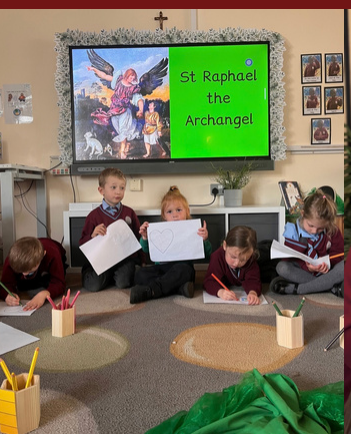
St. Anne's Catholic Academy

NEWSLETTER

2 OCTOBER 2026

St Anne's Catholic Academy



A message from Miss Gillin...

What a busy few weeks we have had at St Anne's! There has certainly been plenty going on, and as always, I have been so proud to see our children getting involved, showing kindness and living out our school mission.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Macmillan Cake Sale last week. Whether you baked, bought, donated or simply enjoyed a little bit of cake for a very good cause, your support really did make a difference! I am absolutely delighted to share that, together, we raised an incredible £497 for Macmillan Cancer Support. That is a lot of cake... and an even bigger reason to celebrate! Thank you to our wonderful families and parishioners for helping us support such an important charity.

On Tuesday, we celebrated St Raphael the Archangel, the patron saint of healing, guidance and journeys. To mark the occasion, everyone came to school wearing green – and I have to say, St Anne's was looking particularly green and rather fabulous! 💚

The children planned and led Celebrations of the Word in their classes, learning more about St Raphael and the important role he has in our faith. We discovered that his name means "God heals" and reflected on how God sends people into our lives to guide us, protect us, care for us and bring healing to those who need it.

I particularly loved hearing the children talk about how they can be healers and helpers too – not necessarily by doing anything dramatic, but through a kind word, a helping hand, including someone who is feeling lonely or simply being there for somebody who needs a friend. These small acts of kindness can make a very big difference.

And today, we continued our celebrations with a special OneLife Live Stream for Autumn as part of our Harvest celebrations. The children really enjoyed joining in and celebrating together. Harvest is such a lovely time of year to pause and think about what we have, to be thankful for the food and blessings we receive, and to remember those who may not have enough.

As always, I am incredibly proud of our St Anne's children. They continue to show us that our school mission is not just something we talk about – it is something we live. And, thankfully, there is never a dull moment along the way!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It really does make our St Anne's community such a special one.

LIVING THE MISSION

October Prayer Focus

This October, our prayer focus at St Anne's is faith, forgiveness and perseverance in prayer. Throughout the month, we will encourage our children to make time to pray, reflect and grow in their friendship with God.

October is also traditionally dedicated to the Holy Rosary, giving us a wonderful opportunity to learn more about this special prayer and to reflect on the life of Jesus alongside His Blessed Mother, Mary. Children will have opportunities to pray the Rosary and explore its meaning in school throughout the month.

We hope the resources shared in this month's Ten Ten newsletter will support families to continue these conversations and prayers at home. KS2 children will also bring home a Rosary booklet to help guide them as they pray the Rosary, either independently or together as a family.

We hope October will be a special time for our St Anne's families to pray together, grow in faith and make time for God.

KEY DATES

Monday 5th October - Year 5 - Whitemoor Lakes

Friday 9th October - World Mental Health Day - Wear Yellow

Thursday 15th October - Mass - Led by Year 4

Friday 16th October - Autumn Litter Pick

Tuesday 20th October - Parents Evening

Wednesday 21st October- Parents Evening

Friday 23rd October - Fancy Dress Parade - 9:15am

St Raphael the Archangel Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

Power Week Catwalk...

We're really excited to be holding our Catwalk Fashion Show on Friday 23rd October at 9.15am in the School Hall! This will be a lovely opportunity for the children to celebrate and showcase some of the learning they have been doing this term, while having lots of fun along the way.

We would like children to come to school dressed as a character or person linked to their current Topic:

Reception: Monster Phonics
Year 1: The Victorians
Year 2: The Great Fire of London
Year 3: The Stone Age
Year 4: The Romans
Year 5: The Anglo-Saxons
Year 6: The Ancient Greeks

Please don't feel that you need to spend lots of money on costumes – you really don't! Simple, homemade costumes using things you already have at home can be just as effective and will add a lovely personal touch. We can't wait to see the children bring their learning to life and enjoy their moment on the St Anne's catwalk! 🌟

Parents Evening...

Parents' Evening appointments will be available to book through Arbor from 3pm today. Our Parents' Evenings will take place on **Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October**, with appointments available from **3.30pm–6.00pm.**

Attendance

Reception- 98%
Year 1- 99.3%
Year 2- 96.9%
Year 3- 96.9%
Year 4- 95.3%
Year 5- 97.9%
Year 6- 96.6%

House Points

Pope John Paul II
815

St. Teresa of Calcutta
627

St. Cecilia
589

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.

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

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 as well as socially is our shared priority.