



St Antony's
Roman Catholic School

Respect + Love + Integrity + Service + Resilience

St Antony's Spring Term Newsletter

March 2026

School Summer Production- Mary Poppins

Join the talented young performers of St Antony's RC School, alongside pupils from English Martyrs, St Monica's, Our Lady of the Rosary, and St Hugh of Lincoln RC Primary Schools, as they take you on a magical journey to Edwardian London in a timeless musical theatre classic that is practically perfect in every way!

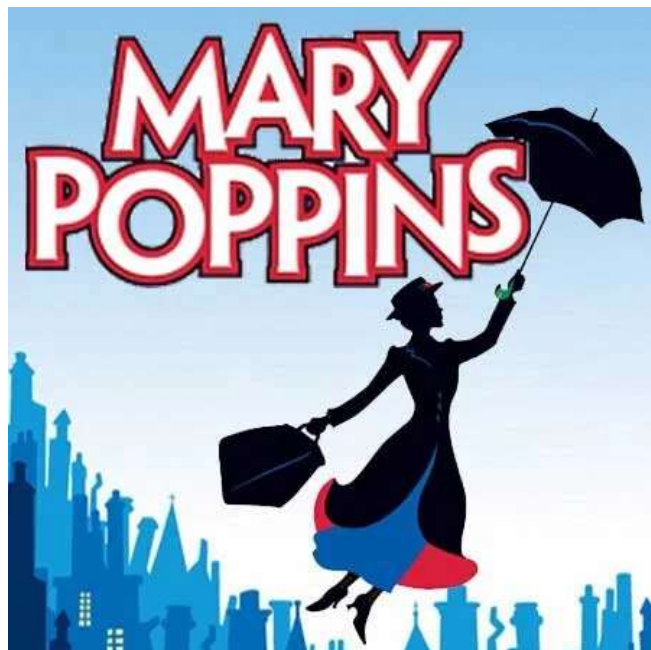
The show will run over 4 nights from Monday 6th until Thursday 9th July 2026. Doors open at 5:00pm, with the performance beginning at 5:30pm.

Refreshments will be available in the school canteen, courtesy of St Antony's RC School PTA.

Tickets go on sale from 13th April 2026 at: www.ticketsource.co.uk/stantonys

Take advantage of special early-bird pricing on all tickets (including group deals) until 23rd May. Simply enter code EARLYBIRD at checkout to receive 10% off.

We look forward to welcoming you for an unforgettable evening!



Headteacher's Introduction

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of a busy and successful Spring Term at St Antony's, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and carers for your continued support. Your partnership with the school plays a vital role in ensuring that our pupils thrive, and we are very grateful for the encouragement and commitment you show to your children and to our wider school community.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our staff for their hard work, professionalism and dedication. Their commitment to providing the very best for our pupils each day is truly appreciated. Above all, I would like to thank our wonderful pupils for their effort, their positive attitudes and for continuing to grow into the very best versions of themselves.

It has been particularly pleasing to see pupils across all year groups performing strongly in their recent assessments, with outcomes on average higher than those achieved by previous cohorts at the same stage. This is a testament to the hard work of both pupils and staff. Our Year 11 pupils deserve special recognition for the commitment they are showing as they prepare for their GCSE examinations. We are very proud of them and wish them every success in the weeks ahead.

This term has also been rich in opportunities beyond the classroom. Highlights have included the fantastic Barcelona trip, engaging Macbeth workshops in English, and the Year 9 visit to the Manchester Museum. We were delighted to see such strong parental engagement at the Year 9 Options Evening, with attendance close to 90%. Our Year 10 pupils benefited from a valuable careers event with JD Sports in Manchester, where some had the opportunity to meet the GM Mayor, Andy Burnham. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 enjoyed a thoughtful Easter Story production, while Year 7 pupils experienced the wonderful Hallé Orchestra at the Bridgewater Hall. Year 10 pupils have also gained important insights through their work experience placements.

We have introduced one-to-one form tutor tutorials for pupils in Years 10 and 11 this term, and these have already proved extremely valuable in supporting pupils to reflect on their progress and overcome any barriers to learning. We are looking forward to rolling this initiative out to pupils in Years 7–9 before the end of the academic year.

During Lent, our pupils have once again demonstrated great generosity through their fundraising efforts for St Joseph's Penny and Cornerstone, supporting the work of Caritas Diocese of Salford. We are very proud of the compassion and social responsibility they continue to show.

