




St Antony's
Roman Catholic School

Respect † Love † Integrity † Service † Resilience

St Antony's Stories – information about learning, activities, events at school which form part of **students' Personal Development – May 2024**

Who?	What's the story?
Assemblies	
Y7- Y11	<p>The first assembly theme this month was faith (possibly religious beliefs, but also personal values or absolute trust in others) and the belief in something without needing proof. This was related to aspects of students' lives and our value of resilience. The Parable of the Pencil was shared and words of the pencil maker became guiding principles for every pencil leaving his workshop: "There are 5 essential things to always recall as you venture into the world:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You can achieve great things, but it requires guidance from others, as we can accomplish little on our own. 2. During the sharpening process, you will experience great pain, but it will mould you into becoming a better pencil every time. 3. Mistakes will be made, but you can erase them and learn from them. 4. You'll bear marks and scars, but your outer casing does not determine your true value. 5. You'll leave a mark on every surface you touch; choose to leave a positive one." <p>Learner habits and integrity were the main content of another May assembly, along with a celebration of those who demonstrate this every day in classrooms. A reminder that opportunities to grow as a learner will always be provided here, like leading a horse to water, but that responsibility for using those opportunities lies with the students – they are owners of their learning and owners of their futures. Acting with integrity in school is the right thing to do, but it also pays off in the long term.</p> <div data-bbox="352 1630 1362 1861" style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div data-bbox="352 1630 767 1861" style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 10px; font-family: cursive;"> <p>All big things come from small beginnings. The seed of every habit is a single, tiny decision. James Clear</p> </div> <div data-bbox="772 1630 959 1861" style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div data-bbox="963 1630 1362 1861" style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 10px; font-family: cursive;"> <p>Life opens up opportunities to you, and you either take them or you stay afraid of taking them. — Jim Carrey —</p> </div> </div>

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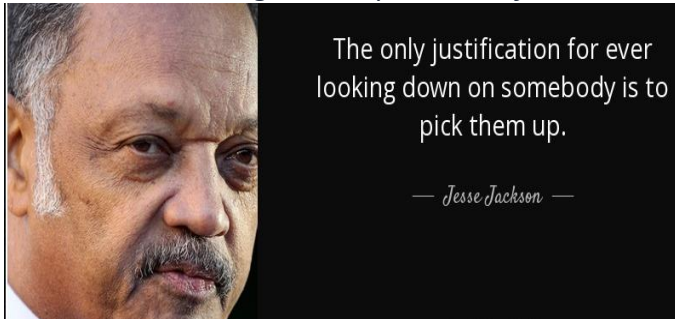
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Mission and loving thy neighbour were the focus of assembly in May, during a week which corresponded with Christian Aid Week and the commencement of Foster Care Fortnight. Staff were asked to share examples from our school community of love and kindness witnessed and Mr Speake as assembly lead that week was overwhelmed with examples - random acts of kindness, of supportive words of encouragement between strangers, of support for a friend in need. **We are so proud of our students who live our mission** by sharing their light with others, to *Let the Light and Splendour of Christ Shine Within Us All*.



Throughout May – the Month of Mary - Sister Linda has been leading students in **Praying the Rosary**. This was held in the Garden of Reflection with all students in years 7-10.

In addition, we were lucky to welcome several parish priests for **Reconciliation services** – and dozens of our student and staff body were able to have their confession heard or receive a blessing. We are very grateful to our faith community for the support with this.



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Personal Development Lessons, including *Citizenship* – Living in the Wider World (Rights and Responsibilities)

Y7	Animal Rescuers, Living Responsibly, & <i>Why is Registering to Vote so Important?</i>
Y8	Visible Differences, Wider World, & <i>Why Should Local Elections Matter to You?</i>
Y9	Human Rights, Knowing my Rights and Responsibilities, & <i>Taxes and Budgeting</i>
Y10	How Sustainable is our Future?, Solidarity, & <i>What Laws Exist to Protect the Environment?</i>
Y11	<i>Local Issue Action & Evaluation, Different Governments and Parties & The Media During Elections</i>

Careers

Y7-10 Y7 were the last of the year groups to attend **The University of Manchester's Gateways** programme on the 16th May. Its aim is to open eyes to the **possibilities of Higher Education** for all of our students, and included a campus tour and some activities planned and led by the University team. This month **all students** have also had a **Careers lesson** as part of their PD lesson time, with diverse topics: Y7 and Y8 – the range of job opportunities in this era; and Y9 and Y10 – how to present ourselves positively for employment. A reminder for all students to see Emma Towler – our Careers Officer from Connexions – during drop-ins on Monday lunchtime. Or make an appointment to see her – careers@st-antony.com. And **good luck to Y11** as you move from St Antony's to your post-16 pathways, whatever they may be! Emma is still your contact over the summer results etc.

