players, choosing a fixed team has certainly been no easy task!

Rather than selecting one permanent team, we will therefore choose players for each match as they arise. This will hopefully give as many students as possible the opportunity to represent the school and put their skills to the test.

We are also delighted to announce that the school has now joined the **English Chess Federation for Schools**, which means there should be plenty of exciting opportunities for our students to compete against other schools throughout the year.

It's fantastic to see chess going from strength to strength, and we look forward to an exciting year of competition!



SHADES AMBASSADORS GATHERING

We are incredibly proud of one of our Year 7 students, **Theo**, who recently attended the SHADES Ambassadors Gathering, an event focused on 'Amplifying Young Voices for Lasting Change'. During the event, Theo was invited to read aloud a powerful poem that he had written whilst at primary school, reflecting on his own experiences of racist incidents. Wearing his St Anne's uniform, he spoke confidently and represented our school exceptionally well. He also had the opportunity to take part in a podcast, where he was incredibly well-spoken and articulate when sharing his experiences and ideas.

It takes real courage to speak so openly about something so personal. Theo will now be sharing his poem with the rest of Year 7 in assembly, encouraging students to reflect on the importance of equality, respect and standing up against racism. We are extremely proud of the confidence and courage he showed and of the way he represented St Anne's throughout the event.



JESSICA'S BIG CHOP FOR CHARITY

We are incredibly proud of one of our Year 8 students, **Jessica**, for making a very special decision during the summer holidays — to have a dramatic change of hairstyle, all in the name of charity!

Jessica bravely donated an amazing **22 inches of her hair** to **The Little Princess Trust**, a wonderful charity that provides free, real-hair wigs to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other medical conditions.



Having her hair cut was a big change for Jessica, but knowing that her hair could be transformed into a wig and bring confidence, comfort and happiness to another young person made it all worthwhile. Her generous donation will help someone going through an incredibly difficult time feel a little more like themselves again.

But Jessica didn't stop there! As well as donating her hair, she also took the opportunity to raise money for the charity, collecting sponsorship and raising an additional **£50** to support the fantastic work of The Little Princess Trust.

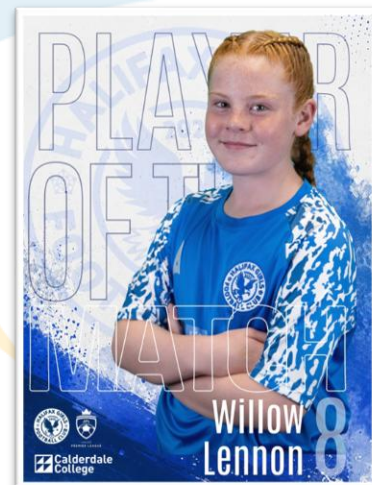
Jessica is now looking forward to taking part in the Manchester Memory Walk in aid of the Alzheimer's Society at the beginning of October. We wish her all the best and look forward to hearing all about it. **Well done, Jessica!**

WILLOW'S FOOTBALL SUCCESS

We are delighted to share the exciting news that, over the summer, one of our Year 8 students, **Willow**, was offered and accepted a place on the **U-13 Halifax Girls Football Team**.

This is a fantastic achievement and a wonderful recognition of Willow's dedication, commitment and passion for football. She has embraced the opportunity wholeheartedly and is thoroughly enjoying the experience of playing at this level, developing her skills and learning from every match.

One of the highlights so far has been the incredible opportunity to play against **Manchester City**, giving Willow the chance to test herself against some very talented young players and experience football at an exciting and competitive level.



Willow's mum shared how proud the family are of her achievements: "She works so hard every day to get where she is. We are extremely proud of her."

Willow's success is a wonderful example of what can be achieved through hard work, determination and a genuine love of what you do. We are incredibly proud of her and look forward to following her progress as she continues her footballing journey.

Well done, Willow! We wish you every success for the future and look forward to hearing about all your achievements, both on and off the pitch.

