



St Antony's
Roman Catholic School

Respect † Love † Integrity † Service † Resilience

St Antony's Summer Term Newsletter July 2023

Goodbye and good luck to our wonderful Class of 2023.



Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm writing my end of year message to you all on our penultimate day of this school year. We have just returned from our end-of-year Mass at St Hugh of Lincoln church and I'm just so proud of our pupils and how well they continue to represent themselves, your family and our school.

This time of year, is always a time for reflection as we end one academic year and look forward to another. When I consider the bigger picture, the theme for us all in school over this year has been about continuing to drive school forward so all our young people are given every opportunity to be on the path to being the best version of themselves. Some of the things we have worked hard on includes the curriculum we want to teach, how we start and deliver lessons, how we provide pupils with better feedback on their learning, how we foster better relationships with each other, the way we tackle bullying and how we try to reward and recognise the achievements of our wonderful pupils. Although we feel we have made a positive start, we also recognise this is merely the end of our beginning in our quest to deliver an even better school for your children. There is still much to do and our focus on raising standards and expectations will continue into next year.



Over the last year I have been heartened by the engagement and support from so many of our parents and carers. This hasn't always involved you saying positive things that we might want to hear – and that's ok – we value and need all of your comments (whether they are positive or not) if we truly are going to work in partnership to support the young people we are have in our care.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank the adults who work at our school so tirelessly to support our young people. We have a wonderful team here, all aligned in our mission to provide the very best for our pupils. We will continue to prioritise training and development of all the adults who work at St Antony's into next year as this ensures they have the knowledge and skills they need to undertake their roles to a high standard, therefore ensuring they can continue to deliver a wonderful experience for pupils.

As we now look ahead to our long summer break, it is a time to rest, switch off and renew. I hope you and your family enjoy the break. I will be enjoying time with my young family whilst also catching up on much needed sleep!

I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Take care

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J A Campbell".

Mr Campbell
Headteacher

Key Dates

- Thursday 20th July – End of year Mass 10am at St Hugh of Lincoln
- Friday 21st July – Students finish at 1.15pm
- Thursday 24th August – GCSE Results Day
- Monday 4th September – Y7 & Y11 students return to school
- Tuesday 5th September – Y8, Y9 & Y10 students return to school
- Wednesday 13th September – Y11 Info Evening
- Monday 18th September – Open Evening 4pm–7pm
- Wednesday 20th September – Y10 Info Evening
- Wednesday 27th September – Y9 Info Evening
- Wednesday 4th October – Y8 Info Evening
- Wednesday 11th October – Y7 Pastoral Evening
- Friday 20th October – Break up for half term
- Friday 20th October – Sunday 22nd October – New Y7 PGL Trip

PTA

A massive thank you to all the members of the PTA who have worked tirelessly to raise funds to purchase items that all the students can benefit from. A special shout out goes to Mr Derbyshire for making and constructing the second of the outside sheltered seating areas, which the students are absolutely thrilled with.

Funds raised have paid for prom tickets for some Y11 students who were very appreciative of this generous gesture.

On Friday 21st July the PTA will be hosting a doughnut sale during break time. On sale will be Krispy Kreme doughnuts for £1 each or other alternative doughnuts for 50p.

During lunch time, with the help of the Mental Health Champions, the PTA will be holding a 'Splosh the Boss' event. 3 sponges for £1 donation to throw wet sponges at a selection of staff members!!!



The PTA have some great fundraising ideas in mind for the next academic year and are hoping that lots more parents are able to get on board and get involved. If you are interested in joining then please email: k.rothwell@st-antony.com with your contact name and mobile telephone number.

Parent & Carers Forum

During this year we have introduced a Parent & Carers Forum where all parents and carers have been invited to come into to school to hear about what has been happening and to give their views about things that are going well and things we need to develop further. The Forum has met three times (once in each term) and has been an excellent source of communication between home and school, helping school leaders to understand more clearly the views of parents, carers and young people, which, in turn, has helped us to improve our provision further.

