

THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS

27/02/2026

Issue 179



www.theannunciationschools.co.uk

www.twitter.com/AnnunciationHA8



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,

Welcome back to school and we hope you all had a happy half-term break. The children have been busy since returning to school on Tuesday and many year groups have begun new topics this half-term. We will be sharing our new learning with you on X, Dojo and in the Newsletter each week.

Lent Season 2026

Last Wednesday we began the **season of Lent** and over the next half-term we will be learning about why this is such an important time in our Church and a time to grow closer to God. As part of our Catholic Social teaching and caring for others, we think about how to support charities during Lent and the importance of 'almsgiving'. Each class will take part in **'Lenterprise'** and choose the charity they want to support through fundraising events. Fr. Ako will also support the children in their Lent journey by visiting classes, offering older children the Sacrament of Reconciliation or welcoming classes to the Church to learn more about The Stations of the Cross.



Infant and Junior School Discos

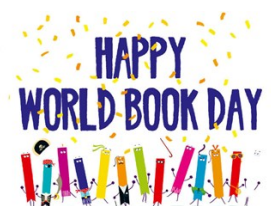


While a new group of parents begins to plan how we can continue with our PTA and have a handover with the current PTA group, we want to organise a fundraising event for our schools. We are having a **Spring term disco in each school on Thursday 12th March** to support fundraising and we know the children always enjoy this event. The discos will be supervised by school staff and thank you to the parents who have offered their services as DJ's for each disco.

The Infant School disco is for Reception and Years 1 and 2 children and will take place from 3.15pm to 4.30pm. The Junior School disco is for all year groups and will take place from 3.30pm to 4.45pm. This will give parents time to collect any younger children from Infants before coming to Juniors. Children attending the disco can wear their own clothes and will have a soft drink and snacks during the disco. We are asking for a £3 contribution to be paid in advance on ParentPay and this must be paid by **Monday 9th March** if you want your child to attend. This is so that we know how many children are attending, the supervision needed and can buy enough snacks for everyone.

World Book Day

Just a reminder that World Book Day takes place on **Thursday 5th March** and lots of fun events will be happening throughout the day (and week) in each school to celebrate and promote reading. Children are asked to come to school next Thursday dressed as a book character and we look forward to seeing their fantastic creations on that day. Infant School parents have been invited to attend a **'Booknic'** event on a given day next week. These take place from 8.55am and each year group has been invited to their own day, please see the poster on Dojo that was shared before half-term.



Letter From Chair of Governors About September Changes

Our Chair of Governors Mrs Mwangi, has written a letter to parents today to let you know about some important changes happening from September 2026 at our schools. After three years being part of this amazing community of Annunciation Schools, I will be retiring at the end of this academic year and taking time to travel and follow other interests. It has not been an easy decision to make because I can honestly say this has been the most incredible school family to be part of and it has been my privilege to work with your fantastic children, my dedicated colleagues and governors and our wonderful parish.

I know Annunciation Schools will continue to thrive and make a difference in the life of every child here. Our Mission Statement **“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire”** really does shape every aspect of school life and I am very grateful to have been part of Annunciation school community for this part of its journey. Thank you also for all your support and kindness shown and I have very much enjoyed working with our families.

The Governors are committed to ensuring these changes take place successfully and without any disruption to the children, staff and wider school family. I look forward to working with you all for the coming months and celebrating all the amazing things that happen in our schools and with our children.



Finally, a reminder that the new controlled parking zone is in place around the Junior School roads and we are aware a number of parents came back from dropping of or picking up to find tickets on their cars this week. We are continuing to communicate with Barnet about this issue and I know some parents have suggested a separate letter from the wider parent group could be helpful, please help with this if you can.

Have a lovely weekend and **happy St. David's on Sunday 1st March** to our children and families with connections to Wales.

Miss J. O'Prey
Headteacher

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

Year 1	Volodymer & George	Year 4	Isabella & Jessie
Year 2	Millicent & Logan	Year 5	Zara O. & Albert
Year 3	Esther & Sarah	Year 6	Elissa & Ayla