THE BRILLIANT CLUB

St Anne's are excited to announce that the English and Maths Brilliant Club is running again for Year 10 students this academic year.



Following the success of last year's programme, a new group of Year 10 students will have the opportunity to take part in this challenging and rewarding experience, delivered in association with a UK University. The Brilliant Club is offered to a small selection of schools across the UK and is designed to raise students' aspirations, strengthen their confidence and introduce them to university-level learning.

During the programme, students will attend after-school sessions led by a PhD-level subject specialist tutor. They will study a higher-level English or Maths module, explore new ideas and develop the independent learning skills needed to succeed in further education and beyond.

Last year's participants approached the programme with commitment, ambition and pride, representing the school exceptionally well. We look forward to welcoming this year's cohort and seeing them embrace the same opportunity to challenge themselves, broaden their horizons and discover what university study can offer.

We are very proud that the programme is returning and cannot wait to share the students' progress and achievements throughout the academic year.

BUGSY MALONE SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Excitement is already building for this year's school production of *Bugsy Malone* following an incredible round of auditions. With **over 100 students auditioning**, the Creative Arts Department was completely blown away by the enthusiasm, confidence, creativity and talent on display.

The standard was exceptionally high, making the casting process a particularly difficult decision. From impressive acting and confident singing to energetic dancing, our students showcased the incredible talent we have across the school. A huge well done and thank you to **every student who auditioned**. Stepping onto the stage and performing in front of others takes real courage, and we are incredibly proud of everyone who gave it their all.

We are delighted to announce that, to give as many students as possible the opportunity to shine, this year's production will feature **two casts**. The **Yellow Cast** will take to the stage on **1st March**, followed by the **Blue Cast** on **2nd March**.

With rehearsals now underway, the excitement is really starting to build. We cannot wait to watch this talented group bring the colourful and chaotic world of *Bugsy Malone* to life!

With such an enthusiastic cast and a real buzz around the production, we know we are in for something very special.

Watch this space... the gangsters are coming!



NEW STAFF

As our school community continues to expand, we welcome 7 new members of staff to St Anne's this term: **Miss Ormerod**, Assistant Headteacher/English Teacher; **Mrs Johnstone**, Assistant Headteacher/RE Teacher; **Mrs Armstead**, Geography Teacher; **Mr Flynn**, Science Teacher; **Mr Johnston**, Maths/Transition Teacher; **Ms Law**, Data and Exams Officer; and **Ms Wright**, Safeguarding Officer. Over the next few newsletters, we will feature an introduction to them. This month the spotlight is on Miss Ormerod and Mrs Johnstone.

Miss Ormerod – Assistant Headteacher / English Teacher

I have always loved English and have vivid memories of visiting my local library on a Saturday morning to take home a big pile of books. It was my love of English that was the driver in studying English at degree level at York. After university, I worked for a children's charity and then qualified as a career advisor, before deciding that teaching was the career route for me. I completed my PGCE in York and then worked at a boys' school in Beverley for 2 years, before relocating to Stockport. For the past 12 years, I have worked as a teacher, then second in department, head of department and associate assistant headteacher. I feel incredibly fortunate to become part of such a welcoming and supportive community here at St Anne's. Stepping up to an Assistant Headteacher role, I am excited to contribute to the continued growth and development of the school and support all pupils to be successful, whilst they are part of the St Anne's family, but also for their life beyond the school.



Mrs Johnstone – Assistant Headteacher / RE Teacher

I am delighted to be joining St Anne's as Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion. I studied Theology and Philosophy at the University of Glasgow, where I also qualified as a teacher, specialising in Catholic education. Since then, I have taught and led in a range of Catholic schools across England and Scotland, working as an RE teacher, Head of Religious Education and, most recently leading Catholic Life at whole school level.