Finally, it is important to recognise the warm, positive and respectful relationships that continue to flourish across our school. These relationships—between pupils, and between staff and pupils—are at the heart of St Antony's and make it such a wonderful place to grow, learn and work.

Thank you once again for your continued support, and I wish you and your families a happy and restful Easter break.



Mr Campbell

Headteacher

Looking Ahead - Key Dates

- Monday 13th April 2026 School opens
- Wed 15th – Fri 17th April Y7 PGL Trip Boreatton Park
- Wednesday 15th April Catch up immunisations
- Wednesday 15th April Production Parents Info Eve 3.45pm
- Thursday 16th April Y8 Parents Eve
- Wednesday 29th April Y7 Stop the Bleed Day
- Monday 4th May Bank Holiday – School Closed
- Friday 15th May HPV Vaccinations
- Friday 22nd May Break up for half term

PTA

The PTA have been extremely busy raising funds recently. Some great money raising events that have been successful were the pre-loved uniform sale, which has really helped some families who may normally struggle to afford full price uniform items. There is still stock available and if anybody is interested in purchasing anything, then please email: PTA@st-antonys.com.

We want your pre-loved school uniform - we would also like to remind parents to please think of this fantastic, recycling opportunity when replacing your son/daughter's uniform. If it is still in reasonably good condition, then rather than bin it, please drop it off at the school reception for the attention of Mrs Rothwell and we can add it to the stock.

Some of the funds raised have paid towards new stage lighting which will benefit the whole school, and especially future school productions. A massive thank you for all your contributions that has helped pay towards this.

The PTA are extremely keen to start hosting events at the school, with a family quiz and bingo night in the pipeline. The date has yet to be confirmed, but please keep a look out for this and make sure to get your tickets straight away, as I'm sure it will be a huge success.

Look out for the next meeting - it would be great to welcome some new recruits, even if you are unable to attend regularly, it would still be helpful if you could do some work behind the scenes – every little helps!!!

MFL



This year for World Book Day team MFL decided to dress up in different colours to celebrate various idioms using colour from around the globe. Staff and pupils had a great time trying to decipher what the true meaning of the idiomatic phrase might be, with some Year 11s even resorting to AI to put an end to their frustration!



The MFL classrooms were a hive of excitement, and it was lovely to see our pupils engaging both with the physical books on display but also asking questions about the books featured on the Bookflix displays - watch out Library, you're about to be bombarded with requests!



Enjoying working with words so much, the team also challenged everyone in school to write their favourite word, in any language, on a T-shirt, which we turned into a fun video for social media.

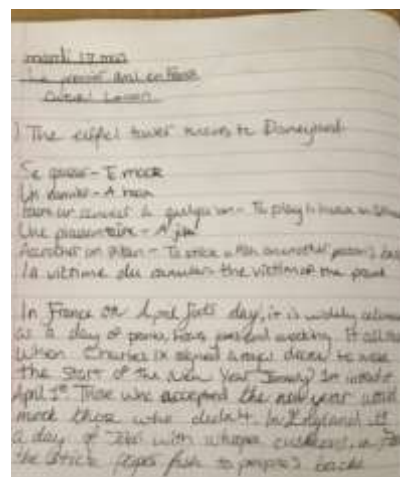
Year 8 French students have been developing fluency this term, practising talking about school life. Using picture prompts and timers, pupils created extended paragraphs from memory. To

add an element of competition, pupils competed to beat one another's time, improving both their speed and accuracy on each occasion.



Mrs West's Year 10 French group have been making excellent progress over this term, particularly with their speaking. They all 'loved' the Valentine's Day speed dating activity when they got to practice their general conversation questions with each other!

Year 8 have been learning all about different Lenten and Easter customs and traditions in France and are all eagerly awaiting the 1st April when they can fool their friends with a 'Poisson d'avril' (April Fish). They wrote about the festivities and its origin during lessons this week – excellent work!



Student Leadership

Our Student Council reps have been doing important work this term, particularly in discussions with the new boss of the Canteen. Reps from each form class fed into the summary points raised by 2 pupils from each year group team, and these have helped to make some immediate changes to the offer in the Canteen. Some, more immediate and key changes to come from student voice include the return of sauces and popcorn chicken to the menu, better labelling of food items and meal deals, and name badges for the Canteen staff team.

And while we are on Student Leadership and making a difference, a 'shout-out' to some Y8 students who are mentoring Y7s in a Leadership programme designed to support the younger students, helped by excellent role-models. The impact that this is having for the Y7s is starting to show, in terms of engagement in school life, behaviour logs and their pastoral records. The integrity of the Y8s and the way that they live our values is helping to shape their younger peers.

