

# THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS

20/03/2026

Issue 182



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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,

It has been another busy week in school with lots of fantastic learning taking place inside and outside the classroom. On Monday **Year 1 classes** enjoyed taking part in **'Story Telling'** workshops led by the Children's Story Centre company. Each class had to work together to create an adventure story so that a character called Hootah could return safely to his planet, Squiddily Diddily! The children created and performed very imaginative stories and this was a fantastic way to promote their spoken and written language skills.



**Year 5 classes** also enjoyed a wonderful treat on Monday when they were invited to see the play **"Once on the Island"** performed by pupils at St. James Secondary School. The children really enjoyed this fantastic performance and a very big thank you to St. James for making us so welcome and giving the children this theatre opportunity.



On Monday evening pupils from the **Key Stage 1 Dance Club** took part in the **Barnet Schools Dance Festival** at Finchley Arts Depot. The Years 1 and 2 group have been working with their dance teacher on a routine based on the music of K Pop Demon Hunters and High School Musical. They have really enjoyed working on this dance and performed their group routine with great energy and excitement. Well done to all the children who took part and thank you to all the parents and family members who joined the event. A big thank you also to Ms Bourke and Mrs Brett who accompanied the children to the festival and supported the practices.

On Wednesday **Class 1B led their first class assembly** to celebrate their English and Geography work this half-term on **'Writing maps'** and **'Our Local Area'**. The children really worked together as a team to lead this lovely assembly and we were all very impressed with how confidently they spoke and their beautiful singing. They enjoyed sharing their recent work to create and build stories and how they have used maps to learn about the Burnt Oak area. They also thought about why Lent is a special time for us to grow closer to Jesus and God. Well done Class 1B and thank you to parents for your great turn out and support. Thanks also to Miss Finnegan, Mrs Shan and Miss Bessa for their work with the children in class and to prepare for assembly.

On Thursday our **Years 2 and 3 pupils** had the opportunity to attend a **London Symphony Orchestra "Sound Out" concert** at The Royal festival Hall. The children really enjoyed this visit to the Southbank and the wonderful music performed. Thank you to our Music Specialist Mrs Stanley for organising this event and to all the staff and parents who accompanied the children.



We had more musical treats in the Junior School yesterday when the end of term **'Rocksteady'** concert took place. Pupils showed off their musical talents to a packed audience of classmates, staff and of course their very proud families. Thank you children and thanks to Natan from Rocksteady for all his work with the children. The Infant Rocksteady concert will take place next Thursday afternoon at 2.30pm.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation and Celebration of The Word

Thanks to Fr. Ako who visited the Junior School this week to offer the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** during Lent. This week he met with Year 5 and some of the Year 6 children. Year 4 and the remaining Year 6 pupils will have the opportunity to receive the sacrament next week.

Thanks also to Years 3 and 5 classes for their beautiful **Lenten Celebration of The Word** prayer sessions this week and thank you to the parents who joined us at each session.



## Parent Events

Thank you to the Year 6 parents who joined the **School Journey PGL Information meeting** yesterday after school and to staff who led this important session. Thank you also to the Nursery parents who joined us today for the **"Chatty Children Workshop"**. This was a valuable chance to work together with your child and find enjoyable and practical ways to develop their vocabulary and speech at home. A **'Year 1 Phonics Workshops'** will take place on Wednesday 25th March at 8.50am, please join us for this if possible.

## Lenterprise Events

The Lenterprise fundraising events have started to take place across the schools and will continue over the next few weeks to support the charities chosen by each class. Reception classes enjoyed a fun 'Movie Night' with juice and popcorn snacks on Wednesday, Nursery class and Year 3 took part in 'Own Clothes' fundraising events today and Year 6 held a 'Colour Run' event.

## Goodbye to the Reception Chicks

We said **goodbye to the ten chicks** who have been living in Reception classes over the last two weeks today and both the staff and children were very sad to see them go. The children have been so caring towards the chicks and have loved watching them hatch, grow and interact with each other. Children from other Infant classes also enjoyed visiting the chicks who will be re-homed in a safe and loving environment. We look forward to getting updates about the chicks in the future.



