



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 – February 2025**

| Who? | What's the story? |
|-------------------|--|
| Assemblies | |
| Y7-Y11 | <p>We started off February with a focus on wellbeing and looking after our mental health, as it was Children's Mental Health week. We know that life means we all will face personal challenges and that we need to develop the tools to deal with these. Students were reminded of the tools which can help, including our school value of resilience, in addition to the support available here at school via the form tutors and Pastoral team, as well as via agencies we work with such as Kooth and the school counsellor. Out of hours for wellbeing signposting is on our website should it be needed.</p> <div data-bbox="805 1008 1061 1209" data-label="Image"></div> <p>As the half term came to a close, students were celebrated in the Head of Year assembly where their achievements in all avenues of school life were recognised: in academic study, with school value points and with attendance. It's so lovely to finish each half term in this way in recognition of students' contributions to school and to their own personal development, in readiness for their future lives.</p> <div data-bbox="774 1489 1021 1736" data-label="Image"></div> <p>On our return from the holiday break, the theme for assembly was linked to Zero Tolerance Day on 6th February, which aligns with our own school value of respect. Students were asked to consider how they live out our values, to be the best version of themselves; how they show respect for</p> |

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our shared environment, for each other, and for our values. Students were asked what might make someone disrespectful (a sense of superiority, of insecurity, of resentment?) and reminded that self-respect cannot be built without respect which is outward-facing.



Personal Development Lessons, with *Citizenship in Italics* and Careers underlined

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Y7-Y11 | Assessments (Life Cycles Unit) and Mocks for Y11 and Apprenticeships . |
| Y7 | Assessments, <u>National Apprenticeship Week</u> & <u>Removing the Barriers to Employment</u> , and <i>Foetus Rights</i> |
| Y8 | Assessments, <u>National Apprenticeship Week</u> & <u>Gender Pay Gap</u> , and <i>Gender Equality</i> |
| Y9 | Assessments, <u>National Apprenticeship Week</u> & <u>The Economy Explored</u> , and <i>Suffragettes</i> |
| Y10 | Assessments, <u>National Apprenticeship Week</u> & <u>Discrimination in the Workplace</u> , and <i>What is the Role of the Judicial Process?</i> |
| Y11 | Mocks, <u>National Apprenticeship Week</u> & <u>Smashing through the Glass Ceiling</u> |

Careers

We encouraged a wider exploration of **Career diverse pathways** by participating in **National Apprenticeship Week**. Each day the PC screens greeted students and staff with a reminder of this distinctive week. Its aim is to raise the profile nationally of the apprenticeship pathway and to challenge some of the misconceptions about this route into employment.



APPRENTICESHIPS ACTIVITY

Match up the speech bubbles. What do you think they are talking about?

- Une... est gratuite – on ne paie pas de frais.
- On travaille et on apprend des collègues.
- Une... est un vrai emploi.
- Comme... on apprend sans salaire.
- On s'entraîne de six heures par semaine pour étudier.
- You work and learn from colleagues.
- You have the equivalent of six hours a week to study.
- An... is a real job.
- As an... you earn a salary.
- An... is free, you pay no fees.

Discover more about apprenticeships www.amazingapprenticeships.com

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Staff were asked to share with students some subject-specific apprenticeship learning, for example the Languages team used the slide above to talk about facts and myths about Apprenticeships. In addition, Personal Development lessons in that week were Careers linked – see the PD lesson summary above for the year group summaries.

Families are reminded that there is encouragement for engagement with Careers thinking via SatchelOne (and via email for families) through our **Careers Newsletter**. This will always try to tie national events and Careers when possible, such as during Mental Health Week in February when there was an emphasis on the Careers linked to mental health support. Families are also reminded of the opportunity to engage with and have **support for Careers on our school website**. **Careermag** is a free online magazine for families and school leavers, the **National Careers Service** offers CEIAG for all stages of a career, and the **Greater Manchester Apprenticeship and Careers Service (GMACS)** supports with local employment and training opportunities. Links to these are all available in the Learning tab – CEIAG – **on the school's website**.