Year 11

During **Easter**, there will be **year 11 interventions sessions** running in school. These will be run by subject specialists to help your child with their preparation for the summer exams. Please see the schedule below:

Mon 30 th March	Tues 31 st March	Wed 1 st April	Thurs 2 nd April	Fri 3 rd April
Computing (all) 10am-1pm	Maths (all) 10am-3pm	Art (RJT's class) 9am-1pm French (foundation) 10am-12:30pm OCR Sports Science (all) 10am-12:30pm	French (higher) 10am-12:30pm RE (11S3 – NDA 11T1 – SHA 11S2 – SHA) 10am-12pm	Closed – Bank Holiday (Good Friday)
Mon 6 th April	Tues 7 th April	Wed 8 th April	Thurs 9 th April	Fri 10 th April
Closed – Bank Holiday (Easter Monday)	English (all) 12:30pm-3pm			Business (all) 10am-2pm

Please encourage your child to attend the sessions relevant to them as this will help boost their knowledge, skills and confidence in the lead up to the final exams.

Finally, we would like to thank you for all of your support during year 11. We will continue to work hard to ensure your child has every opportunity to achieve well in their final year. Your support really does make a huge difference.

Attendance

We are delighted to share that overall attendance at school has continued to improve in recent weeks — a fantastic achievement that reflects the commitment and support of our pupils, parents and carers. Thank you for working in partnership with us to ensure that every child is in school, on time and ready to learn each day.

Current attendance stands at 93%, which places us well above the national average. This positive progress means more learning time, stronger outcomes and improved wellbeing for our pupils. We are especially proud that our persistent absence figures are also lower than many comparable schools, demonstrating the impact of our shared efforts to prioritise attendance.

We recognise that recent mock examinations and educational visits have required additional organisation for families, and we appreciate the continued support shown in helping pupils attend and succeed. Every school day makes a difference, and strong attendance plays a vital role in building confidence, routines and academic progress.

However, Fridays continue to be our lowest attended day. Learning continues right through to the end of the week, and we ask families to avoid extending weekends early wherever possible.

To celebrate and further encourage great attendance, we are currently running our exciting Easter “Egg-stravaganza” Attendance Challenge. Pupils who attend every day over the two-week period will receive daily surprises and be entered into a draw to win a giant Easter chocolate hamper.

With your continued support, we are confident that we can build on this momentum and ensure every pupil benefits from the opportunities each school day provides.

Personal Development

This term KS3 students cover online safety in PD lessons, including relational interactions online, while KS4 students have explored healthy and unhealthy relationships. For all year groups, identifying when things aren't right has been central to their learning and knowing where support might be found too.

For additional information and support on such matters, we do recommend students and families use our website and the free Peerscroller app for accurate (Childline and Home Office approved) information. Student code is: 737024, and Parent/Carer code is: 367158.



Extra-curricular



Y7 and 8 students recently visited the Laudato Si' Centre at Wardley Hall in Salford, with students from the school's Eco Group and GIFT Team taking part. During the visit, pupils explored the beautiful grounds of the centre and participated in a range of activities inspired by the message of Laudato Si' and the school's core values.

Throughout the day, students learned about caring for the environment, reflecting on how they can be good stewards of God's creation. The activities encouraged teamwork, reflection, and a deeper understanding of sustainability and responsibility for the world around us.

The students had a fantastic day, enjoying the opportunity to learn outdoors, work together, and strengthen their commitment to living out the values of St Antony's RC School.

We also recently planted trees on the school site that were gifted by the Woodland Trust, putting our faith into action by caring for the environment and supporting God's creation.

What an incredible day for our Year 9 and Year 10 pupils! Mrs Adderley and Mr McDonald took a fantastic group to the Williams F1 team's HQ for a STEM Experience Centre day.

The students explored the rich history of the team, marvelled at a variety of F1 cars from over the years, and raced each other on the simulators! The highlight was a thrilling team-building challenge where they competed to build the best nose cone for an F1 car. The creativity and teamwork on display were truly inspiring!

A huge thank you to Williams F1 for hosting us and providing such an engaging experience for our students!



Some of our KS3 students have been giving padel tennis a go, and the results have been fantastic!

A huge congratulations to Zack and Abel for their incredible performance, winning the final match against Trinity!

We're so proud to see our students developing their skills and enjoying this exciting sport.