We will continue to run our Parent & Carers Forum in the next academic following a similar model to what we have used this year and all parents and carers are very much welcome to come along. Our first meeting will be in the Autumn Term on Tuesday 17th October 2023 (4pm – 5.30pm) and refreshments will be provided.

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

The Anti-bullying Ambassadors have been provided with their lanyard holders and badges. The rationale is for pupils to identify the ambassadors in social times to be able to seek support and guidance.

Anti-Bullying posters have been designed by the pupils this term in form rooms and various locations around the school. The posters outline what support can be offered by the anti-bullying team.

The Ambassadors are now in the process of filming a video about helpful ways to help cope with the stress of studying for and sitting exams, once completed the video will be shared amongst forms to encourage all pupils and provide some 'top tips' to cope with exam stress.

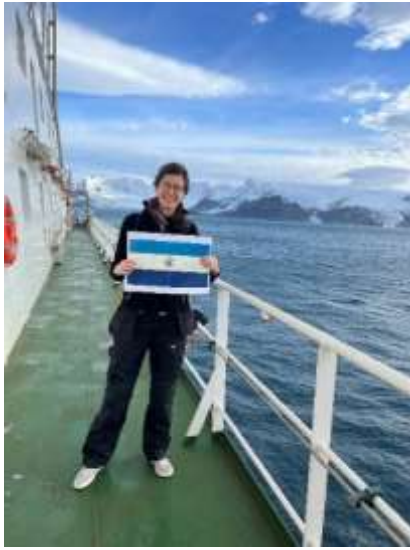


The Eco Club



The Eco Club continued to their hard work in improving the environment around school and thinking of ways we can all be environmentally active in our communities. This will be further developed in 2023/4.

Geography



Our Y10 Geographers battled against the elements and completed their first piece of fieldwork locally in Salford Quays and Old Trafford where they assessed the risks posed in our communities to crime and traffic.

We ran lots of extracurricular events this year across the key stages, David Im won the Antarctica flag competition with his flag proudly being flown on Antarctica by Anna Beltcher. Anna is a marine biogeochemist and the photos were taken on board the Sir David Attenborough ship, near to Singy Island. Whilst on board, Anna took water samples to help understand carbon uptake in the ocean, as well as deploying an array of instruments on a mooring that will stay in the water in the Weddell sea for a year or two collecting data. This will help us understand more of what goes on over the winter months when it is difficult to reach the area.

Maths Challenge

The Maths Department were proud to announce that on the 26th April, 86 pupils from year 7 and 8 were entered into the Junior Maths Challenge.

From this incredibly difficult challenge, Winsley Lim in year 7 achieve a Gold certificate. Silver certificates were awarded to Sean Lee Manford in year 7 and Alex Sutton, Zack Davenport and Aaron Brown from year 8. In addition to this we had 24 pupils who received a Bronze certificate. Every students' attendance target was 98% and over. Well done to all involved.



Student Focus – James Durkan, Year 7

When I first started at St. Antony's I was a bit worried, but when the weeks and months had gone by, I started to feel like I was meant to be here. I have enjoyed every minute of St. Antony's so far. The teachers and other pupils are all friendly. The corridors and staircases are loud and very busy which used to worry me, but now I am used to them. There are also a lot more subjects compared to primary school which I really enjoy.

Overall, I am very pleased I chose this school.

Reading and Literacy



This has been a big year for reading and Literacy at St Antony's and we are delighted to announce that we are moving to a new library space in 2023 to continue to build a thriving reading culture. We have added hundreds of new books to our library and there are many more to come! Since September we have given out free books to Year 7 pupils, had the Scholastic Book Fair at Christmas, had an author visit through English, started the new secondary Fresh Start Phonics programme, appointed a new phonics and literacy specialist, trained our LSAs to deliver focused phonics intervention, supported hundreds of children to improve their reading ages and recently we have appointed our first Reading Ambassadors!