Throughout my career, I have always seen working in education as an important part of my vocation, and it is a commitment that I hope will continue my working life. Alongside my work in schools, I am also a Catholic Schools Inspector, which has given me the privilege of experiencing Catholic education across many different communities and contexts in the northwest. At the heart of my approach to inclusion is a belief in the inherent dignity and worth of every young person: that each should be known, valued and have a genuine sense of belonging within our community, by providing them with what they need to flourish. I believe that we have a particular responsibility to notice and walk alongside those who may find it challenging to participate fully in school life, ensuring that every pupil has the opportunity to become the person God calls them to be.



I am really looking forward to getting to know the pupils and families of St. Anne's and becoming part of the school community.

YEAR 7 MEET THE TUTORS EVENING

On Thursday 17th September, we were delighted to welcome our Year 7 parents and carers into school for our Meet the Form Tutors evening. It was a wonderful opportunity for families to come together with members of our school community and begin what we hope will be a positive and successful partnership throughout their child's time at St Anne's.

The evening provided parents and carers with the chance to meet their child's form tutor, find out more about life in Year 7 and ask any questions they may have had as their children begin this exciting new chapter. Form tutors were able to share helpful information about school routines, expectations and pastoral support, while also listening to families' experiences of how their children have settled into secondary school life.

We were also pleased to have Miss Waghorn, Head of Year 7, and Mrs Brown, SENDCo, available throughout the evening. They were on hand to offer guidance, answer questions and provide additional support where needed, helping families to feel confident that their children are well supported as they make the transition into life at St Anne's.

It was particularly lovely to see so many parents and carers engaging with staff, sharing their experiences and taking the opportunity to build positive relationships with the adults who will be supporting their children throughout the year.

A strong home-school partnership is an important part of helping every student thrive, and evenings such as this provide a valuable opportunity to establish those connections from the very beginning of Year 7.

Thank you to all our parents and carers who attended and contributed to such a warm and positive evening. We look forward to working together throughout the year and supporting our Year 7 students as they continue to settle, grow in confidence and make the most of all that life at St Anne's has to offer.

KEY TO SUCCESS: Parent Information Evenings

Year 10 and 11: Wednesday 23rd September

Mr Ostmeier delivered the Year 10 presentation, focusing on forming good routines in Year 10 in order for students to be successful in their GCSE examinations in Year 11. This includes good attendance (97% or better), completing homework to the best of their ability, and revising for examinations. Mr Ostmeier also spoke about the importance of following simple rules to uphold our high standards and expectations. Key dates were shared, including the dates for work experience which will take place from 12th to 16th July 2027.

It was wonderful to see so many Year 11 students and parents at our *Keys to Success Evening*. As Year 11 is a crucial and demanding year, we shared important information about attendance, revision, and the ways in which parents can work alongside the school to support their child's success. We also provided key dates and important information relating to the year ahead. The PowerPoint presentation used during the evening has now been shared with all parents via Arbor. If you are a Year 11 parent and have been unable to access this information, please contact the school and we will be happy to assist.

Here is a reminder of Year 11 key dates below:

W/C 12 th October	Yr 11 reports sent to parents/carers via Arbor
Thursday 22 nd October	Yr 11 Parents' Evening (3.40-6.40pm) for all Yr 11 students
W/C 30 th November	Mock exams begin for two weeks
Friday 15 th January	Yr 11 reports sent to parents/carers via Arbor
Thursday 4 th February	Yr 11 Parents' Evening for selected Yr 11 students only
Friday 12 th February	FINAL English and Maths mock exam
Friday 5 th March	FINAL Yr 11 reports sent to parents/carers via Arbor
W/C 26 th April	GCSE exams begin
Wednesday 23 rd June	Contingency date: <i>The examination boards have designated this date as Contingency Day in case of national or significant local disruption to examinations. This day may be used if it becomes necessary to implement contingency plans. Please ensure your child is available this date, in case they have an exam rescheduled.</i>

Year 8: Wednesday 30th September

Mrs Johnstone led the Year 8 presentation, focusing on helping students make the most of their time at school by developing confidence, independence, and positive learning habits. Parents and carers were encouraged to support students in attending school regularly, staying organised, and taking an active role in school life. The importance of resilience, trying new experiences, and maintaining high standards of behaviour and effort was also discussed. Mrs Johnstone highlighted the exciting opportunities available to Year 8 students, including the Castlerigg residential, the Ski Trip, and reward trips at Christmas and during the summer term. These experiences play an important role in helping students develop friendships, broaden their horizons, and create happy memories while continuing to grow both academically and personally.

