



# St Antony's Catholic Primary Academy Newsletter

Week Beginning Monday 5th January, 2026



## Important School Dates:

Dates	Events for Spring Term 1- 2026
January 5th	<b>STAFF INSET DAY FOCUS: OLOG MAT TEACHING, LEARNING &amp; ASSESSMENT STRATEGY LAUNCH</b> Led by Katherine Parker-New OLOG MAT Standards Lead & HT A. Moore
January 6th	<b>School Resumes: For All Pupils</b> Only Breakfast club & MAE begin this week <b>1<sup>st</sup> Staff Meeting</b> in Phases: Follow –up to Inset Day Action Plan for Phase based on MAT Teaching, Learning & Assessment
<b>January 7th</b>	<b>Whole school Mass- Feast of Epiphany 10am in Church-Parents &amp; Governors Invited</b>
<b>12th Jan</b>	<b>All after School Clubs Resume</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Staff Meeting: Launch of SMSC- Miss Wade</b>
<b>14th Jan</b>	<b>NHS in School for Rec., Yr1 &amp; 6</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Parents Mental Health Work Shop with Marielle from LBN/NHS Team-sch. Hall</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>RE SMSC Drop In Observation Week-DHT National Height &amp; Weight REC &amp; Yr6 -NHS</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Staff Meeting-Computing Coverage &amp; Assessment Expectations –KC &amp; CH</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Jan</b>	<b>SMSC &amp; CITIZENSHIP Launch Assembly :Yr. 6 Focus: Service</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Staff meeting –Science :Retrieval knowledge, coverage &amp; Skills-RK &amp; CH</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>E-Safety and Safeguarding Parents workshop 9am Staff Room –JB,KC&amp;CH</b>
<b>30<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Beech Class Assembly</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Pupils' E-Safety Workshop- KC, CH &amp;JB In Singing Assembly Time- School Hall</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Aspen Class Assembly</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>School Class &amp; Team Photos Sch. Hall</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>WEAR RED DAY! Non Uniform Bring £1</b>
<b>16 -18 Feb</b>	<b>Year 6 Half Term Boosters Begin</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY-PARENTS PLEASE TAKE YOUR CHILDREN TO MASS</b>
<b>16-20<sup>TH</sup> February</b>	<b>HALF TERM BREAK FOR ALL PUPILS ASH WEDNESDAY FALLS IN HALF TERM</b>

## KEEP OUR CHILDREN PUNCTUAL & SAFE THE SCHOOL BELL AND GATES

Parents and carers please be reminded that the bell is rung at 8:45am sharp each morning and that the children are then led inside to class to begin early work. All the school gates are then closed at 9am on the dot! Please leave home in good time to get your children to school early each day. Please cooperate with staff on the gates safeguarding our children each day. **PARK IN PARKING ZONES ONLY - SECURE & SAFEGUARD ALL OUR PUPILS!**



From The Head Teacher's Desk

## Our Virtue This Week Focuses On:

### The Feast Of The EPIPHANY

*"Just as the Magi travelled in search of Jesus; those who are wise still seek Him today for He is the Truth, The Light and The Way"*



The word Epiphany comes from the Greek **Epiphaneia** which means appearance, revelation or manifestation. The Church's teachings on this Feast of Epiphany surrounds God's revelation and open manifestation of himself to the world in the person of Jesus Christ. **This is a significant event through which God revealed that He is the God of all people (Gal.3:28), inclusive and welcoming.** After the visit of the shepherds, who were of lowly and humble status, none highly educated or of high social standing-but they were first to see God, because their hearts were pure and their faith was strong. Through the direction of the Heavenly Host of Angels next, Wise Men from the East (Far East, Middle East and South East) –visitors from across the world, of diverse ethnic backgrounds and cultures encountered the Glory of God incarnate, manifested through Jesus Christ. They were led by the mysterious and magnificent star, which miraculously appeared in the sky pointing the way to Christ. Christ then became our light paving the way to eternal life!

**Epiphany from our understanding involves two important but inseparable truths - namely: A Divine call is made by God and a human response follows by faith.** In the Epiphany, God calls us to see and appreciate His gift of inestimable value –His Only Son Jesus (John 3:16). We respond by going to experience and appreciate God's gift to us through Jesus-our salvation. How do we show appreciation for God's gift of Jesus? We do so by giving God our own gifts-what is most valuable to us. The greatest gift that we could give back is –our very self – dedicated to praising and serving God each day of our lives.

### FINDING JESUS....LEADS TO FINDING OURSELVES

The star led them to the place where Jesus was born. The Wise Men all knelt humbly in homage in Jesus' presence and presented their gifts of Gold and Myrrh and Frankincense.



Jesus, receiver of the wise men and their gifts, help us to follow the light in the midst of our dark world. Fix our eyes and hearts on your light, that we might be bearers of that light to all those who walk in the dark. *Amen.*

### PARENT PAY IS CHANGING TO ARBOR

All the schools in the Our Lady Of Grace MAT will be using the new **ARBOR INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM** to do a wider range of transactions and information sharing. How you currently make payments will be changed this term as well as how we communicate with you. School Ping Communications will be via ARBOR. **LOOK OUT FOR OUR TRAINING SESSIONS FOR PARENTS AND ENSURE YOU ATTEND!**

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FUND REMINDER

The School Improvement Fund helps us with **School Development & Maintenance** for our **Classrooms, Equipment and Resources.**

This payment is one of those that you will be able to do electronically once the new system is up and running.

You pay only **£30 per family** for the year.

**Please look out for reminders about the significance of this fund to the school if- you have not yet paid.**

### THE PARENTS TEACHERS & FRIENDS OF ST. ANTONY'S (PTFA) NEWS

The PTFA President Charlotte Campbell, VP Shervona and Treasurer Bucci, wishes to say thanks to all parents of the school who helped to make the events held over Christmas such a success! They are inviting more parents to **get involved with the PTFA this term by coming out to a PTFA Meeting on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 8:30am in the Staff Room** to help with planning events for this year.

## APPLICATIONS FOR RECEPTION

### PLACES 2026:

**Applications for Reception Places at St Antony's Catholic Primary School**



**For children to start in September 2026**

**Children must be born between: 01/09/2021 to 31/08/2022**

**Closing date for applications is: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Parents May Collect Application Packs from the School's Main Office daily between 10am and 2pm**

### CONGRATULATIONS TO US ALL!

**Top 10 performing Newham Primary Schools based on the percentage of pupils meeting the expected or higher standard in Year 6 SATS May, 2025. (Newham Recorder Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025)**

- 1. St Antony's Catholic Prim. School – 97%**
- 2. Roman Road Primary School – 94%**
- 3. Elmhurst Primary School – 92%**
- 4. Bobby Moore Academy – 91%**
- 5. Rosetta Primary School – 91%**
- 6. Tollgate Primary School – 91%**
- 7. Shaftesbury Primary School – 89%**
- 8. St Stephen's Primary School – 89%**
- 9. Ravenscroft Primary School – 88%**
- 10. Vicarage Primary School – 88%**

“St Antony's Catholic Primary School in Forest Gate is highly ranked, being recognized as the number one school in the Newham Borough in Forest Gate according to The National School Guide. It has also been crowned *The Times State Primary School of the Decade* and is noted for its strong academic performance, ranking in the top 0% of schools (indicating that they are above the top 1% of schools in the country) by attainment. The school has made significant and consistent high achievement in its rankings over the last 10 years and is currently part of the Our Lady Of Grace Academy Trust.” (School Guide Dec. 2025)