We know there is lots more we can do, so from September 2023, in order to help with that, we will have:

- Specific reading rewards for pupils who read independently
- A brand-new book from Bookbuzz for every Year 7 pupil, to be presented in assembly
- New books in stock and increased numbers of books chosen by pupils themselves
- Targeted reading support groups for those who need it most
- The annual half-price Scholastic Book Fair in school in Christmas week
- Enhanced curriculum planning that focuses on reading in all subjects
- A St Antony's Canon of Literature
- Book clubs and competitions

Mr Campbell and Mrs Bolton are proud to introduce St Antony's new Reading Ambassadors! The start of a new reading journey as these dedicated pupils help to build and develop the love of reading in our school!



Primary Liaison

During the Summer term, we invited our feeder primary schools to participate in a remote Sports day competition during National Sport week. This gave each school the opportunity to deliver the session to their Year 4 and Year 5 pupils. The session included 10 alternative sporting activities that can be completed in school or at home and focus largely on fun and enjoyment. Feedback from the Primary school has been extremely positive stating that the pupils enjoyed the challenges.

Sports at St Antony's



The PE department have had another very busy Summer term. We took a full complement of girls and boys to the annual Trafford Athletics competitions at Longford Park Athletics stadium competing against the finest young athletes from all other Trafford schools. Noticeable performances included Malcolm Scott in Year 8 winning the 100m final for the second year running and Lucas Hunt placing second in the Year 10, 100m sprint final.

The Year 10 GCSE PE pupils have been to the Parthian climbing centre for 3 days of indoor climbing, learning the core and advanced skills ahead of their final Climbing assessment and Miss McMahon is accompanying Mr Manford and a group of pupils to the Chill Factor for a day of skiing learning some of the basic skills ahead of the annual ski trip to Italy in December.

The Trafford Cricket league started after the Easter holidays and our teams' played games against other Trafford schools.

The PE department has also been awarded the Bronze Schools Games Mark for its continued commitment to extra-curricular sporting provision. An achievement that we are all very proud of.



We are all looking forward to our annual Sports day event due to take place on Tuesday 18th July at Longford Park.

Drama

This year, more than thirty St Antony's students from Years 7 - 10 participated in group acting exams conducted by the Victoria College of Music and Drama, London. Key Stage 3 students performed extracts from GCSE English texts - Macbeth for Year 9, An Inspector Calls for Year 8 and Jekyll and Hyde for Year 7 - while our Key Stage 4 students created a devised performance based on the GCSE Power and Conflict poetry cluster. We are delighted to report that, not only did every student achieve their awards, but that everyone passed with Distinctions! Congratulations to our talented young performers who are currently working towards a production of Matilda the Musical on Saturday 22nd July.

Support for SEND Pupils

At the end of June, Mrs Adderley and Mr Diamond held our first 'SEND Coffee Afternoon'. A presentation was given to parents and carers of pupils on our SEND register to outline the journey of the SEND department this year, the challenges that we have faced, and the next steps on our journey to improvement for our pupils with additional learning needs. The afternoon gave us with the opportunity to take valued feedback on our current provision and areas for improvement. We want to increase our partnership with parents and carers; therefore, this will become a regular event in our school calendar, and we look forward to welcoming more parents and carers to our future dates.

Careers

We have had another busy term supporting students with planning for their next steps after St Antony's. This has included Year 7 and Year 10 visiting the University of Manchester for the Gateways programme allowing them to explore the options around attending university in the future. Year 10s also visited Trafford College Taster Day focusing on gaining experience on what real life college is like and experiencing lesson in art, design and technology. The picture shown is the final scene from a story put together by several of our students during one of their sessions. Pupils were fantastic ambassadors for the school and enjoyed their experience. The Xaverian College Taster Day was a successful experience for students to gain a real perspective of what the campus was like, and to experience college lectures.

Please get in touch with Miss Ruddock or Mr Shaw if you are able to facilitate any workplace visits or talks with our students.



Safeguarding

All staff have undertaken the statutory training this year. I was impressed by the speed which new staff completed the training, many of which did so in their own time. Staff have also been involved in further training such as knife crime, CSE, Online Safety and many more. This is in addition to the excellent uptake in our sessions covering sensitive issues such as suicide and childhood trauma in the previous term.