Catholic Life

Throughout Lent, our pupils have taken part in a range of meaningful activities to help them reflect and grow in faith. Many visited the chapel and Garden of Reflection to take part in the Stations of the Cross with Sister Linda, thinking about Jesus' sacrifice.

Assemblies focused on the importance of Lent and the three key principles: prayer, fasting and giving. During form time, pupils also completed weekly *Belong and Grow* challenges, encouraging them to bring light and joy to others through acts of kindness.

We were delighted to introduce our new St Antony's prayer, now used in collective worship, helping to strengthen our sense of community. Our mission statement, "*Let the light and splendour of Christ shine within us all,*" has truly been lived out through generous support of the St Joseph's Penny and our Easter Egg Appeal.



These experiences reflect Catholic Social Teaching, especially caring for others, supporting those in need, and caring for our common home. We are also proud that members of our GIFT and Eco teams visited the Laudato Si' Centre, including the relic of Carlo Acutis. This was an inspiring experience, encouraging pupils to live out their faith through service, responsibility, and care for the world around them.

Congratulations to Sienna for winning the Mother's Day hamper!

A huge thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket – your support means the world to us! All proceeds will be donated to St Joseph's Penny, helping those in need within our community. Together, we are making a difference!

Thank you to everyone for your continued support in making this Lenten journey so special.



SEND



Our SEND Coffee Afternoon, held in March, was a wonderful opportunity to bring families together and share valuable information. Parents and carers joined us to hear from Sarah Bradley from Trafford's Local Offer, who provided an insightful overview of the wide range of support and activities available for children and young people with SEND in our local area. She also demonstrated how to navigate the Local Offer website, helping families feel more confident in finding relevant services and opportunities.

There are many local groups and activities available at little or no cost, and with the Easter holidays approaching, this is a great time for families to explore what's on offer. We encourage you to take a look and discover what might be suitable for your child by visiting:

<https://www.trafforddirectory.co.uk/kb5/trafford/fsd/localoffer.page>

Careers

This term has seen a lot of investment in Careers provision for Y10 in particular. 1-1 Connexions meetings are starting now for Y10 in earnest; they were lucky as a year group to be able to visit the JD Careers event in Manchester, covering the huge range of employment opportunities JD have, from logistics to design - with retail as one of the largest local employment sectors, it was great for Y10 to get some insights; and finally, they've all been out on a week of Work Experience. We are so pleased for them that they were able to develop themselves better for the world of work, but so proud of them too for how well they represented themselves, your families and us as a school.



There are too many to share here but sample comments from employers include: "... an absolute credit to your school.... positive impact he has had across our teams. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to host him", "Absolutely wonderful. Credit to the school" and "Absolute delight and pleasure. They would keep him if they could. So helpful and polite".



Irrespective of year group, please make sure that you and/or your child makes use of the dedicated Careers site we have created. It is full of useful information for all year groups relating to Careers. Use the QR code here to go straight to it:

Reading and Literacy



Our Year 7 Reading Group have been taking part in the Trafford Young Readers' Award. Along with other high schools across Trafford we have been reading the three books shortlisted for the award. As part of this process we attended a poetry workshop at Urmston library where our pupils wrote and read out some wonderful poetry connected to the themes presented in the three books.

We recently attended the award ceremony at Sale Waterside Theatre where our pupils listened to the shortlisted writers speak, watched the award being presented, and had their books signed by the authors. A

wonderful event for all the schools attending.

Our recent display in the library celebrated International Day of Women and Girls in Science!

This initiative highlights the incredible achievements of women in STEM and inspires our students to pursue their passions in science and technology.

Join us in recognising the contributions of female scientists and encouraging our young girls to dream big!

Our readathon for the wonderful local charity Once Upon a Smile continues. We have extended the readathon over the Easter holidays to give everyone more time to read. It's The National Year of Reading and to celebrate this we have opened up the readathon to parents, carers, staff and siblings as well as pupils. The forms are in the library but aren't required. Books can simply be read and donations made directly [here](#).



World Book Day in the library meant the library was buzzing with readers. We hosted a book quiz, with treats for those taking part, and pupils were also able to create their own book cover designs. It's always great to celebrate books and reading and to hear from our pupils what they love to read. The library remains open every break and lunch to all pupils and new books are being added all the time. We have a wonderful range of books with a brand-new, burgeoning manga section. Something for everyone.

What a fantastic afternoon for our Year 7 and 8 students! They had the incredible opportunity to meet the fabulous author Monique Turner.



