



# THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS

10/01/2025

Issue 134



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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,

Welcome back to school and we hope you have had a very happy and enjoyable Christmas break together. Happy New Year to all and may 2025 be a safe and peaceful year for you and your family. The **Feast of the Epiphany** took place on Monday 6th January and our Key Stage 1 pupils joined Fr. Chinedu and parishioners to celebrate Mass at the Church. Children in the Junior School also thought about the Magi, or wise men, who journeyed from far away to worship the Christ child and bring him their gifts.

### **Mrs Jackie Togher**

You will already have heard the sad news about the passing of our dear colleague and friend, Mrs Jackie Togher, our Co-Chair of Governors. As a school community we are all devastated by such news. Jackie had a longstanding and cherished connection with our schools. She was a parent at Annunciation schools for many years until her children moved on to secondary school and her commitment to our schools and parish did not end there. Her dedication and love for our school community were evident as she continued to serve as a highly valued and proactive member of our Governing Body for over the last ten years, firstly as a Governor at the Infant School and then as Co-Chair when the schools Federated together in 2022.

Jackie was a regular visitor to our schools, always celebrating the children's achievements and living out her belief that every child and family is welcome and valued at Annunciation Schools. Through her own personal actions, she continually reminded us of our mission to care for and love each child and ensure they became the person God created them to be. Jackie's tireless efforts and unwavering dedication have helped shape the special community we cherish today.

Despite battling illness for the last few years, Jackie remained a shining example of hope, faith, and bravery. Her positivity, laughter and sense of fun brought joy to everyone who had the privilege of spending time with her.

This is an incredibly challenging time for Jackie's family and friends, and we extend our heartfelt prayers for God's blessing on them. Jackie's contributions, especially her work supporting the successful Federation of the schools and her dedication to their continued growth, leave a lasting legacy for which we are profoundly grateful. Please join us in remembering Jackie and keeping her family in your thoughts and prayers. We offer them our deepest sympathy and give thanks for Jackie's life. May she rest in peace.



## Pilgrims of Hope - Jubilee Year 2025

The Year of the Jubilee is a celebration that takes place every 25 years in the Catholic Church. Pope Francis has designated the theme of this Jubilee Year as “Pilgrims of Hope” and he wants to inspire Catholics worldwide to embrace hope, faith, and renewal during this special year. The theme reflects his emphasis on encouraging people to journey together in faith, showing compassion, forgiveness, and kindness to others.

Pope Francis explains that the theme of "Pilgrims of Hope" is about each one of us embarking on our own journey of faith during the Jubilee Year. It means traveling with hope in your heart, trusting in God, and helping others along the way. The Pope encourages everyone to live with kindness, forgive others, and bring hope to the world, just as Jesus taught. The pilgrimage is not only about visiting holy places but also about making life itself a journey of love and faith. The Jubilee Year officially begins on Friday 24th January and we will have special celebrations and events across the schools on that day to mark the beginning of this important year for us all. We will update you more on this next week.



### Advent Fundraising - CAFOD World Gifts

Our children are already great ambassadors as pilgrims of hope in the ways they live out our Catholic life and Mission. For example, every class raised the money needed during Advent to buy the CAFOD World Gifts chosen to support communities and families needing help around the world.

A total of £204 was raised at the Infant School and £314 at the Junior School - these practical gifts will make a huge difference in the lives of others, giving resources that help communities to be more self-sustainable. Thank you to all the children and families for your wonderful support of the World Gifts campaign, the Annunciation Schools family is always very generous and supportive of these events.



Enjoy your weekend and best wishes for 2025.

Miss J. O'Prey  
Headteacher

STAR OF THE WEEK		STAR OF THE WEEK	
Infants		Juniors	
N	Kai	1a	Maya
Ra	Anthony	1b	Tudor
Rb	Victor	2a	Ionela
		2b	Suahs

3A	Michael	5A	Charles
3B	Cedric	5B	Joshua
4A	Niamh	Year	Setemi
4B	Amelia	6	

# ATTENDANCE

Congratulations  
to **5a**  
for having the  
highest  
attendance!



Class	%
R1	82
R2	89
1A	94
1B	95
2A	96
2B	91
3A	90
3B	92
4A	94
4B	80
5A	98
5B	94
Year 6	93

## Celebration of The Word

### The Gospel for Sunday 12th January 2025

This Sunday we celebrate a special feast, the **Baptism of the Lord**. The Gospel tells us how Jesus begins his mission to the world when the Holy Spirit comes down upon him, the same Spirit we receive through Baptism and Confirmation. Baptism is one of the seven sacraments which bring us closer to God and Pope Francis reminds us that, "Faith is a gift which we receive in Baptism and which allows us to encounter God." **The Word** we are thinking about this week is **Baptism**.

*A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John the Baptist might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire". Now when all the people had been baptised, and as Jesus was being baptised, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you."*

Adapted from Luke 3:15-16.21-22 The Baptism of the Lord, Year C

## AIS and AJS VALUES

Tolerance	6a	Aimon
Courage	3a	Keyner
Commitment	5b	Eliana O
Safety	5a	Thomas
Excellence	4b	Nathan
Truth	3b	Adam
Respect	6a	Elena
Justice	4a	Angela
Justice	N	Domnik
	Ra	Neveah
	Rb	Gloria
	1a	Sara
	1b	Lorenzo
	2a	Olivia H
	2b	Catia

## Maths Superstars

Year 3	Harry & Jessie
Year 4	Sadie & Elias
Year 5	Maria & Jenny
Year 6	Kayden

## KEY DATES

22/01/25	Year 1 Parents Phonics Screening Workshop	Infant School 8:50am
23/01/25	Year 6 Parents SATs Meeting	Junior School 9:00am
29/01/25	Class 1A Assembly	Infant School 9:00am
31/01/25	Class 3A Assembly	Junior School 9:00am
05/02.25	Class 1B Assembly	Infant School 9:00am
10 & 12 Feb	Infant School Parents Consultations 3.20pm — 5.50pm	
11 & 13 Feb	Junior School Parents Consultations 3.40pm — 5.40pm	
14/02/25	Class 4B Assembly	Junior School 9:00am

## Annunciation Schools Safeguarding Team

Miss Martin



Ms. Bourke



Miss O'Prey



Mr McCreadie



Mrs. Stanley



Mrs Griffin