Staff have been getting weekly updates from SLT on no fewer than 35 topics so far this academic year, to provide them with either refreshers or deep dives into some challenging topics. This enhances the ability of all adults to know how to effectively deal with situations they may not have come across before.

Lastly, members of the safeguarding team have undertaken specific training on children's' counselling to provide more capacity within school to support our students and their mental health.

Trafford Strategic Safeguarding Partnership



<https://www.traffordsafeguardingpartnership.org.uk/Home.aspx>

Student Support with Behaviour

Firstly, may we say thank you to the overwhelming majority of students whose behaviour has been excellent across this school year. Across each Year group we average 85% of all students in each year not entering the sanction system at any point. This is amazing and thank you to you as parents for supporting us at school in maintaining expected standards of behaviour.

What does school do for those students who struggle to regulate their behaviour?

We understand that behaviour can at times cause unwanted disruption to learning and some of our students will require additional support to help them meet our very expectations that relate to their choices both in lessons and outside lessons. We recognise that, occasionally, sanctions do not always have the desired impact of correcting behaviours and we want to minimise the amount of lost learning that pupils might encounter because of poor behaviour. In these instances, our pastoral team will often call TAC meetings (Team around the child meetings), whereby key professionals will look at what further interventions and support we can put in place. This might include mentoring, positive report cards, external mentoring, referrals to appropriate Early Help Services, step outs at other local schools, a place on our "reflect and reset" programme, to name but a few of our interventions.

If you require any additional information or support please do not hesitate to contact a member of the pastoral team.

Finally, at this time of year we would remind all parents/carers who are purchasing school shoes over the next coming weeks to look at our school website for our acceptable shoes information. School does not accept sports brands as shoes.

Student Council

We are delighted that the new Student Council has been appointed and has already held its first meeting, in order that some preparation and thinking could be done ahead of the new term. The role is a very important one - helping to move our school forward and to uphold our values of respect, love, service, resilience and integrity. Congratulations to all those elected by their form class to the role of Student Council Representative - we hope they wear their badges with pride.

Once we add the new Y7 cohort in September, we'll take pictures of the full Student Council and will update you on their progress.

Personal Development

You will know that there's been some changes to the delivery of Personal Development Lessons (often called PSHE, Citizenship and Careers) over 2022-23, in that it has been delivered over 2 mornings each week by form tutors. We have shared with you at Parents'/Carers' Evening a summary of the learning for your child in Personal Development lessons across the year. To recap broadly, this has been:

- Half term 1 – Me and My Body
- Half term 2 – Emotional Wellbeing
- Half term 3 – Life Cycles
- Half term 4 – Keeping Safe, including online safety
- Half term 5 – Living in the Wider World
- Half term 6 – Taking Responsibility for Myself



Out of hours support in relation to the learning in Personal Development lessons is sign-posted on the school website, under the Wellbeing and Support section for you or your child to access at any time.

This curriculum work has been supplemented by other Personal Development Learning – through assemblies, through consistent messaging everywhere, for example #nobystanders, through external visitors such as anti-knife crime campaigner Alison Cope, or through collaboration with expert organisations such as *Dignify* around safe online behaviours. We have been using *St Antony's Stories* to regularly share with you the Personal Development activities and learning at school – your feedback on this has been very helpful. For example, parent/carer voice has said that your child needs financial management education and basic first aid - please be assured that our planning for Personal Development does include this. We encourage you to use the surveys we share and other avenues of communication to continue to tell us your feedback, so that we can work in collaboration with you regarding the personal growth of your child.

Mental Health Champions



The original Y10 Mental Health Champions have recruited a younger team to follow in their footsteps, as the Y10 MHC's progress into Y11 and need to focus on their exam year.

We now have a small team of MHC's in Y7, Y8, Y9 who will take over as they move higher up in the school. The initiative will continue to grow and be a key part of whole school development next year.