Monique introduced her two novels and shared her inspiring journey, discussing the challenges she's overcome to reach her goals. Our students left feeling empowered and motivated to explore their own stories!

A huge thank you to Monique for sharing her experiences and igniting the passion for reading in our young learners!

Sports



The Spring term has been a highly active and successful period within the PE department. Pupils have developed a wide range of skills across activities including badminton, table tennis, gymnastics, dance, and health and fitness, demonstrating excellent engagement, effort, and progress throughout.

It has also been fantastic to see such strong participation in our extracurricular programme, with large numbers of pupils regularly attending clubs such as football, badminton, and netball. This continued commitment beyond lessons highlights the enthusiasm and dedication of our pupils towards physical activity and sport.

Following the Easter break, we are excited to build on this momentum with the introduction of athletics, cricket, and rounders clubs, providing even more opportunities for pupils to get involved, stay active, and further develop their skills.



Rewards

This term, we have continued to celebrate and reward student success across all year groups, with a wide range of engaging activities and initiatives. Reward events have taken place for Years 7–10, including Year 7's Bonkers Bingo, Year 8 and Year 10 sports tournaments and karaoke, and a games event for Year 9 students—providing well-earned opportunities for students to celebrate their achievements together.

A key focus this term has been our school value of resilience. Each week in assembly, the top three students who have earned the most points are recognised and rewarded, highlighting consistent effort and determination.

Our popular FOMO Friday prize draw has continued, with one student from each year group selected every week to win a prize from our FOMO Friday cabinet—building excitement and recognising positive contributions across the school.

In the lead-up to the holidays, our Easter Extravaganza has brought daily rewards during form time over the final two weeks of term. This has included biscuits for all students alongside prize draws for vouchers, creating a positive and celebratory atmosphere.

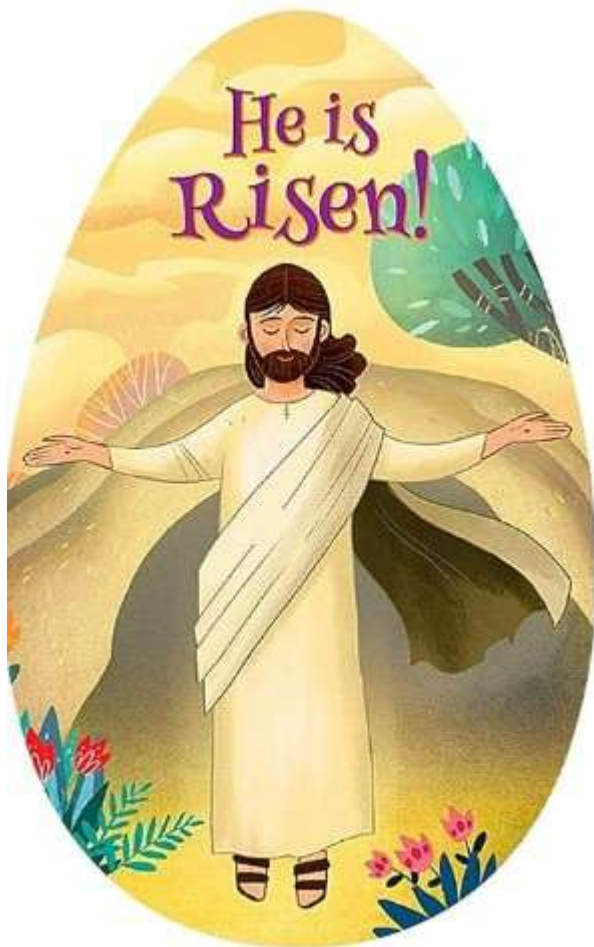
Meanwhile, our attendance league has seen form groups competing weekly to achieve the highest attendance in their league, encouraging excellent habits and a strong sense of team spirit.

We are particularly proud that the ratio of academic points to negative points currently stands at 13:1. This reflects our staff's strong commitment to recognising and rewarding positive behaviour, effort, and achievement across the school community.



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Respect † Love † Integrity † Service † Resilience



My Easter Prayer

Dear Jesus, You are the Lamb of God. You are risen from the dead! Thank You for dying on the cross for me. Thank You for forgiving me of all my sins. Thank you for loving me and for being my good Shepherd. You save me from the evil one. You give me new life. Dear God our Father, through the prayers of our Blessed Mother Mary, may Your Kingdom come, may Your Will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Amen.

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MAY GOD'S 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.