ST JOSEPH'S MAIN ATTRACTION!

As well as welcoming and welcoming back our students and staff after the summer break, we also welcome Custard and Bourbon – the St Joseph's Centre Guinea Pigs – back to school!

We are delighted to have our much-loved guinea pigs back in school after their summer break. The students have been very excited to see them again and have enjoyed watching them settle back into their school home. There have been lots of happy smiles and enthusiastic greetings as the children spend time with their furry friends, and we are sure Custard and Bourbon are enjoying all the attention too.



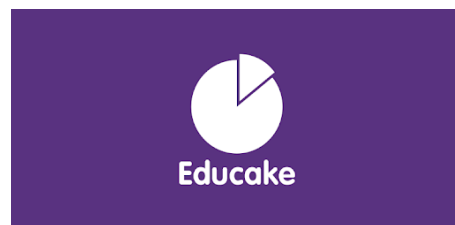
We look forward to another wonderful year of caring for and learning from our special little visitors!

TEACHING AND LEARNING

At St Anne's, *students are at the heart of all we do*, and this begins with the learning experiences we provide every day in our classrooms. During the summer term, our Heads of Department and teaching staff carefully reviewed our curriculum and teaching approaches to ensure that lessons remain engaging, challenging and supportive for all students. These refinements will help us continue to deliver high-quality teaching that enables every young person to achieve their full potential.

Introducing Educake: Our New Homework Platform

A significant change this year is the introduction of our new homework platform, **Educake**. This follows feedback from parents that it can sometimes be difficult to keep track of what homework students have been set and when it is due. Educake will provide a single, easy-to-access platform where students can view and complete homework from a range of subjects.



Research shows that regular engagement with homework can have a positive impact on student achievement. We also recognise that developing strong independent learning habits at Key Stage 3 is essential in preparing students for the increased demands of Key Stage 4, when they begin working towards their GCSE qualifications.

One of the key advantages of Educake is that it is closely linked to our curriculum. This means that homework tasks are carefully selected to reinforce and extend the learning taking place in lessons, helping students consolidate their knowledge and build confidence in each subject.

Students can access Educake using their school email address and password (for example, 01another12@stannes.academy). Any student experiencing difficulties logging in should see **Mrs McGloin** at breaktime or at the end of the school day so that support can be provided promptly.

Initially, Educake will be used to set Key Stage 3 and GCSE homework in **Science, Computer Science, History and Geography**, alongside GCSE homework in **PE** and **Business Studies**. Homework will be set in line with the frequency of lessons. For example, students studying Geography at Key Stage 3 can expect homework approximately once per fortnight, while students studying Computer Science will typically receive homework once every three weeks, reflecting the number of curriculum hours allocated to each subject.

We are excited to launch Educake and look forward to working closely with parents and students to ensure that homework supports learning effectively and helps every student achieve their full potential.

English homework continues to be set weekly for KS3 students on Sparx Reader and KS4 students on Seneca learning. Maths homework will also continue being set weekly, but students will no longer use Sparx Maths to complete these. Instead, students will be given a homework worksheet to complete independently and a second homework task to create revision materials. Spanish homework will continue being set on LanguageNut on a fortnightly basis.

For any homework enquiries, please email our admin team who will direct your enquiry to the appropriate member of our curriculum team.