## The Annunciation Schools Feast Day - 25th March

We celebrate **The Feast of The Annunciation** next week on Wednesday 25th March. Our School Feast Day is always a very important celebration for us and Years 1 to 6 classes will be celebrating Mass together in The Annunciation Church at 11.00am. Parents are very welcome to join us at the Feast Day Mass and celebrate this special day with us.

## End of Term Finish and Summer Term Return Dates

Just a reminder that we finish earlier on Friday 27th March for the end of Spring term. Children should be collected from the **Infant School at 1.15pm** and from the **Junior School at 1.25pm**. Thank you. All children return to school on **Monday 13th April 2026**.

## Eid ul Fitr

Happy Eid ul Fitr to our families who are marking the end of Ramadan and this important Islamic celebration.

## School/PE Uniform and Hair/Jewellery Reminders

Children have the choice of wearing their summer uniform when we return to school on 13th April. The summer uniform gingham dresses can be bought at most major supermarkets or high street clothing stores and should be the **navy blue** rather than the pale, lighter blue. Dresses should be an A-line shape or drop waist style, with no frills or other decorations attached.

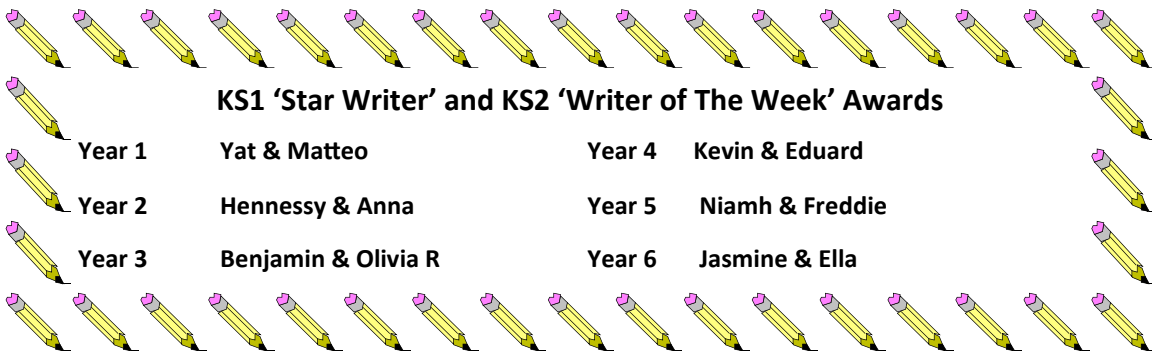
Junior children can continue to wear the heavier winter uniform if they prefer and please ensure they are wearing their school tie with the longer white shirts. A reminder also that **all jumpers or cardigans should be navy** as we are seeing a number of children wearing black clothing. The new school-logo sweatshirts are worn by Junior children on PE days only and no child should be wearing the older-style hoody as part of their school or PE uniform.

Our previous PE kit supplier stopped taking orders in 2024 and the new sweatshirt and jogging bottoms have been available to buy since last July. The PE kit was gradually introduced from September to give parents as much time as possible to organise it throughout Autumn term and we really appreciate your support of this change. The children look very smart in the new kit and orders seem to be going very smoothly now. Unfortunately, a small number of children are still not wearing the new PE uniform as expected, despite reminders to parents. **From next term, if you do not have the correct PE uniform for your child, please send them to school wearing their normal school uniform on PE days.** Children are given the opportunity to wear their PE kit all day on the days they have PE lessons, however this is not appropriate when they are wearing incorrect uniform and unfair to all of the children who have the correct uniform in place that not everyone in school is following the same expectation.

A reminder also that children should not have **artificial hair colour** added to their own natural colour or in hairpieces during term time. **Shaving patterns** including lines, zigzags, or part-shaved style are also not part of our uniform policy. We will contact parents to ask for removal of artificial hair colours or to remind them certain hair styles are only for holiday time and should have grown out as the children return to school. For health and safety reasons **no hoop or long earrings or earrings fitting under the ear** should be worn in school. Only stud earrings or a watch should be worn. Bracelets and necklaces are also a safety risk for children during playtimes and PE and should not be worn. Thank you for your support in this.

