

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our Meet the Teacher session this Wednesday at 2pm. This is an important opportunity to meet the staff who will be teaching and supporting your child this year and to find out more about what they will be learning, the expectations for their year group and how you can support their learning at home. A particular focus this year will be on the changes we have made to homework. We want to make sure that all parents understand what is expected, why we are placing a greater emphasis on key foundational skills such as reading, spelling, number bonds and times tables, and how you can best help your child to practise these regularly and confidently at home. We know that children achieve their best when school and home work together, and we hope that as many parents and carers as possible will be able to join us. Following the Meet the Teacher sessions, parents are also warmly invited to join their children on the playground for our Stay and Play session from 2.40pm–3.00pm, giving you the opportunity to experience some of the play opportunities that form part of our OPAL provision. If you are planning to attend, please be sure to sign up using the Google Form. This will help us to plan effectively for the afternoon.

Arriving at School Safely

We appreciate that some parents have asked why we are reminding families about accompanying children onto the playground. **This is not a new expectation.** Children from Reception to Year 5 should be brought onto the playground by a responsible adult. Recently, we have observed children being dropped at the roadside, left at the school gate, crossing the road alone or running ahead of adults and making their own way onto the playground. We have also seen families stopping at the gate to say goodbye, which can block the entrance at this very busy time. For safeguarding reasons, children should not be left at the gate or allowed to run ahead. Please enter the playground with your child via the car park gate or the gate nearest the field and leave through the middle gate. This will help us to keep everyone moving safely and ensure that children are safely handed into our care. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in keeping all our children safe.

Developing Cultural Capital - Little City experience.

Our Reception and Year 1 children had a fantastic time this week taking part in their Little City experience at St Vincent's Church Hall. The children had the opportunity to explore a miniature city, taking on different roles, using their imaginations and developing their communication, collaboration, confidence and independence through play. **We are particularly grateful to our PTFA, who funded the entire experience, meaning there was no cost to families.** This term, the PTFA are funding **additional experiences for every class across the school**, through trips, visits and visitors coming into school. These opportunities are an important part of how we enrich our curriculum and develop our children's cultural capital, giving them experiences and opportunities beyond their everyday classroom learning. More details about each class experience will follow.

This is why supporting our PTFA and their fundraising events really does matter. Without the money they raise – and without your support of their fundraising and helping out at PTFA events – experiences like these simply would not be possible. Every ticket bought, event attended and contribution made helps us to provide something extra for our children. A huge thank you to our PTFA and to all of our families who support them – your support directly benefits every child at St Anselm's.

More overleaf...



In this week's Gospel, Jesus tells the story of a father who asks his two sons to go and work in his vineyard. The first son says **"no"**, but later changes his mind and goes. The second son says **"yes"**, but does not actually go. Jesus asks which son did what his father wanted. The answer is the first son – because, although he made the wrong choice at first, he changed his mind and put things right.

Jesus reminds us that **our actions matter as well as our words**. It is easy to say that we will be kind, helpful, forgiving or obedient, but what really matters is that we show these things through what we do. The Gospel also reminds us that we all sometimes make wrong choices. God always gives us the opportunity to recognise our mistakes, change our hearts and try again.



**Loving Jesus,
help us to show our faith
not only through our words,
but through the choices we make
and the things we do.
When we make mistakes,
give us the courage to change,
to put things right and to try again.
Help us to listen to you and show your
love to others each day.
Amen.**

Please Label Everything!

We are already accumulating a significant amount of lost property, much of which is not named and therefore cannot be returned to its owner. Please ensure that all items brought into school are clearly labelled with your child’s name – including uniform, coats, PE kit, water bottles, lunch boxes and bags. Even items that children are usually very good at looking after can easily be misplaced during a busy school day. We want to encourage our children to take responsibility for their own belongings, but this is much harder when items are not named. A simple label means that lost items can quickly find their way back to the right child. Please label everything – it really does make a difference!

