St. Anne's Catholic Academy

NEWSLETTER

17 OCT 2025

St Anne's Catholic Academy

A message from Miss Gillin...

A huge thank you to all the parents who came along to our Reading Together: Parent Workshop on Wednesday. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, sharing tips, asking questions, and getting involved in your child's reading journey. Your support really does make a difference! We've also listened to your feedback about wanting more time and extra workshops — so watch this space, because there are definitely more opportunities on the way.

I also want to celebrate another fantastic achievement — our attendance! Thanks to your continued support in getting the children into school every day, we hit 97% on Thursday and 96.5% overall this week. That's amazing, and it really shows what we can achieve when we work together. Every day counts, and your efforts at home really make a difference in your child's learning and progress.

Miss Gillin
Head of School

Year 5 Dodgeball:

On Monday, some of our year 5's took part in a values dodgeball tournament, demonstrating great honesty, respect and teamwork. We are so proud of how they represented the school with so much enthusiasm.
Well done Poppie & Riley for your award!

Year 2 Oracy:

This week, Year 2 put their oracy skills into action! After enjoying the story The Giving Tree, the children took on Talking Team roles, working together to become confident communicators. They explored the important theme of God's creation, sharing their thoughts and listening respectfully to one another. It was wonderful to see their curiosity, teamwork, and thoughtful ideas in action!

LIVING THE MISSION

Loving God,

On Sunday, we gathered to say a heartfelt farewell to Father George as he celebrated his final Mass as Parish Priest of St. Anne's. The children prepared beautiful cards and presented him with some special gifts to show their appreciation for his care, kindness, and dedication over the past nine years. We thank Father George for everything he has done for our parish and school community and wish him every blessing as he begins his new chapter.

Loving God,
We thank You for the gift of Father George — for his faithful service, care, and guidance to our parish family. Bless him with joy and peace as he begins his new ministry, and may he always know our love and gratitude.
We also thank You for sending us Father Jimmy. We welcome him with open hearts and ask You to bless his work among us. Fill him with wisdom, compassion, and joy as he leads us in faith and love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

KEY DATES

Wednesday 22nd Oct - Parents Evening

Thursday 23rd Oct - Parents Evening

Friday 24th Oct - Power Week Catwalk

Friday 24th Oct - Break up for hall term

Monday 3rd Nov - Inset Day

Tuesday 4th Nov - Children return to school

House Cross Country Success!

Parents Evening:

We're looking forward to welcoming parents and carers into school for Parents' Evening next Wednesday and Thursday.
Please arrive 10 minutes before your appointment to allow time to look through your child's work. Books will be available to view in the hall. Each appointment will last 10 minutes, and we kindly ask everyone to keep to their allocated time so the evening can run smoothly for all families. If you feel you need a longer discussion, we'll be happy to arrange a follow-up appointment or phone call at a later date.
Thank you for your cooperation and understanding — we can't wait to share and celebrate everything your child has achieved so far!

Power Week Catwalk:

We are excited to invite parents and carers to our Power Week Catwalk! Each class will be dressing up to represent their topic theme, and families are warmly welcome to come and watch the parade in the School Hall.

The event will also serve as a fundraiser for our Christmas Foodbank, so any donations will be gratefully received.

Programme:

9:10 a.m. Start
Year 6: Ancient Greece
Year 5: Anglo Saxons
Year 4: Romans
Year 3: Stone Age
Short Break - Parents may leave at this point if necessary.
Year 2: Great Fire of London
Year 1: Victorians
Reception: Monster Phonics

We look forward to a fantastic morning of creativity, confidence, and community spirit!

ATTENDANCE

Reception 96%
Year 1 97%
Year 2 92%
Year 3 93%
Year 4 98%
Year 5 95%
Year 6 96%

As part of our duty to keep you informed, any child with attendance below 90% (Persistent Absence) will receive a letter next week at parent's evening. This is to let you know their attendance is below the expected national level.

Thank you for your understanding and 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

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision.
The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
    - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.

- Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically aswell as socially is our shared priority.