Have a very enjoyable weekend.

Miss J O'Prey Headteacher



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

Year 1	Yat & Matteo	Year 4	Kevin & Eduard
Year 2	Hennessy & Anna	Year 5	Niamh & Freddie
Year 3	Benjamin & Olivia R	Year 6	Jasmine & Ella



### STAR OF THE WEEK

#### Infants

<b>N</b>	Joel	<b>1A</b>	Zaynab
<b>RA</b>	Anthony	<b>1B</b>	Lovell
<b>RB</b>	Elise	<b>2A</b>	Eremia
		<b>2B</b>	Xing



### STAR OF THE WEEK

#### Juniors

<b>3A</b>	Maya	<b>5A</b>	Pietra
<b>3B</b>	Zion	<b>5B</b>	Matias
<b>4A</b>	Mitansh	<b>6A</b>	Raisa
<b>4B</b>	Yannis	<b>6B</b>	Assia & Lydia



# ATTENDANCE

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



attendance!

Class	%
R1	91
R2	89
1A	88
1B	92
2A	98
2B	92
3A	92
3B	94
4A	97
4B	97
5A	96
5B	96
6A	96
6B	97

## Celebration of The Word

### The Gospel for Sunday 22nd March 2026

As well as showing the power given to Jesus by his Father, this Sunday's Gospel reminds us of Jesus' humanity. Jesus was upset by Lazarus' death and wept for him. His compassion for Lazarus and his family is the same compassion he has for each one of us when we are upset. We can also experience Jesus' compassion through other people and through spending time with God in prayer. **The Word** we are celebrating this week is **Compassion**.

*There was a friend of Jesus named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with his two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was very ill. The sisters sent a message to Jesus. But, by the time Jesus had arrived at their home, Lazarus had died. As soon as Lazarus' sister, Mary, saw Jesus she threw herself at his feet, crying. At the sight of her tears, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, "Where have you put him?" So they took Jesus to Lazarus' tomb. Jesus wept. "Roll the stone away," he said. Then he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" Then Lazarus, who had been dead, came out with his feet, hands and face wrapped in strips of burial cloth. Jesus said, "Unbind him: let him go free." Many of the people there saw what Jesus had done and believed in him.*

Adapted from The Gospel of John 11:1-45

The 5th Sunday of Lent, Year A

## AIS and AJS VALUES

Tolerance	3a	Olivia H
Respect	3b	Zane
Commitment	6b	Jaden
Truth	4b	Rio
Excellence	5b	Solange
Safety	6a	Jason N
Courage	4a	Josiah
Justice	5a	Anastasia
Commitment	N	Naomi
	RA	Piruthvik
	RB	Nathan
	1A	Lukas
	1B	Victor
	2A	Angela
	2B	Jessicas

## Maths Superstars

Year 3	Cerys & Suhas
Year 4	Isabella & Mattias
Year 5	Hana & Larisa
Year 6	Eliana O & Charles

## KEY DATES

Date	What	Where/When
25/03/26	Year 1 Parents Phonics Workshop	Infant School 8.50am
25/03/26	<b>The Feast Of The Annunciation</b> —Mass for Years 2 to 6 pupils in Annunciation Church	at 11.00am
26/03/26	Rocksteady Concert	Infant School 2.30pm
27/03/26	<b>Easter Bonnet Parades</b> — as Easter falls early this year, we will celebrate our Easter bonnets on the last day of term. Children in all year groups are invited to make Easter bonnets and share in parades taking place at each school.	
27/03/26	Earlier School Closure for end of Spring Term	Infant School 1.15pm Junior School 1.25pm

## The Annunciation Schools' Safeguarding Team

Miss Odoi

Miss Martin

Mrs Stanley Ms Bourke

Miss O'Prey

Mr McCreadie

Miss Brennan

Mrs Griffin

