

THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS

27/03/2026

Issue 183



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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,

We celebrated **The Feast of the Annunciation** this week, our School Feast Day, with a very special Mass together in the Church. Our School Chaplain Fr. Ako celebrated Mass with Years 1 to 6 classes gathered together as a school community, along with staff and parents.

Years 2 and 5 pupils led the readings and prayers; the children spoke very confidently and reverently and we were so proud of how all the children took part in the Mass. The beautiful singing was led by Mrs Stanley, our music teacher, and all classes joined in very well with the hymns.

Fr. Ako spoke about how our feast day is a day to celebrate the good news of the gift of Jesus. He reminded the children that they are all 'Friends of Jesus' and that each one of us is chosen to share the good news of Jesus.

Thank you to all the children for making this such a joyful occasion and also to the Junior classes for walking over in such a safe and sensible manner to the Church. The children had some treats in school to continue celebrating our Feast Day. Thank you to Fr. Ako for celebrating this very special Mass with us all and to the parents who joined us.

We especially appreciate Fr. Ako changing his usual day off from the Parish to celebrate Mass with us on our Feast Day. We also want to thank him for his recent visits to the Junior School to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation to any child who could receive the sacrament during Lent.

Stations of The Cross Assemblies

Stations of the Cross' prayer services also took place across our school community this week, in preparation for Holy Week and Good Friday. The children prayed together as we followed Jesus' journey from the Last Supper to his death and resurrection on the cross. Year 2 children led a very beautiful and reflective prayer service in the hall for other Infant classes while Junior children moved from station to station around the school. A special thanks to Ms Bourke and Mr McCreadie for leading the organisation of these very moving prayer services and helping us to prepare for the events of Good Friday next week. The children in all year groups took part very respectfully and we were extremely proud of their behaviour as they prayed and reflected on each Station of the Cross.



Lent Fundraising Events

Thank you and well done to all classes who have completed Lent fundraising events over the last two weeks. Year 2 classes ran a sweet stall on Wednesday to raise money and this was a very popular event! Year 1 organised a 'Break the uniform rules' event today and were very creative in what they wore. This was also open to other classes to join and was very well supported.

Year 5 events will take place in the first week of Summer term.

Thank you to all the children and staff for making every event so successful. Thank you also to parents and families for your generosity with sponsoring these events and this will make a real difference to the charities chosen by each class. We look forward to sharing more information about the money raised for each charity early next term.

Infant School Rocksteady Concert

Children from Reception to Year 2 showed their musical talents yesterday during their Spring term Rocksteady concert. Thank you children for sharing your talents with us, the audience really enjoyed your performances. Thanks also to Natan from Rocksteady and to parents for your great support of these events.

School Trips and Workshops

Thank you to all the Year 1 parents who joined the 'Phonics Workshop' this week and to Miss Toale and Miss Odoi for leading this event. This is a great opportunity for school and home to work together to support children as they develop early reading skills and hopefully encourage a love of reading.

Year 4 visited **London Zoo** this week as part of their science topic of *Animals and Their Habitats*. They enjoyed seeing different kind of animals and especially liked observing the different stages of a butterfly's life-cycle up close.



On Thursday, Year 6 visited the **cinema** to watch *Kangaroo* as a special pre-SATs treat and to celebrate all their hard work this year in preparing for their SATs and transition to secondary school. We are incredibly proud of the Year 6 children, and this was a thoroughly deserved reward. We wish them the very best of luck with their revision as they get ready for their SATs after half term.



As part of their recent Science Week focus on Space, Year 5 took part in a 'Wonder Lab Space Dome' experience this week. The children had the opportunity to develop their understanding of how planets form, properties of different planets and what life would be like outside of the Earth.

Poetry Competition Success

Many of the Junior children recently took part in a Young Writers Poem Competition. The title of the competition was "I Have a Dream", referring to the famous speech given by Martin Luther King about his dream for racial equality and justice for all. The children had to write about their own dream and we were delighted so many children wanted to take part in this wonderful event to promote writing and pupil voice. We have now received the wonderful news that a number of the poems entered have been selected for publication in a poetry collection next term.