ABOUT US † LEARNING † ADMISSIONS † PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT † WELLBEING & SUPPORT † PARENTS † STAFF † CONTACT US

Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance
(CEIAG)

JD held an event at the Manchester Convention Centre for up to 50 of our **Y10 students**, open to all to apply for a place. **JD Up** is about sharing the employment **opportunities within the Retail Industry** – our students listened to a Q&A session with the Chair of JD and the Director of JD Global, as well as Content Creator Angry Ginge, including a section on the employability skills looked for from employees. Following this, students took part in interactive activities at a range of stalls, exploring the diverse Careers available with Retail – transport logistics, safety such as first aid, design and engineering of new products, modelling and marketing including via social media, gym sector, store planning and layout, and much, much more.

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Finally, students are reminded of the **drop-in** to R14 each Monday lunchtime to speak to our **Connexions Officer** about **all things Careers**. Emma Towler can also be reached at any time on careers@st-antonys.com if there are questions for her or help she might be able to give.

Other St Antony's Stories

Pupils at St Antony's have been reading books for charity, through the **Readathon initiative**, and are trying to raise money for the *Little Green Sock Project*, a local charity that supports families in need. Children can collect a sponsorship form in school and donations can be made directly to Mr Williams, or by this link here: [St Antony's is fundraising for Little Green Sock Project](#)

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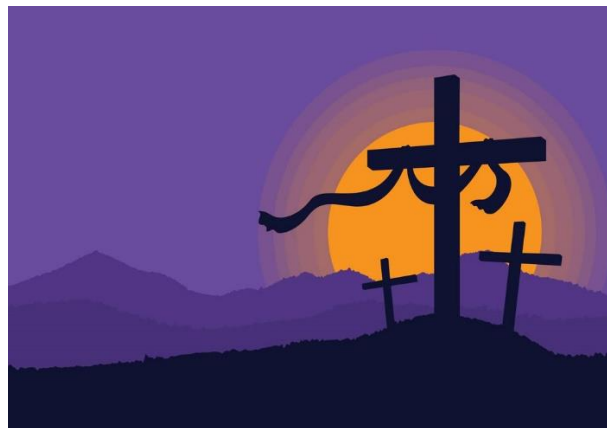
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To help boost literacy and a love of reading, the **Library holds a drop-in** all days over **break and lunchtime**. All students are welcome to pop in the loan a book, read and relax. They have spare stationery too for a very small price.

There is a push at school this half term for students to involve themselves in some form of **service and/or leadership at school**. We know that it's a great thing to help develop personally, as well as looking good on an application form in the future. There are lots of students already actively involved in such work. Our **Eco club** continues to meet fortnightly over a lunchtime and are currently seeking suggestions from form groups about things that should be prioritised at school. They have already seen success with earlier initiatives, for example the conversion away from plastic cutlery to a recyclable material for lunchtimes. Meanwhile, **the GIFT group (Growing in Faith Together)** meet each week – they have already done some volunteering this term and now their attention turns to the school's Lenten work.



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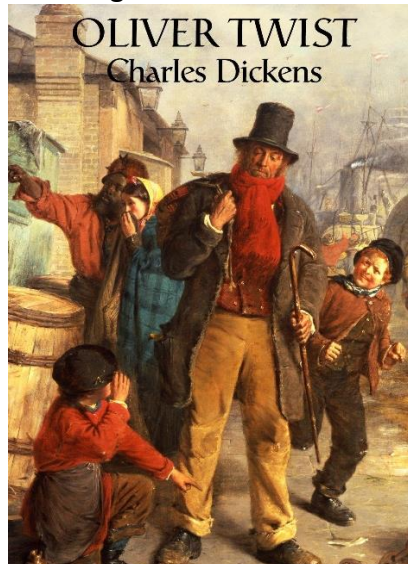
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The **St Antony's Vocal Group** gathers each Tuesday lunchtime. Newcomers are welcomed and although KS3 fill the spaces at present, anyone with a love of singing is welcome to attend.



Last but not least, auditions for the next **school production**, '*Oliver Twist*', were held at the end of last week. Mr Betton has had a really tough time making his decisions! There are many roles for students to play – on stage or in a support capacity – and we look forward to hearing how the cast and crew get on in the coming months before the summer production.



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