Curriculum Team Updates

We are delighted to have strengthened our curriculum team this year with the addition of several talented colleagues across the school. In Science, we welcome Mr Flynn and Mr Khan, who bring a wealth of knowledge, expertise and fresh ideas to our growing department. Our Humanities team has also been enhanced by the arrival of Mrs Armstead, an experienced Geography teacher whose skills and enthusiasm will further enrich students' learning experiences. In Mathematics, we are pleased to welcome back Mrs Ali following her maternity leave. Supporting many of our new Year 7 students, Mr Johnston has joined us in a cross-curricular role, working across a range of subjects to help ensure that every student can access and succeed in their learning.

Curriculum Updates

We have made some exciting changes to our Key Stage 3 Technology curriculum this year. Rather than studying four technology subjects on rotation, students will now receive **one hour of Food Preparation and Nutrition** and **one hour of Design Technology** each fortnight. This change allows students to develop a deeper understanding of the key knowledge and skills within both subjects, while providing stronger preparation for those who choose to continue their studies at Key Stage 4.

As in previous years, we ask parents to make a financial contribution towards Food Preparation and Nutrition lessons. Rather than asking families to purchase individual ingredients for each practical activity, the school orders ingredients in bulk for delivery directly to school. This approach is more cost-effective, ensures consistency for all students and helps to reduce waste.

We ask for a contribution of **£25 for the academic year**, which covers the cost of all ingredients and the packaging students use to transport their food home safely. Throughout the year, students will prepare a range of sweet and savoury dishes while developing their understanding of nutrition, healthy eating and food preparation skills.

We encourage students to take their finished products home so that families can enjoy and celebrate their achievements together.

The contribution can be paid in full or spread across three terms. Payments should be made via **Arbor**; please do not send cash into school. If you have any questions regarding this contribution, please contact our administration team, who will be happy to assist.

Key dates this term:

Autumn Term Progress Reports:

Yr 10 and Yr 11 – week beginning 12th October 2026
Yr 7 / 8 / 9 – week beginning 30th November 2026

Parents Evenings:

Year 11 – Thursday 22nd October 2026
Year 10 – Thursday 26th November 2026
Year 9 – Thursday 10th December 2026

Mock Exams

Year 11: 30th November – 11th December 2026

Celebrations

Open Evening – 8th October 2026
Proud – Yr 7 only – 21st October 2026

Key to Success – Parent Information Evenings

Year 8 – 7th October 2026
Year 7 – 21st October 2026

Introducing our new KS3 Literacy Curriculum

This year, we have introduced a dedicated literacy curriculum for every student in Years 7, 8 and 9. It is built around **STAR: Speak confidently, Think critically, Articulate through writing and Read with purpose**. Students practise these skills as they explore language, read a range of texts and share their ideas.

Each year group has a different focus. Year 7 are discovering how word parts help them work out meaning. Year 8 are exploring perspective and how different people can see the same issue in different ways. Year 9 are examining the fashion industry through different critical lenses, asking questions about the messages they encounter. Our aim is to help students become more confident readers, speakers and writers across all their subjects.

Targeted Reading Support

We are launching **Little Wandle Code** this half term to support students who need help with the building blocks of reading. We have been carrying out assessments so that support can be matched to each student's needs. Later this half term, identified students will begin targeted one-to-one or small-group sessions to strengthen their reading skills and confidence. We will monitor their progress as the programme continues and contact the parents and carers of students taking part directly.

Buddy Reading and SLT Reading Groups

After half term, we will launch our new buddy reading programme, bringing Year 9 reading buddies together with younger students. Our Year 9 buddies have now been selected and will learn about their roles and receive training on the upcoming SACRED Day. This is an opportunity for them to show leadership, share their enthusiasm for reading and support someone younger. For the younger students, reading with an older buddy will offer encouragement, a familiar face and time to enjoy a book together. We are looking forward to seeing those relationships grow.



Our SLT reading groups will also begin again after half term. Students taking part will spend one form time each week reading with a member of the Senior Leadership Team, giving them regular time to practise, talk about what they have read and build their confidence.

