St. Anne's Catholic Academy

NEWSLETTER

16 JAN 2026

St Anne's Catholic Academy

A message from Miss Gillin...

What a truly memorable and uplifting week it has been for our school community. We have just completed our two-day OFSTED inspection, and I am delighted to share that the inspectors commented very positively on our pupils' excellent behaviour, their enthusiasm and genuine love of learning, the commitment and professionalism of our staff, and the strong sense of belonging that is evident throughout our school. We look forward to sharing the final report with you in the coming weeks.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our wonderful children, who conducted themselves impeccably and worked so hard throughout the inspection. You were outstanding ambassadors for our school and made us immensely proud. I am also extremely grateful to our parent community for the many thoughtful and encouraging comments shared with inspectors. Your continued support makes a real difference and is truly valued.

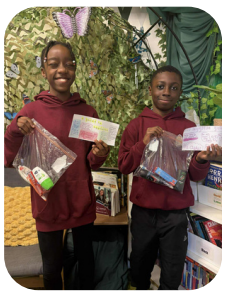
Holy Spirit Experience:

Today, children across the school explored a new section of the HSE curriculum, taking part in a range of engaging and informative activities. They learned about the challenges they may face as they grow, how to keep themselves healthy, and who to turn to for help when needed.

In Key Stage 1, Year 1 focused on water safety, while Year 2 enjoyed a healthy food tasting session, learning about making nutritious choices.

In Key Stage 2, Year 3 explored rail safety with a focus on Network Rail, Year 4 learned about road safety, Year 5 discussed social media and online safety, and Year 6 focused on personal hygiene.

It was a valuable day of learning, helping our children develop the knowledge and skills to stay safe and healthy.



LIVING THE MISSION

Bishop Richard Walker will be coming to confirm the Year 6 children on Wednesday 21 January 2026 at 6.00pm .

This important milestone strengthens our children to live out their faith and live the mission of the Gospel through kindness, service and responsibility. We ask our school community to keep our Year 6 pupils and their families in your prayers as they prepare for this special occasion.

KEY DATES

Wednesday 21 Jan - Confirmation 6pm at St Anne's Church

Friday 30 Jan - Celebration Assembly - Year 3

Monday 2 Feb - Year 4 & 5 Cadbury World Trip

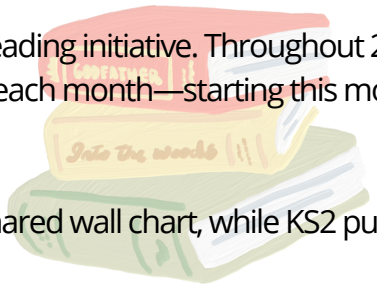
Friday 6 Feb - Number Day

Tuesday 10 Feb- Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 11th Feb- year 6 Conkers Trip

Spotlight on Reading:

In assembly on Monday, the children were introduced to our exciting new Year of Reading initiative. Throughout 2026, the children have been challenged to read 26 books, with a different theme running each month—starting this month with "Read Something New."



In KS1, the challenge will be completed as a class and progress will be tracked on a shared wall chart, while KS2 pupils will use reading passports to record their reading logs.

Get Caught Reading :

The children have been introduced to a fun extra challenge: to get "caught reading" somewhere interesting! This could be inside, outside, or anywhere they choose—creativity is encouraged. If you manage to capture a photo, please email it to your child's class teacher or to admin2035@we-learn.com, and we will add it to our display.

Our teachers have already been caught reading… here are some examples!

Number Day:

On Friday 6th February, we will be taking part in the National Number Day! At St. Anne's, as in previous years we will ask the children to come to school wearing numbers! We have loved seeing the creativity of outfits over the past few years! At breaktime, the children will take place in the annual Coin Race to see which class can make the longest line. Ahead of this, please can the children start to bring in coins for their class pot. All money raised will go towards a chosen charity. We are looking forward to a day full of maths and will share the learning with you!

Attendance:

Reception 95%
Year 1 98%
Year 2 96%
Year 3 91%
Year 4 93%
Year 5 96%
Year 6 98%

Please see below about our processes around Leave of Absence

IMPORTANT

SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS AND PUNCTUALITY

The school day begins at 8:45am and finishes at 3:15pm. We have recently noticed an increase in children arriving after 9:00am, particularly in the mornings. As lessons begin promptly at this time, late arrival can mean children miss key learning such as phonics, reading sessions and targeted interventions, all of which support progress.

We completely understand that emergencies do happen — such as accidents, illness or car issues — and these are always taken into consideration. However, arriving even 10 minutes late on a regular basis can quickly add up to lost learning time. Late arrival can also have an emotional impact on children, as coming in after their peers does not always give them the calmest or most positive start to the day.

If your family is experiencing ongoing difficulties with morning routines or punctuality, please do contact the school. Our pastoral and attendance team are always happy to offer support where needed.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

SAFEGUARDING

HOW STUDENTS, PARENTS/CARERS CAN REPORT A SAFEGUARDING ISSUE, EITHER IN SCHOOL OR OUT OF HOURS:

Text the mobile number: **07767 269958** or email: **reportanissuestannes@welearn365.com**

Nuneaton Children's Team:
01926 414910

NSPCC Helpline:
help@nspcc.org.uk
Tel: 0808 800 5000

Samaritans:
Jo@samaritans.org
Tel: 116 123

Childline:
0800 1111

Police:
Emergency - 999
Non-emergency 101

Leave of Absence During Term Time – Important Information for Parents

Following a Supreme Court ruling (Platt v Isle of Wight, 2017), the law is clear that children are expected to attend school every day they are required to do so. Any absence from school that has not been authorised may result in legal action being taken against parents.

When can a Leave of Absence be authorised?

- A leave of absence must be requested in advance
- It can only be authorised if there are exceptional circumstances
- Each request is considered individually by the Headteacher
- Holidays or leisure activities do not usually meet the criteria for exceptional circumstances
- Leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion

If a request is refused, children are expected to attend school on the dates requested. Any absence during this time will be recorded as unauthorised.

Please note:

- Requests must be made by the resident parent (the parent the child normally lives with)
- If you have not received confirmation, it is your responsibility to check whether the leave has been authorised before taking it
- Leave taken without prior approval cannot be authorised under current legislation

Penalty Notices (from September 2024)
All unauthorised leave of absence is referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service.
Penalty Notices are issued per parent, per child and follow updated legislation:

- First offence:
  £160 per child (reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days)
- Second offence within 3 years:
  £160 per child (no reduced rate)
- Third offence within 3 years:
  No Penalty Notice issued — the matter will be referred for possible prosecution under the Education Act 1996

Payment plans are not available, and unpaid notices may lead to legal proceedings.

Your child's academic progress and social development are extremely important to us, and we appreciate your continued support in ensuring excellent attendance.