

Last week's Year 6 production of Aladdin was, quite simply, spectacular. The conditions in the hall were incredibly hot and, by the end of the performances, I didn't have the opportunity to say everything that was in my heart. Equally, not everyone was able to attend, so I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on what was an unforgettable occasion. Those of you who were fortunate enough to be there witnessed something truly extraordinary. Our children gave the performance of their lives. They sang, danced, acted and entertained with a level of confidence, skill and professionalism that made us all incredibly proud. They had the audience laughing, applauding and, at times, wiping away a tear. It was a masterclass in performance and a fitting way for our Year 6 children to bring their St Anselm's journey to a close.

As I mentioned on the evening itself, however, what you saw on stage was only the tip of the iceberg. Behind every costume change, every lighting cue, every piece of scenery and every perfectly timed entrance were countless hours of dedication from staff, volunteers and families.

I would like to begin by thanking our wonderful Key Stage 2 staff for supporting the children throughout the process. Since March, the children have been learning the songs, while Miss Senington and I have spent many hours teaching them not only to sing beautifully, but to perform in, at times, four-part harmony. To hear children aged just seven to eleven singing in four parts with such confidence and ease was nothing short of breathtaking. It required patience, determination and many rehearsals, but the end result was stunning. Across the school, staff demonstrated the teamwork that makes St Anselm's such a special place. Whether it was giving up additional adults to escort children safely to and from church rehearsals, covering colleagues or stepping in wherever needed, every act of flexibility and willingness to help contributed to the final production. On the performance evenings themselves, many members of staff gave up their own time to welcome families, supervise backstage, coordinate rapid costume changes and keep our performers calm, organised and ready for their moment in the spotlight. A special mention must also go to Mr White, whose help with transporting scenery, props and equipment to and from the hall was invaluable. Anyone who has seen the scale of our productions will appreciate just how much there is to move! Once the curtain had fallen on the final performance, the enormous task of packing everything away was made so much easier thanks to his practical support, hard work and willingness to lend a hand. It is this spirit of teamwork and generosity that makes productions like ours possible.

Our volunteers were, as always, incredible. Mr Puttock's daughter generously gave her time after finishing her own examinations, helping wherever she was needed. My own daughter, Tia, devoted countless hours at weekends to designing and creating the scenery, producing a visually stunning set that quite literally brought Agrabah to life. My dad helped transform one of my more ambitious ideas into reality by making the suspended television set possible, while my sister, Sarah, choreographed routines that had our children dancing with an energy and confidence that would rival many professional productions. I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our parents and families. Your support is what makes productions like this possible. Thank you for filling the hall over both evenings, for purchasing tickets and for your wonderfully generous donations to our retiring collection. The partnership between home and school is one of the greatest strengths of St Anselm's, and occasions such as this remind us just how special that partnership truly is. When children see their families and their teachers working together to celebrate and encourage them, they grow in confidence and believe in what they are capable of achieving. Thank you for helping us create a memorable experience for our Year 6 children. A special thank you must go to Mr Puttock, who expertly managed every

'Trust in the Lord... and He will direct your path.' Adapted from Proverbs 3:5-6



13th July
Summer 2026

In yesterday's Gospel, Jesus tells the Parable of the Sower, where seeds are scattered onto different types of ground. While some seeds fail to grow, those that fall on good soil take root and produce a rich harvest.

Jesus reminds us that God's word is like a seed planted in our hearts. When we listen carefully, make good choices and allow His love to shape our actions, we grow in faith and become the very best version of ourselves. As we approach the end of the school year, may we continue to be 'good soil', ready to learn, to love and to share God's goodness with those around us.



Loving God,
Thank You for planting Your love and
Your Word in our hearts. Help us to be
like the good soil in today's Gospel,
ready to listen, learn and grow in faith.
May our words and actions show
kindness, compassion and love to
everyone we meet. Help us to use the
gifts You have given us to make a
positive difference in our school, our
families and our community.
Amen.

technical aspect of the production while patiently supporting the children as they learnt their lines. He was also instrumental in sourcing and creating many of the props that helped bring the story to life, ensuring every scene had those extra touches that made it so memorable. Together, he and Miss Senington masterminded the magical flying carpet, one of the production's standout moments, leaving the audience wondering just how it had been achieved. Alongside this, Miss Senington's direction of the dramatic action brought every character and every scene vividly to life. She also created the visual presentations for the on-stage tv screen, which added another layer of magic to the show. Above all, though, this production belonged to our Year 6 children. They embraced every rehearsal, every challenge and every piece of direction with enthusiasm and commitment. They fully immersed themselves in their characters, supported one another throughout and delivered performances that none of us will ever forget. Every single child played their part in creating something truly remarkable.