Well done to all the children who took part and congratulations to the published poets—we are very proud of all the young authors and poets in school. Thanks also to the Junior English Lead,

Easter Bonnet Parades

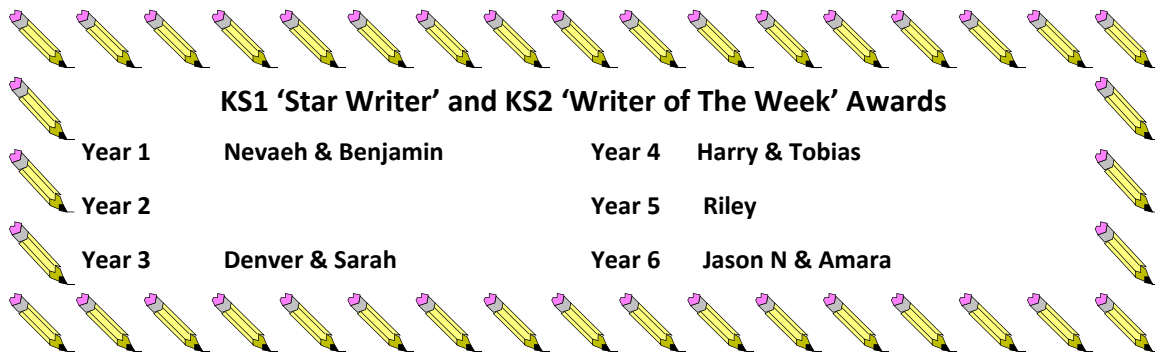
As Easter falls early this year, we celebrated our Easter bonnets today with wonderful parades at each school. A huge thank you to all the children who took part, the bonnets were absolutely incredible and it was a joy to see how creatively the children had celebrated the Easter message with their designs. It was very hard to choose winning entries for each class and congratulations to all the children who took part.



Thanks also to the Junior children who took part in the Talent Competition earlier today. We were treated to a fantastic selection of singers, musicians and dancers. Well done children, we were very impressed with every act.

A reminder that all children return to school on **Monday 13th April** and have the choice of wearing their summer uniform from this time. Have a very peaceful and happy Easter and enjoy this wonderful time with your family and friends

Miss J. O'Prey
Headteacher



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

Year 1 Nevaeh & Benjamin	Year 4 Harry & Tobias
Year 2	Year 5 Riley
Year 3 Denver & Sarah	Year 6 Jason N & Amara

STAR OF THE WEEK

Infants

N	Cilian	1A	Noah
RA	Josiah	1B	Diana
RB	Cassiel	2A	The whole
		2B	The whole

STAR OF THE WEEK

Juniors

3A	Zane	5A	
3B	Sabaothe	5B	Daniel
4A	Saoirse	6A	The whole
4B	Zion	6B	Emilie

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations
to **1A**
for having the
highest



attendance!

Class	%
R1	95
R2	94
1A	99
1B	96
2A	93
2B	97
3A	98
3B	94
4A	92
4B	97
5A	95
5B	95
6A	97
6B	91

Celebration of The Word

The Gospel for Sunday 29th March 2026

This Sunday is known as Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. It is the start of Holy Week when the Church remembers Jesus' final days in Jerusalem, including the celebration of the Last Supper, the washing of feet, the agony in the garden, Jesus' arrest, his crucifixion and resurrection. Palms will be handed out in Church on Sunday in remembrance of the welcome and great praise that the people gave to Jesus when he entered the City. **The Words** we are celebrating this week are **Holy Week**.

When they were near Jerusalem, Jesus sent two disciples into a nearby village to collect a donkey. He said to them, "If anyone stops you, tell them that it is for the Lord, and that the donkey will be returned." So the disciples went out and did as Jesus had told them. They brought the donkey and Jesus sat on it. As he set off, great crowds of people spread their cloaks on the road, while others were spreading palm branches on the path in front of him. The crowds were all shouting, "Hosanna! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heavens!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, everyone was excited and some asked, "Who is this?" "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee," was the reply.

Adapted from The Gospel of Matthew 21:1-11

Passion/Palm Sunday

AIS and AJS VALUES

Tolerance	3b	Suhas
Respect	4a	Justin
Commitment	3a	Caleb
Truth		
Excellence	6a	David R
Safety	6b	Kobbie
Courage	4b	Courage
Justice	5b	Autumn
Respect	N	Matias
	RA	Luiz
	RB	Bozhena
	1A	Eva
	1B	Ayan T
	2A	
	2B	Malaika

Maths Superstars

Year 3	Athiv & David
Year 4	Luke & Bamise
Year 5	Reagan
Year 6	Maya & Sienna

KEY DATES

Date	What	Where/When
Summer Term 2026		
First Half Monday 13 April - Friday 22 May		
School Closed Monday 4 May - May Day		
Half Term Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May		
(Includes Spring Bank Holiday on Monday 25 May)		
School Closed Monday 1 June Staff Training Day		
Second half Tuesday 2 June – Friday 17 July		
School Closed Monday 20 July Staff Training Day		

The Annunciation Schools' Safeguarding Team

Miss Odoi

Miss Martin

Mrs Stanley Ms Bourke

Miss O'Prey

Mr McCreadie

Miss Brennan

Mrs Griffin