Staff Training

Throughout September, colleagues have continued to invest in their professional development, taking part in a range of training sessions designed to strengthen teaching, support student wellbeing and share best practice across the school.

These sessions provide valuable opportunities for colleagues to reflect on their practice, develop new skills and learn from one another. We are committed to ensuring that our staff have the knowledge, confidence and resources they need to provide the very best experience for our students.



St Anne's

Literacy STARS

"Every child is a **STAR** through literacy"

S

Speak confidently

T

Think critically

A

Articulate through writing

R

Read with purpose



ST ANNE'S
RC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



EMMAUS
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST



Inset

The new academic year got off to a positive start with a productive programme of Staff INSET, giving colleagues the opportunity to come together, reflect on our priorities and prepare for the year ahead.

The sessions provided valuable opportunities for staff to share ideas, develop their practice and focus on how we can continue to support our students to achieve their very best. Alongside whole-school training, colleagues also spent time working within departments and teams, strengthening collaboration and planning for the year ahead.

It was a fantastic opportunity to reconnect after the summer break, welcome new colleagues and ensure that everyone started the new academic year feeling informed, prepared and motivated. We are looking forward to another successful year together!

CDL

Our CDL sessions have provided Heads of Department with valuable opportunities to come together to evaluate and improve our curriculum provision. The session this half term focused on analysis of our most recently Yr11 outcomes in preparation for meetings with our Governing body in October. As previously highlighted in this newsletter, we are celebrating some fantastic results this year, but we remain dedicated to continuous improvements across the curriculum to provide the best opportunities for the students of St Anne's.

Twilight

Staff took part in a valuable twilight training session after school, with a focus on two important areas: First Aid and UniFrog.

The First Aid session provided colleagues with an opportunity to refresh their knowledge and confidence in responding to a range of situations, helping to ensure we continue to maintain a safe and supportive environment for our students.

Staff also explored UniFrog, developing their understanding of how the platform can support students with careers guidance, post-16 and post-18 choices, and planning for their future pathways.



YEAR 11 INTERVENTION

Year 11 Targeted intervention during Period 6 (3.10-4.10pm) has now started, please see the timetable below.

Attendance to these sessions is compulsory for those students that are selected to attend – students will be made aware by class teachers of which sessions they should attend and where they are located. These sessions are a valuable opportunity to further develop your knowledge skills and confidence prior to upcoming mocks and the final GCSE exams next year.

Y11 Intervention 2026/2027

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week A	Maths		RE	Spanish / Science	Options
Week B	Geography / History		English		Options

ATTENDANCE

Attendance continues to be a focus at St Anne's. There is a direct correlation between attendance and outcomes. It is statistically proven that students that attend more, achieve more. It is also true that higher levels of attendance increase students' resilience. It is therefore imperative that you encourage your child to come to school every day, even if they do not feel 100%. Missed lessons means missed learning, and this is very hard to catch up, if at all. At the time of writing, 76% of students have attendance over 95%, which is what we would class as good attendance. Unfortunately, this number is too low and is not conducive to good outcomes. It is statistically proven that pupils with good attendance achieve more in their GCSE's. In 2026 77% of pupils with attendance over 95% achieved passes in English and Maths, this is compared to only 25% of pupils that had attendance below 90%.

I must remind you that fines will be issued for holidays taken during term time. Please continue to support your child by supporting them with their attendance, for example by making medical appointments outside school hours. If you do need to request time out of school for your child, please ensure you complete the student Leave of Absence Request form, available from reception, which will then be passed on to the Headteacher for consideration.

THANK YOU

Mr Boughey was recently lost for words – which doesn't happen often – when the parents of one of his students went to the trouble of gifting him a trophy and a heartfelt card to show their appreciation of everything he does in looking after their child at school. It was a wonderfully thoughtful gesture and a lovely reminder of the positive difference our staff make in the lives of our students every day.