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Other St Antony's Stories

The **cast and crew of the Wizard of Oz** visited **The Palace Theatre** in Manchester at the start of May. They had a brilliant time and even received a backstage tour of the theatre led by the Cowardly Lion, Jason Manford. The visit gave them lots of ideas for the production itself, and information about the reality of working in this industry as a career, such as the expectations of your team, how quickly you must learn lines, and how much you are relied upon to attend each and every rehearsal. Like at school, attendance matters!



17th May saw the **annual staff v student football match**, with aging staff playing the never aging Y11 once again. Word has no doubt already spread, but **Y11** were victorious with a 3-2 win against the staff team. Well done to all involved and thanks to Mr Brownbill for organising this final sporting event for Y11.



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If students are looking for activities, the summer 2 programme will be shared soon, but this is a reminder of **what's been on offer this month, summer 1.**

EXTRA CURRICULAR PLAN						
SUMMER 1						
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCH TIME	Hall	Badminton				
		All				
	Gym	Samba Year 7	Samba Year 8	Samba Year 9	Badminton Year 10/11 GCSE PE	Badminton Year 10/11 GCSE PE
AFTER SCHOOL		Cricket/Rounders		Cross Country		Badminton
		All		All		All
			P6 - PE Year 10/11	P6 - PE Year 10/11		

Y11 Preparation Evening 23rd May, a session to **prepare Y10** for the year ahead. Fast-forward 1 year, and this cohort of Y10s will be almost finished their education. We wanted them to be set for the countdown to their GCSE exams, now that they are less than 1 year away from sitting them. The evening covered the upcoming exams as a foundation for the real ones next summer. But also expectations and good learner habits for success in exams and in life broadly, such as resilience, time-management and recognising that success is built over the long term.



Summer term is definitely the busiest term for **cadets in the CCF**, with lots of trips planned. Our cadets have this month visited Sale Water Park to practise their **kayaking and paddle boarding skills**. Despite the weather not being the best, everyone enjoyed themselves and learned new skills – after a few falls (and jumps!) into the water. There are more trips to Sale Water Park coming up, as well as trips to Southport to learn how to sail, and to Portsmouth the older cadets to take part in the DRIU – a sinking ship simulator. Here's hoping the weather is better for that!

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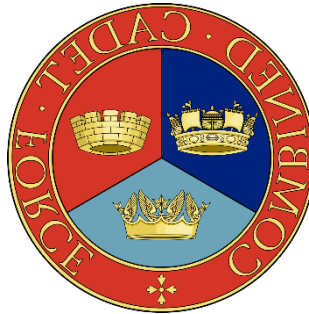
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'Stop the Bleed' is a national day where, across the country, thousands of young people are provided with life-saving stop the bleed training. This national initiative has been created by the **citizenAID** charity and is being funded by Greater Manchester's Violence Reduction Unit. It took place ahead of stop the bleed month in May. Students were given training on what to do to assist a casualty who might be bleeding – this **initial first aid** is proven to be essential in the time before emergency services or other trained staff are in attendance. We

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hope that our students never need to use the training but we also hope that, if they do, it proves to be very valuable learning.



St Antony's Carnegie Shadowing Group held their inaugural meeting this month. The group are **reading and discussing the books on the Carnegie shortlist** and will vote for our Carnegie winner alongside schools from around the country. The group meets in the library where snacks and drinks are provided, a healthy discussion of the latest books read takes place, books are swapped and more reading follows! Students in Years 7 & 9 are on this school panel. We will decide the St Antony's Carnegie Winner and vote in June and **compare our selection to the official winner.**



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