Diocesan Mass to Celebrate the New School Year

Last Friday, four of our Year 6 Ambassadors – Adriano, Alphonse, Dionne and Michelle - accompanied by myself and Miss Marshall, attended the Diocesan Mass at St George’s Cathedral to celebrate the start of the new school year, alongside schools from across the Diocese. The Mass was celebrated by Archbishop John, and our ambassadors had the special honour of carrying our school flags as part of the main procession. They were fantastic representatives of St Anselm’s, demonstrating excellent behaviour, reverence and respect throughout. We were incredibly proud of the way they represented our school and joined with the wider diocesan family in prayer as we begin this new school year together.

Celebrating the Feast of St Vincent de Paul

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us at St Vincent’s to celebrate the Feast Day of St Vincent, the patron saint of our parish. It was wonderful to see so many of our school families joining with the wider parish community for this special celebration, strengthening the bond between home, school and parish. We were particularly proud of our pupils from Years 4–6 who represented St Anselm’s by leading the singing and signing during the Offertory Procession. They did a fantastic job and helped to make the Mass a very special occasion.

Congratulations to these children who received awards last week.

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Zuzanna

You have shown personal excellence this week in your learning, by listening carefully, joining in with lessons and always trying, even when a task gets tricky. You are always respectful to those around you, ensuring everyone feels included, well done!

Teacher: Miss Fallowell

25.09.26

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Moredesola

You have come into Year 2 ready to learn. You take feedback on board really well and use it to extend your learning even further. You consistently show others what to do through your own excellent example. Your hands are often the first together when I count down, and you show patience and understanding towards others. Thank you for guiding those around you in the right direction and being such a positive role model.

Teacher: Mrs Graham

25.09.26

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Stanley

You are a great example of 'Inspiration'. You are someone who always follows all of the PRIDE values. You show excellent 'proof of learning', works smartly and are always kind and caring. This week, we have been particularly impressed with your super attitude to your learning. You are trying so hard in all activities, especially those that you find more difficult. This amazing attitude will help you to make super progress. Well done, keep it up!

Teacher: Mr Kelly

25.9.26

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Octavian

We have been really impressed with your attitude towards all learning so far, Octavian. You have been consistently trying your best, reaching challenges and striving to achieve more. It has been lovely to hear you share so many interesting facts from learning outside of school, in our science and geography lessons especially. You show Personal Excellence in everything that you do, supporting others with their learning, and always using your manners. Keep up the amazing work, well done Octavian!

Teacher: Miss Smith

25.09.26

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Sommie

I witnessed your 'Determination and Courage' shine throughout the week. In maths, you showed real perseverance when you found the work challenging at first. Instead of giving up, you listened carefully and used what you had learned to help you. I have also been really impressed by how engaged you have been in other subjects. You have listened carefully to instructions and completed your tasks with care and thoughtfulness. You should be very proud of yourself, Sommie. Keep it up!

Teacher: Miss Harris

25.9.26

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Lottie

This week I was genuinely lost for words after seeing you deliver your Team Saint presentation. I could see just how much confidence you now have in what you are saying, and you delivered your presentation with such clarity, confidence and warmth that it was a real pleasure to watch. This showed me just how much you have built up your self-belief, and it was wonderful to see. You should be incredibly proud of yourself and the progress you have made. I want to see much more of this throughout Year 6!

Teacher: Mr Pascoe

25.09.2026

KEY DATES

Wednesday 30th September

Meet with the teacher followed by stay and play – 2pm

Thursday 8th October

Travelling Book Fair

Monday 12th October

Parent Consultation Week – Appointment times available online

Monday 19th October

Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 20th October

Extra-Curricular Afternoon

Wednesday 21st October

YR Welcome Assembly – 2.15pm

Friday 23rd October

End of Term 1

Monday 26th October

Half Term Week – School closed

Monday 2nd November

Inset Day – School closed to pupils

Monday 9th November

PTFA AGM 7pm in the school hall

Tuesday 10th November

Individual & Sibling Photographs

Monday 23rd November

New Admissions Meeting – 10.30am

Monday 30th November

Y6 SATS & PGL Meeting – 5pm

Friday 11th December

Infant Nativity – 2pm

Wednesday 16th December

Junior Carol Service – St Vincent’s Church 7pm TBC

Friday 18th December

End of Term 2 – school closes 1pm

St Vincent's Family Mass New Time

Following consultation with the parish community, please note that the Sunday Family Mass at St Vincent's is now celebrated at

11.00am

rather than the previous time of 10.30am.