Mr Boughey was clearly touched by their kindness, and the trophy now takes pride of place as a special reminder of their appreciation.



SCHOOL TOURS

At St Anne's, we are incredibly proud of our school, our students and the positive learning environment we have created. We believe that the best way to experience what makes our school special is to see it for yourself.

Each Friday morning at 9.30am, I will be leading tours of the school during the working day, giving parents/carers the opportunity to see St Anne's 'in action'. This is a wonderful chance to look around our classrooms, experience the atmosphere of the school and see our students engaged in their learning.

Our tours are particularly aimed at:

- **Parents and carers of primary school children** who are considering St Anne's for their child and would like to find out more about what we offer.
- **Parents and carers of current or prospective students** who would like to experience the school during a normal working day and see our learning environment first-hand.
- Families who would like to gain a better understanding of our **ethos, values, curriculum and approach to supporting every child to achieve their potential.**

We want every visitor to leave with a genuine sense of what it is like to be part of the St Anne's community, and there will also be an opportunity to ask questions and find out more about school life.

Tours take place every Friday at 9.30am, and places can be booked for a date that is convenient for you.

If you would like to arrange a visit, please contact Reception to book your place on a school tour. We look forward to welcoming you to St Anne's and showing you what makes our school such a special place to learn.

Come and see St Anne's in action — we would be delighted to welcome you!



SAFEGUARDING

Our Safeguarding Team this year consists of:

Mr C Ostmeier, Deputy Head: Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss A Rees: Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss N Wright: Safeguarding Officer

Mr E Murphy: Pastoral Manager

Mrs K Corser: Intervention Manager

Miss A Waghorn: Head of Year 7

Miss J Airey: Head of Year 8

Mr S Boughey: Head of Year 9

Miss A Burton: Head of Year 10

Miss C Rose: Head of Year 11



At St Anne's the use of the 4Rs (**Recognise, Respond, Record, Refer**) is embedded amongst our staff. This ensures that your child is safe at school, and any safeguarding concerns are immediately reported to the safeguarding team. Mr Ostmeier is our DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) and Miss Rees is our DDSL (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead). Safeguarding remains the highest priority at St Anne's. Mr Ostmeier has spoken to students in assembly about the importance of letting staff know if there are any issues, so they can be resolved at an early stage. One way to do this is by using the **TellUs** button on the school website. Students can access this via the school website, to inform the safeguarding team of a concern about themselves, or someone else. This will be treated with the highest confidentiality and is checked daily to ensure all student concerns are dealt with efficiently.

Please see below for support being offered by Stockport Local Authority:

FREE Young People's Creative Wellbeing Project

Do you know a young person aged 11–15 who's struggling with mental health challenges like low mood, bereavement, anxiety, Autism or social isolation? 'In The Mix' is a free 10-week creative programme for young people aged 11–15 and aims to help build confidence, improve wellbeing, make new friends and much more. For further information email ypa@arc-centre.org or call 0161 480 7731

New Free Parenting Programme for Parents of Children Aged 10–16

We are pleased to announce that Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities (SFSC) is launching in Stockport this autumn.

SFSC is a free, evidence-based parenting programme designed to support parents and carers of children aged **10–16 years**. The programme runs over **13 weeks during term time**, with **weekly 3-hour sessions** delivered by trained facilitators.

The programme helps parents and carers to strengthen family relationships, build positive parenting skills, develop a greater understanding of child and adolescent development, boost children's confidence and social skills, and manage challenges and improve family wellbeing.

