

THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS

30/01/2026

Issue 176



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Our Mission Statement

'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.'

St. Catherine of Siena

Dear Parents and Carers,

Holocaust Memorial Day took place on 27th January and we marked this important day in school. This is a difficult and sensitive topic to share with the children but it is important we commemorate the victims of the Holocaust during World War 2 and in more recent conflicts such as Bosnia and Rwanda. The children had time to reflect on what happened during the Holocaust and how it might have felt to be a Jewish adult or child during World War 2. They thought about Ann Frank and her message of peace and courage, a message we can all try to follow today.



Racial Justice Sunday 1st February 2026

Directly linked to this work, we celebrate **Racial Justice Sunday** this weekend. Racial Justice Sunday helps us think about how we treat people who may be different from us and how we can make sure everyone is treated with dignity, fairness, and respect.

In school we have talked about how everyone should feel safe, welcomed and valued and that racism is always wrong. People may look different or come from different places, but we all belong to God's family. We have also thought about how Saints from different countries teach us about God's love and how images of Mary and Jesus from different cultures remind us that everyone belongs in God's family.

Year 6 Workshop

Year 6 pupils took part in an important workshop today on the topic "**Growing Against Violence**". The charity supporting this work led a very informative workshop with the children on the dangers of gang violence and warnings signs of how they may be approached or encouraged to join a gang. This is very helpful as our Year 6 prepare for secondary transfer and having more independence when they are in the local community. Thank you to the Year 6 team and the charity for making sure the children have the opportunity to learn more about how to stay safe as possible.



National Story Telling Week

National Story Telling Week activities are being celebrated across all years over this week and next. Early Years and Key Stage 1 classes enjoyed taking part in story time and writing their own stories. Key Stage 2 classes will also enjoy story activities next week and please keep checking on X to see what your child's class has been doing. Stories are such an important part of helping children to develop a love for reading; they teach us about the world and allow us step into someone else's thoughts and experiences.

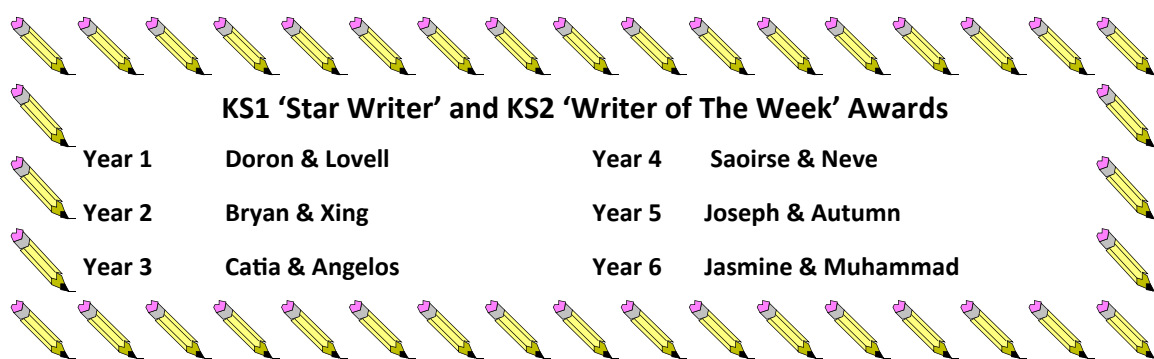


Thank You PTA and Meeting for Possible New PTA Members

Last week Ms Bourke, Mr McCreddie and I met with the outgoing PTA to thank them for their incredible work to help our schools and think about how the PTA can continue. We have been so fortunate to have had Ms Daly, Mrs Druca and Mrs Fadden-Grimes as the core PTA group organising and leading events over the last four years; they have successfully raised funds to pay for fantastic resources to benefit the children in lessons and play-times. These events have also been so important in building our school community and giving families the chance to come together. The PTA have been supported by many other parents during these events and thank you to everyone who has been part of this. The current PTA team are stepping down as their children move on and none of us want all the wonderful work that has taken place to just end. If you are interested in being part of the next PTA team, please join us for a **meeting on Thursday 4th February** - these are taking place at each school site before the end of the school day. Hopefully as many parents as possible will be able to come and speak with us about how you could help to be part of the new PTA.

Have a very good weekend.

Miss J. O'Prey
Headteacher



KS1 'Star Writer' and KS2 'Writer of The Week' Awards

Year 1	Doron & Lovell	Year 4	Saoirse & Neve
Year 2	Bryan & Xing	Year 5	Joseph & Autumn
Year 3	Catia & Angelos	Year 6	Jasmine & Muhammad



STAR OF THE WEEK

Infants

N	Amando	1A	Eva
RA	Mikhail	1B	Ayan
RB	Cassiel	2A	Roman
		2B	Anna



STAR OF THE WEEK

Juniors

3A	Samuel	5A	Malachy
3B	Nikolas	5B	Aiden
4A	Samuel	6A	Eliana O.
4B	Eduard	6B	Assan

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations
to **2B**
for having the
highest



attendance!

Class	%
R1	84
R2	91
1A	94
1B	89
2A	96
2B	99
3A	91
3B	90
4A	89
4B	97
5A	89
5B	90
6A	87
6B	88

AIS and AJS VALUES

Tolerance	4a	Joshua
Respect	4b	Mikayla
Commitment	3b	Aliyana
Truth	5b	Cuba
Excellence	6a	Megan
Safety	3a	Acacia
Courage	5a	Sadie
Excellence	6b	Sienna
Safety	N	Marcella
	RA	Joy
	RB	Aodha
	1A	Noah
	1B	Jenarisa
	2A	Ella
	2B	Daniella

Celebration of The Word

The Gospel for Sunday 1st February 2026

Out of his great love for us, God created us to be happy with him forever. The blessings in this Sunday's Gospel, which promise true, lasting happiness, are taken from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and are known as **The Beatitudes**. Jesus' words would have turned upside down the thoughts that most of his listeners had about true happiness, and maybe they challenge our own ideas too. **The Word** we are celebrating this week is **Happiness**.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: "How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy are you when people mistreat you and persecute you and speak all kinds of slander against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

Adapted from The Gospel of Matthew 5:1-12

The 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

Maths Superstars

Year 3	Ryan & Henry
Year 4	Shaddai & Alex
Year 5	Pietra & Elis
Year 6	Lena & Bonita

KEY DATES

Date	What	Where/When
04/02/26	New PTA Information Meeting	Infant School 2:30pm Junior School 3:45pm
06/02/26	NSPCC Number Day	Infant School
Monday 9th & Wednesday 11th February - Years 1 & 2 Parent Consultation Meetings		Infant School 3.15pm onwards
11/02/26	Class 2A Assembly	Infant School 9.00am
Tuesday 10th & Thursday 12th February - Years 3 to 6 Parent Consultation Meetings		Junior School 3.30pm onwards
Half Term break - Monday 16th to Friday 20th February— Schools also closed to pupils Monday 23rd February for Staff Training		

The Annunciation Schools' Safeguarding Team

Miss Odoi Miss Martin Mrs Stanley Ms Bourke Miss O'Prey Mr McCreadie Miss Brennan Mrs Griffin