All are welcome

DEMOCRACY
We all have the right to be heard and to take part in decisions that affect us all.

RULE OF LAW
We are all subject to the law which is applied fairly and equally to everyone.

INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY
We have the freedom to make our own choices and express our own views.

MUTUAL RESPECT
We respect each other and treat everyone with kindness and consideration.

TOLERANCE
We value differences and celebrate the diverse communities we live in.

In the news this week

Nepal has announced that its wild tiger population has more than tripled, rising from 121 tigers in 2010, to 429 today. Officials say the turnaround is the result of years of protected wildlife corridors and local communities working hand-in-hand with conservationists to protect the big cats. With tiger numbers now increasing, more encounters between tigers and nearby villages are leaving experts asking how people and wildlife can safely share the same land going forward.

Things to talk about at home...

- Share your response to the pledge that no one will be sleeping rough this Christmas.
- Can you think of some different ways that people can help others in their local communities?

Rainbow Curriculum Link

This story helps us think about the **mutual respect** strand of our rainbow curriculum by reminding us that humans share our world with other living things. We can consider our own needs and safety while also respecting the needs of wild animals and their habitats. It teaches us to listen to different points of view, value the natural world and think about how people and wildlife can live alongside one another safely and respectfully.

Which British Values?

It highlights **Rule of Law** because protected areas help keep people and wildlife safe, and allow them to share the land.

Mutual Respect and Tolerance is shown by respecting the needs of both people and wildlife.

Which protected characteristic?

This story links to **religion or belief** because many people believe we should care for the natural world and respect all living things.

This week's focus for Y5 & Y6:

Different, Equal, Belonging

Key messages we learned:

- Our identity is made up of lots of different things, including our family, culture, beliefs, experiences, interests and personality.
- Some differences are easy to see but there is lots about a person that we cannot know just by looking at them.
- Difference is normal – something being unfamiliar or different from our own experience does not make it wrong or 'weird'.
- It is okay to be curious about other people's cultures, beliefs and experiences but questions should always be asked respectfully and nobody has to share something personal if they do not want to.
- Fair does not always mean the same. Sometimes people need different support or adjustments so that everyone has the same opportunity to participate.
- We all have a responsibility to help others feel accepted, respected and that they belong.

This week's task:

Ask someone at home: "What is something about our family, culture or identity that is important to you?" It might be a tradition, food, language, religion or belief, celebration, family value, where your family comes from, or a special story or memory. See if you can learn something about your own family that you did not know before.

How you can support at home:

Talk positively about the things that make your own family unique while encouraging curiosity and respect for families whose lives may look different from yours. You might discuss how we can ask respectful questions when we encounter something unfamiliar and remind your child that different does not mean wrong. These conversations help children develop a strong sense of their own identity while recognising that everyone has an equal right to feel respected, included and that they belong.

This term, we are learning about some of the most inspirational humanitarians.

Princess Diana was known for her humanitarian work because she used her fame to help people who were suffering or needed support. She visited hospitals, homeless shelters and charities and spent time listening and talking to people. She helped to change attitudes towards people with infectious diseases by shaking their hands when many people were wrongly afraid that the illness could spread through touch. She also campaigned against landmines, which can seriously injure or kill people, by visiting a minefield in Angola.

Diana often spent time with people whom others avoided or treated differently. Instead of keeping her distance, she sat beside people, talked with them, held their hands and listened to their stories.

Her actions sent an important message: every person matters and deserves to be treated with dignity, kindness and compassion.



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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JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
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MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
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Holiday	Bank holiday	INSET day		
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St Anselm's School Term Dates 2027 – 2028

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
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JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
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MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
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	Holiday			Bank holiday			INSET day	
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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