Extra-Curricular Offer



We are very pleased with the wider-curriculum offer this year and our recent family survey indicates that you too think this is a good range of opportunity, though not everyone was aware we had so much to offer!

Did you know that this year we have run extra-curricular clubs or activities for Homework, Inclusion, Sports Leaders, Sports Team Players, Mental Health Champions, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, Drama, Music Instrumental Tuition, Choir, Peer Mentoring, CCF, GIFT Chaplaincy and Eco Team? And that every lunchtime there is an offer of a sporting activity or a quiet space to socialise and to listen to the

news as students eat lunch?

We are very proud that much of our offer relates to mental and physical wellbeing, as well as being of service or in a position of leadership. For this latter responsibility in school life, we have over a third of the school involved in service or leadership post, with all cohorts from our student body well represented. We hope that you are as proud of them as we are!

Many parents/carers have responded to the June school survey about our Wider Curriculum offer – thanks to those who have done this. If you have not and are able to do so, please complete this 2 minute survey using the link [here](#):

What you have told us is that you are also pleased with our offer but that we should look to advertise this better and ensure that more creative opportunities are available – thank you for your suggestions. You've also told us that we need to do more to improve the offer of wider opportunities within the compulsory curriculum. We agree with you and have a plan to ensure that **all** students, not just those choosing to do so, have access to a greater range of school experiences.

Catholic Life

To celebrate May been the Month of Mary, students worked with Sister Linda to create a life size display of the Rosary in the school hall.

Father Kieren dropped into Year 10 lessons to discuss his life as a priest and to take questions from Year 10.

Year 11 planned and celebrated their final mass as St Antony's students, together with their parent's at St Hugh's.

The Feast day of St Antony was celebrated by our school community attending Mass at St Hugh's and on their return to school, being introduced to the new St Antony's values.



Rewards

We are excited to announce that since the launch of our new rewards system in November over 118,000 Achievement Points have been awarded. These have been awarded to students for the positive choices they have made whilst at school, such as their effort in lessons, helping others, attending extra-curricular activities as well as many other achievements.

We have also introduced every half term a rewards assembly which allows us to acknowledge and celebrate our students in front of their peers and form tutors. During these assemblies, we highlight achievements, present certificates and reward students with their badges, which we are delighted to see that so many of our pupils are wearing these proudly on their blazers around school.

Many rewards trips have also taken place this year such as the Year 10 and Year 11 Trip to Liverpool, The Playfactore, the cinema to watch Elf and Alton Towers. We look forward to next year in moving forward with our rewards system to help motivate our students to becoming the best version of themselves.



Attendance



Research shows that attendance plays a vital role in the academic success of pupils. Did you know that if a child has 95% attendance, then they have missed over 50 hours of learning? What is your child's attendance? How much learning have they lost being off school this year? From September we are changing the way you report your child's absence. You should now contact school by calling the absence line on 0161 911 8025. If there is no answer please leave a message detailing the

full name of your child, their form, your name and relationship to the child and the reason for your child's absence, or you can email absence@st-antonys.com detailing the same information as requested for the answer machine. We ask that this is done before 8.30am on the first day of your child's absence, this is to ensure the safety of all our students. We also remind you that you should also contact school each following day that your child is absent. If you have any attendance questions then please do not hesitate to contact our Education Welfare Office, Mrs Kelly on the absence line or email address.

GIFT Team

This term the GIFT team have been busy helping at Flixton Manor Care home. During the weekly visits they have led arts and crafts activities, played bingo, enjoyed performances from local singers and helped to plan and promote the summer fair. The pupils will be finishing this term with running a tombola stand at the summer fair to raise funds for the care homes chosen charity.



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God of wisdom,

As we come to the end of this school year, we voice our gratitude for the good things you have done in us, and we praise you for all who have shared in the work of this school.

We ask that you bless them in your love and give them refreshment and peace.

St Antony of Padua, pray for us.

MAY GODS BLESSINGS COME TO YOU A THOUSAND FOLD; MAY THE LOVE IN YOUR HEART NEVER GET OLD; AND MAY YOU FIND TREASURES MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD.