



St Antony's
Roman Catholic School

Respect + Love + Integrity + Service + Resilience

St Antony's Summer Term Newsletter July 2024

This week, more than forty of our students joined Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion on the yellow brick road in the first school production to take place at St Antony's in 17 years. In addition to our talented performers, more than 100 students and more than 40 staff took part in the creation of scenery, props and costumes, and we were thrilled to welcome a further 50+ pupils from English Martyrs and St Hugh of Lincoln RC Primary Schools who sang their hearts out in support of our musical numbers for a combined audience of over 400 family and friends over the course of the week. The entire team is extremely grateful for everyone's commitment and support in creating an experience that will stay with all involved for years to come.



Headteacher's Introduction

Hello and welcome to our final newsletter of this academic year.

I would like to begin my remarks with several thank yous. First of all, I'd like to express my thanks to all of the young people who attend St Antony's for their commitment to their studies and their positive contributions to everything else that goes on beyond their lessons in our school. Our pupils are smart, funny, kind and generous – and it is a pleasure to come to work and spend each day with them. I want to also thank our parents, carers and wider family members who work with us, through good times and bad, in helping to support our young people. Put simply, we could not do what we do without you. I feel our partnership has strengthened over the last year and I look forward to this continuing next academic year also. I also would like to thank the staff at St Antony's who work tirelessly, every single day, to ensure we provide the very best education for the children of this school so they are supported to become the very best version of themselves. A lot has changed over the last two years, and the staff have had to work incredibly hard to bring about the changes we have wanted to implement. I am indebted to their fortitude, resilience, candour and flexibility as we work them to ensure we have our school set up in the right way so we maximise the precious time we have with our young people. Finally, I would like to give thanks and pay tribute to our colleagues and friends on the staff who are leaving us at the end of this academic year. We have been very lucky to work with, and shall miss enormously, Miss Chaisty, Mrs Deesi, Mrs Ince, Miss Kirke, Miss Lambert, Mr Reese, Mr Reynard, Miss Romagnoli, Mrs Weinberg and Miss Wilde. We give thanks to all of our departing colleagues for their dedicated service to our young people and wish them all the very best for the future.

Looking ahead to our return in September, collectively I want to reassure you that we will continue to retain our very high standards and expectations in relation to all aspects of school life – and this is very important because we will be letting pupils down if we expected anything less. This means in relation to things like uniform, attendance, punctuality, conduct and work ethic we will continue to consistently expect the best from our pupils. We know this will take hard work, patience and some tough love at times – but we firmly believe this is in the best interests of all our pupils in the longer term moving forward.

As we now look ahead to our long summer break, we will now take the time to rest, step away from our roles in school and enjoy time with our friends and family.

I hope you and your family enjoy the break and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Take care



Mr Campbell

Headteacher

Looking Ahead - Key Dates

- Thursday 22nd August – GCSE Results Day
- Monday 2nd September – Staff only INSET Day
- Tuesday 3rd September – Y7 & Y11 students return to school
- Wednesday 4th September – Y8,9 & 10 students return to school
- Tuesday 10th September – Y11 Info Evening
- Wednesday 11th September – Y10 Info Evening
- Thursday 19th September – Open Evening 4-7pm
- Tuesday 24th September – Y9 Info Evening
- Wednesday 25th September – Y8 Info Evening
- Thursday 26th September – Geography Field Trip
- Friday 27th September – Y7 Retreat
- Friday 4th October – Y8 Immunisations
- Thursday 10th October – Y7 Pastoral Evening
- Tuesday 15th October – Parent Forum 4-5.30pm
- Monday 14th October – Friday 25th October – KS3 Assessments
- Friday 25th October – Break up for half term

PTA

The PTA have been busy planning events to raise funds to purchase items that the students of the school can benefit from. The students have requested more football nets, which they can use during break and lunch times.

Over the 3 nights of the school production, the PTA were in charge of selling the refreshments. This was a huge success and they raised a total of £542.50 – well done to all!

A special mention and BIG THANK YOU goes to Mr Baranowska, who kindly contacted various companies via his work and managed to arrange for lots of refreshments to be donated free of charge – the PTA, students and staff of St Antony's really appreciate your kind gesture.

On Friday 19th July the PTA will be selling Krispy Kreme donuts in the school foyer at break time at £1 each and there will be a “splosh the boss” at 12.35pm too. A big thank you to all those staff members who have “volunteered” to take part in this event!



Parent Forum

The second year of our Parent Forum has further strengthened the home-school partnership over the course of this academic year. The group met three times over the course of the year and school leaders have been very appreciative of the view of parents and carers about things that are going well and things we need to develop further. This forum also enables parents and carers to remain up to date about a range of issues – for example, at our most recent forum earlier this week (July 2024), school leaders provide updates on the recent Ofsted inspection, the school budget, our plans to ban mobile phones, the challenges around providing work experience, homework, rewards and school trips.

We will continue to run our Parent Forum in the next academic year, but will aim to meet once per half term (six times across the year) in order to improve further our communication with parents and carers. Our first meeting in the Autumn Term will be on Tuesday 15th October 2024 (4pm – 5.30pm) and all parents and carers are warmly invited to come along. Refreshments will be provided as usual.

SEND

As the end of another academic year draws to an end, the SEND Department thought it would be best to reflect on the successes of this past year. This year we have held Parent Coffee mornings with our Educational Psychologist which was an informative session all about the Graduated Approach, and a question and answer session. We have introduced a range of new interventions for our children, which have proved both impactful and enjoyable. Our children have also been involved in lunchtime clubs such as Art-Club and mindfulness in The Hive. Looking forward to September, we are excited to see more parent events and look forward to working in collaboration with our parents / careers and other professionals.

Year 11 Exams

We would like to congratulate all of our students on the completion of a very successful GCSE season.

Results day this year is on Thursday 22th August. Results can be collected from school from 9.00am until 12 noon.

Results must be collected by the candidate. If the candidate is unavailable to collect results on that day, please contact the exams officer, Mrs Rowles on lrowles@st-antonys.com so alternative arrangements can be made.

Information on Post Results Services offered by the Examining Boards to Candidates

Post Results Services are offered by all of the examination boards. Any requests must be done through the school via the Exams Office. This is the only route recognised by the Examination Boards. If you wish to make a request, you should contact the exams officer as soon as possible AFTER YOU HAVE RECEIVED YOUR RESULTS. The breakdown of marks will be looked at to judge how close the marks are to a grade boundary and advise given accordingly.

Further information on Post Results Services including fees and deadlines will be provided to on Results Day. We look forward to seeing you on Results Day. In the meantime, be safe and enjoy the summer.

Class of 2024



MFL

Mrs Stevens took a group of Year 10 French pupils to the University of Manchester for a day called Insights into Languages. The pupils were able to spend time with University students who are “living the dream”, having just returned from their year spent abroad in countries including Brazil, La Reunion and Mexico! The pupils were given a tour of the campus in the morning and then they did some audio subtitling in the same way that they do for TV programmes. Later in the day, they were treated to a session during which they learned to speak some Russian!

This year we were very excited to take part in a Spanish student exchange where we welcomed students from Spain to stay with host families from St. Antony's. The Spanish students followed the English buddy's timetable and got to experience UK life and our great British summer. Students are paired considering their age and interests so that new friendships and life changing experiences can happen. As well as attending classes they also got to come on the Blackpool trip which was an amazing opportunity for them.

We are very much looking forward to taking part again next year when our English buddies will have the chance to travel back to Spain for the last week in July to stay with their Spanish buddy.

Geography



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 2024-5 with some great plans in place. We maintain our Green Flag which flies proudly outside our school.

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.



CCF



The cadets have enjoyed lots of trips this term. We have been to Sale Water Park, Southport, and, most recently, Portsmouth.

Whilst in Portsmouth the cadets were able to take part in firefighting training, as well as going into the DRIU (damage repair instructional unit) - both of which are things that the Navy do as part of their training!

In the firefighting training, the cadets were able to try on the firefighting equipment and put out lots of different types of fires. We saw a (controlled!) fire that we measured at 800 degrees Celsius! In the afternoon, we went to the DRIU, which simulates a ship sinking and filling with water. The cadets had to 'save the ship' using wooden blocks, which they hammered into the holes. This required the cadets to work together, and also meant they got very wet!

Everyone had a fantastic experience and are already looking forward to next year!



Reading and Literacy



This has been a marvellous year for the library and literacy teams, as we have grown our library, increased numbers of books on loan every term and celebrated a range of events such as World Book Day, Black History Month and even the Euros! Our support for those who find reading most challenging has been celebrated by Ofsted and we have seen it have a profound effect on our pupils. Reading changes lives!

We want to continue to raise the numbers of young people reading in and out of school and we want our parents and carers to help with this. Please encourage your children to read at home and to come to our library if they need inspiration. Mrs Bolton and Mr Williams will be more than happy to help!

Homework

The new homework strategy introduced this year has been hugely successful and pupils have been working very hard on this. This hard work has led to improved knowledge retention over time, which has been demonstrated in recent assessments. The 5-year, structured revision programme continues to improve with subject leaders refining homework based on feedback from pupils, parents and teachers so that homework is even better next year. Years 7-9 continue to use booklets containing knowledge organisers with matching questions, Y10 utilise revision guides with accompanying question booklets and Y11 use the same revision guides with matching exam practice workbooks to help them prepare for success in their exams. There will soon be a new section on the website where you can access homework information for all year groups, including the KS3 homework booklets.

Catholic Life

Following the tremendous success of our St Antony's Feast Day walk fundraiser, we are thrilled to announce that our pupils raised over £1200. This incredible achievement has contributed to our total fundraising efforts of over £5000 for various charities throughout the year.

Recently, the GIFT Team had the honour of reading at mass, where pupils who have demonstrated dedication to Catholic life were acknowledged with awards. Congratulations to Alona Citto and Ahina Anna on receiving the Caritas Award.

Looking ahead, the team is already hard at work preparing for the upcoming year of service and compassion within our school community. Exciting plans include organising the Big Sleep Out, conducting a food appeal, leading prayers, and hosting small chapel services. We warmly invite all those interested in deepening their faith and serving others to join the GIFT Team next September. Your participation is invaluable as we continue our mission of putting gospel values into practice.

Student Success



In February this year a number of students from across the school entered a national poetry competition with Young Writers. The task was to write a poem from the perspective of someone, or something else.

Our lovely students did not disappoint with poems based on a huge variety of perspectives. We had famous musicians, historical figures, characters from books, what it's like to live with illness and even the *Inner Thoughts of a Chair* - the quality of work was astonishing and a huge congratulations should be given to all of our lovely entries.



We are also incredibly proud to announce that **sixteen** of our students were in fact selected for publication. The Through Their Eyes book of poetry is available to buy now - keep an eye out and see if you recognise any of the perspectives!

Mrs Williams took 10 students from Y8 and 9 to an event at Siemens Head Office in Didsbury for the Manchester Finals Micro Tyco event. Micro Tyco is a leading global entrepreneurship competition which challenges young people to work together and develop innovative solutions to address The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The students worked together to design a sustainable water project, meeting Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, aiming to address water scarcity, promote water conservation and management, and ensure access to clean water for all. They worked incredibly hard and came 2nd overall!!



Finally, we can announce the **Student Leadership team** for the next academic year.

Head Boy	Joshua Smith
Head Girl	Sarah Barboza
Deputy Head Boy	Gethin Bond
Deputy Head Girl	Jasmine Hodgkinson

Molly O'Hara	Sinead Kent	Elliot McNee	Tiwani Bvrinda	Shane Knowles
Callum Brookes	Aiden Shaw	Hamza Yaqub	Derek Arevelo Flores	Conner Doyle
Carl O'Sullivan	Lacey Young	Amie-Leigh Burges	Millie Murray	

Very well done to all of our wonderful students who are ideal ambassadors and will be the perfect role models for their younger peers.

Careers



Some of our Y10 Students chose to visit Trafford College North for a Taster Day for Vocational Subjects such as; Engineering, motor vehicles, construction and plumbing. This was planned to support them in making choices for their future after Y11 careers.

Our students had an incredible time at St Antony's STEM Day, hosted by the Design Technology Department. We were fortunate to have many volunteers who led various engaging and educational workshops. The RAF taught our pupils how to code and fly drones, while a marketing executive discussed his creative career and hosted a thrilling 'Dragon's Den' activity. The Young Engineers captivated the students with a hands-on LEGO and moving mechanisms workshop. Additionally, a pastry chef dazzled everyone with live culinary demonstrations, and an artist who collaborated with JD showcased his innovative digital trainer designs. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the day, finding it both enjoyable and immensely beneficial to their learning.

Sports



The PE department have had another very busy Summer term. The Trafford Cricket league started after the Easter holidays and our teams' played games against other Trafford schools, noticeably performances being the Year 8/9 team beating Lostock High.

As part of the PE department's co-curricular offer, the Year 9 pupils spent a day working with the British Army completing their 'Skills

For Life' course. The course is designed to test the physical and mental capabilities of pupils with the aim of improving their teamwork, communication and problem solving skills.

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. The assessment scores will form 10% of their final GCSE PE grade.

We are all looking forward to our annual Sports day event due to take place on Thursday 18th July in school. This will provide every pupil the opportunity to showcase their sporting prowess in either a traditional or non-traditional Athletics event.

Rewards



Over this academic year we have revamped our rewards strategy to ensure that all students who demonstrate our school values, go above and beyond with their work and make a positive contribution to the St Antony's community can be rewarded. Students have been rewarded in a variety of ways such as with achievement points, hot chocolate mornings, reward trips, subject awards, heads of year awards, positive postcards, positive phone calls home, shout outs in assemblies amongst many other things.

This term 350 students were taken to Blackpool Pleasure Beach for having outstanding behaviour in school and excellent attendance across term 3 of this academic year.

We have ended our school year with our year group rewards ceremonies. These ceremonies have allowed students, parents and carers to get together to celebrate the successes of our students. There have been rewards for attainment, progress and attitude to learning in all subject areas, plus additional special recognition awards from heads of year and the head teacher. This has involved over 40 awards per year group!

We want students to understand that if they act in a positive way, they will be rewarded for this. So far this year, our students have earned a total of **159,032 achievement points**. That works out to an average of **228 per person!**

Next year there will be further chances to reward our amazing students for their outstanding effort and contribution to our school community.





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God our father, we ask for your blessing on us as we look forward to our summer holiday. May we use the holiday to relax after a busy term. Let us enjoy the time that we will be spending with our families and friends outside school.

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.