Parents and carers can register their interest by completing the Expression of Interest form here [Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities Expression of Interest](#) or email the Business Support Team at family.hubs@stockport.gov.uk

NEW YEAR 7s

Our new Year 7 cohort has made an exceptional start to life at St Anne's, bringing energy, enthusiasm, and a real sense of pride into the school. From the very first morning, they set the tone: arriving smartly dressed in their uniforms, looking confident, prepared, and ready to embrace the opportunities ahead. It has been a joy to see so many smiling faces as they navigated their first week of secondary school. What has stood out most is how quickly they have settled into routines. Whether in lessons, social times, or moving around the school, Year 7 have shown maturity and a willingness to get stuck in. Teachers have already commented on their positive attitudes, strong engagement, and the way they support one another. They are asking thoughtful questions, contributing eagerly to class discussions, and showing the kind of curiosity that makes learning come alive.

Beyond the classroom, they have thrown themselves into wider school life. Many have already signed up for clubs, volunteered for responsibilities, and shown interest in enrichment opportunities; clearly, they are keen to make the most of everything the academy has to offer.

Transition can be daunting, but Year 7 have approached theirs with courage and optimism. Their conduct, kindness, and determination have impressed staff across the school, and we are incredibly proud of the start they have made. If this first week is anything to go by, we are in for a fantastic year ahead.

We look forward to watching this cohort grow in confidence, character, and independence as they continue to settle into their new routines. Well done, Year 7 - you have made a wonderful first impression, and we cannot wait to see what you achieve next.

FEEDER SCHOOL VISITS

In the lead-up to this year's Open Evening, Mrs Sutcliffe and Mrs Simmons were delighted to have the opportunity to visit our feeder primary schools and meet with Year 5 and Year 6 pupils. These visits are always a highlight of the transition journey, giving us the chance to speak with students about life at St Anne's, answer their questions, and help them feel excited about the next stage of their education.

It was a pleasure to see so many enthusiastic and engaged pupils eager to learn more about what secondary school has to offer. From discussions about lessons and extracurricular activities to sharing experiences of school life, the visits provided a valuable opportunity to build connections and reassure pupils as they begin to think about their future.

As always, we received a warm welcome from staff and students alike, and it was lovely to be back in our feeder schools. We are incredibly grateful for the strong relationships we share with our local primary schools and the support they provide in helping ensure a smooth transition for young people.

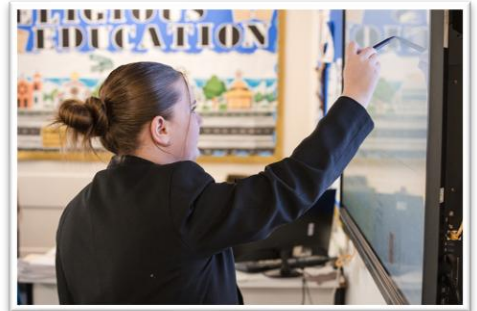
We look forward to welcoming pupils and their families to our Open Evening and hope to see many familiar faces as they continue their journey towards joining the St Anne's community.

OPEN EVENING

We are looking forward to welcoming prospective students and their families to our Open Evening on Thursday 8th October. Doors will be open from 5.00pm to 8.00pm, providing an opportunity to explore our curriculum, enrichment opportunities, and the supportive ethos that underpins life at St Anne's, where '**Faith, Learning and Community Thrive**'.

Visitors will be able to tour the school, meet staff and students, and find out more about the opportunities available both inside and outside the classroom. Student ambassadors will be on hand throughout the evening. Our Headteacher's Address will take place at 6.30pm, providing an overview of our vision, values and approach to supporting every child to succeed.

We look forward to meeting families and sharing what makes St Anne's such a special community.



AND FINALLY...

The start of September is always a vibrant and exciting time in school life. As we embark on another academic year, we remain committed to our mission of becoming the best Catholic school in Stockport and beyond. This can only be achieved through a strong partnership between school and home, and I am grateful for the continued support of our parents as we work together for the success of every child.

OPEN EVENING
Thursday 8th October
5.00-8.00pm

Julie Sutcliffe

Mrs J Sutcliffe
Headteacher

St Anne's RC Voluntary Academy

Glenfield Road, Heaton Chapel, Stockport, SK4 2QP

0161 432 8162

www.stannes.academy

admin@stannes.academy