Many primary schools put on an end-of-year production, but I honestly believe you would struggle to find one that surpasses what our children, staff and volunteers achieve together here at St Anselm's. People sometimes ask why we put so much into these productions. After all, it's "just a school show." But for us, it is so much more than that. It is an opportunity to help children discover talents they never knew they had, to build confidence that will stay with them long after they leave our gates, to teach teamwork, resilience and commitment, and to create memories that will last a lifetime. We do it because we love our children and want them to leave St Anselm's having experienced something truly special. The countless hours of rehearsals, planning, painting, singing, dancing, problem-solving and teamwork are worth it when the result is seeing our children shine so brightly. Already, people have begun asking what next year's production might be. You'll have to wait a little longer for that announcement! For now, our focus remains exactly where it should be—celebrating this incredible Year 6 class. Well done, Year 6. You were simply outstanding! Perhaps you could tell us what you thought on this [Google form](#). We'd love to hear from you!

End of Year Reports

An email will be sent to parents informing them that their child's end of year reports will be available to view on Arbor later this week.

School Uniform Update

Following the Government's new guidance on school uniform, the Governing Body have reviewed our uniform policy to ensure it remains both compliant and affordable for families. **From September, only three branded items will be compulsory: the school jumper or cardigan, school polo shirt and school tie.** All other items featuring the St Anselm's logo will become **optional**, meaning parents may choose either branded or plain alternatives where appropriate. A detailed letter explaining these changes will be sent home later this week. Please read it carefully before purchasing any new uniform for the coming academic year to ensure you buy only the items required.

Teddy Bear's Picnic – Thursday 16th July

Children are invited to come to school wearing their pyjamas for a minimum donation of £2. Those wishing to bring their favourite teddy bear can do so for an additional £1 (a total minimum donation of £3 for both). The children will enjoy a picnic lunch together during the day. There will be no hot meals served by the kitchen. Children who usually have a school meal may order a sandwich box from the kitchen, while all other children should bring a healthy packed lunch, following our usual lunchbox guidelines. Thank you for supporting this fantastic local cause. We look forward to a fun-filled day as we help raise money for Ellenor and celebrate our school bear, Anselm, who will soon take his place in Dartford Library as part of the Dartford Bear Hunt.

Last Day of Term - 21st July

Everyone is invited to the Leavers' Mass in St Vincent's Church at 9am. School will close for all children at 1pm. However, Y6 children and families are welcome to stay until 1.45pm to take photos and say their final goodbyes.

KEY DATES

Thursday 16th July

Teddy Bear's Picnic Ellenor Fundraising Event

Friday 17th July

Leavers' Disco

Tuesday 21st July

Leavers' Mass 9am
Last day of Term. School closes 1pm

Tuesday 1st September

INSET Day – school closed

Wednesday 2nd September

INSET Day – school closed

Thursday 3rd September

Autumn term 1 begins



PRICE LIST

- Piece of fruit 10p
- Welch's Fruit-based snack 30p
- Popcorn 15p
- Smoothies 50p
- Rosary Beads £1
- Team wristbands £1
- Water bottles £2
- Spare water bottle lids 50p
- Fruit Ice Pops coming soon
- Open Mondays and Wednesdays



St Anselm's School Term Dates 2026-27

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
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JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31																					30	31					

Holiday

Bank holiday

INSET day



St Anselm's School Term Dates 2027 – 2028

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31																											

MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
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Holiday

Bank holiday

INSET day



UK Health
Security
Agency

NHS

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

PARENT & FAMILY SUPPORT

Mental Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Resources

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Safeguarding Support at School

If you have concerns about your safety, your child's safety, or their wellbeing, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

Email: dsl@st-anselms.kent.sch.uk

If a child is in immediate danger call **999**.

Domestic Abuse Support

National Domestic Abuse Helpline

Call **0808 2000 247** (24 hours a day)

Chat: Mon–Fri 10am–10pm

[Domestic abuse support information](#)

Additional Support Services

Childline: 0800 1111 (24hrs)

Samaritans: 116 123 (24hrs)

[YoungMinds](#)

[Beat Eating Disorder Support](#)

[Kidscape](#)

Fast Track Counselling for Parents

North Kent Mind offers fast track counselling for parents.

£40–£45 per session with short waiting times.

[Visit service page](#)

Kooth – Free Online Mental Health Support

Free anonymous online counselling for young people aged 10–25. Available daily including evenings and weekends.

www.kooth.com

Parent support email: parents@kooth.com