<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">STAR OF THE WEEK</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Infants</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 20%;">N</td><td>Brian</td></tr> <tr><td>RA</td><td>Joy</td></tr> <tr><td>RB</td><td>Ada</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 20%;">1A</td><td>Oliver</td></tr> <tr><td>1B</td><td>Sienna O.</td></tr> <tr><td>2A</td><td>Jaida</td></tr> <tr><td>2B</td><td>Praise</td></tr> </table>	N	Brian	RA	Joy	RB	Ada	1A	Oliver	1B	Sienna O.	2A	Jaida	2B	Praise	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">STAR OF THE WEEK</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Juniors</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 20%;">3A</td><td>Olivia N</td></tr> <tr><td>3B</td><td>Catia</td></tr> <tr><td>4A</td><td>Michael</td></tr> <tr><td>4B</td><td>Adam</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 20%;">5A</td><td>Feynman</td></tr> <tr><td>5B</td><td>Autumn</td></tr> <tr><td>6A</td><td>Joshua</td></tr> <tr><td>6B</td><td>Great</td></tr> </table>	3A	Olivia N	3B	Catia	4A	Michael	4B	Adam	5A	Feynman	5B	Autumn	6A	Joshua	6B	Great
N	Brian																														
RA	Joy																														
RB	Ada																														
1A	Oliver																														
1B	Sienna O.																														
2A	Jaida																														
2B	Praise																														
3A	Olivia N																														
3B	Catia																														
4A	Michael																														
4B	Adam																														
5A	Feynman																														
5B	Autumn																														
6A	Joshua																														
6B	Great																														

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations
to **4A**
for having the
highest



attendance!

Class	%
R1	97
R2	96
1A	88
1B	96
2A	94
2B	94
3A	97
3B	91
4A	100
4B	89
5A	97
5B	94
6A	94
6B	99

AIS and AJS VALUES

Tolerance	5b	Owen
Respect	6a	Annamary
Commitment	5a	Daisy -Lou
Truth	3a	Angelos
Excellence	4a	Mohammed
Safety	4b	Carter
Courage	6b	Amara
Justice	3b	Patryk
Tolerance	N RA RB 1A 1B 2A 2B	Ellison Dorothea Kacper Tala Benjamin Jozef Leona

Maths Superstars

Year 3	Poppy & Ethan
Year 4	Semilore & Sofia
Year 5	Tianna & Tonye
Year 6	Zofia & Caragh

Celebration of The Word

The Gospel for Sunday 1st March 2026

Wednesday's Word

Now we are in the season of Lent, we see the colour purple used in Church and in our prayer areas. In this Sunday's Gospel, the disciples see the divinity of Jesus through the change in the way he looked (his transfiguration). This took place on the Holy Mountain, Mount Tabor, and was a sacred moment for the disciples. Our churches are also sacred or holy places, dedicated to the worship of God. Other places are also sacred and somewhere we can pray and feel close to God.

The Word we are celebrating this week is **Sacred**.

Peter, James and John went with Jesus to pray on a mountain top. While they were there, Jesus was transformed. His face shone like the sun and his clothes became as dazzling as the light, whiter than any normal clothing could ever be. Suddenly Moses and Elijah, the great teacher and the great prophet of the Old Testament, appeared and were talking with Jesus. Then a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Then suddenly, when the disciples looked round, they saw only Jesus was left there with them.

Adapted from The Gospel of Matthew 17:1-9

The 2nd Sunday of Lent Year A

KEY DATES

Date	What	Where/When
05/03/26	World Book day—Children in all year groups to dress as book character	
11/03/26	Class 1A Assembly	Infant School 9.00am
12/03/26	School Disco Thursday 12th March - please pay in advance by Monday 9th March on ParentPay	Infant School (Reception, Years 1&2) 3.15pm-4.30pm Junior School (all year groups) 3.30pm-4.45pm
18/03/26	Class 1B Assembly	Infant School 9.00am
20/03/26	Chatty Children Workshop—Nursery Parents	Infant School 12.15pm
25/03/26	The Feast Of The Annunciation—Mass for Years 2 to 6 pupils in The Annunciation Church at 11.00am	
26/03/26	Rocksteady Concerts	Junior School 9.00am Infant School 2.30pm

The Annunciation Schools' Safeguarding Team

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





The Federation of The Annunciation Catholic Schools

Archdiocese of Westminster

London Borough of Barnet

27 February 2026

Dear All

Re: Retirement of Head Teacher at The Federation of Annunciation Schools

I write on behalf of the full Governing Body with both gratitude and sadness as we share important news with our school community. After three years of devoted service to our school—and an extraordinary thirty one years in Catholic education including fourteen years as Head Teacher —Miss O’Prey will retire from her post as Head Teacher in August 2026.

Throughout her time with us, Miss O’Prey has been an exceptional leader whose commitment to our pupils, staff, and wider community has never wavered. Under her guidance, the schools have successfully navigated Ofsted and RE inspections, achieving outcomes we can all be proud of. Her unwavering dedication to high standards, her deep-rooted commitment to our Catholic ethos, and her tireless work ethic have left a lasting mark on our schools.

Miss O’Prey’s focus, enthusiasm, and loyalty has enriched our community in countless ways, and she will be greatly missed. The Governing Body, together with the entire school community and all stakeholders, wish to express our sincere appreciation for her outstanding leadership and the many contributions she has made to the life of the schools.

I am certain I speak for us all in wishing Miss O’Prey every happiness and success as she prepares for this next chapter.

Kind regards

M.Mwangi

Michelle Mwangi
Chair of Governors

