

As we approach the end of our first term, there is so much to celebrate and be thankful for. Our new Reception children have settled beautifully into school life and, this week, will be formally welcomed into our school family by their Year 6 buddies. It has been wonderful to see friendships developing, confidence growing and children embracing the many opportunities on offer. St Anselm's is a happy place, where God's presence can be seen in the kindness, care and joy shared throughout our school community. Our programme of educational visits, generously funded by the PTFA, is now underway. This week, Year 5 will be visiting the Tower of London and Year 4 will be exploring Westminster Abbey. These fully funded experiences are part of our commitment to developing children's cultural capital, broadening their horizons and providing opportunities to experience places and learn things beyond the classroom. We are incredibly grateful to the PTFA for making these valuable experiences possible for all our children. As the half-term break approaches, I would like to thank our wonderful staff team for their hard work, dedication and care throughout the term and thank you, our parents and families for your continued support. I wish you all a wonderful opportunity to rest, recharge and enjoy time together as families. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for Term 2 when school reopens to children on Tuesday 3rd November.

Parent Consultation Meetings

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our parent consultation meetings last week. We hope you found the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and how they have settled into their new class valuable.

Those who attended in person may have noticed a few small changes to the arrangements, including improved appointment timings and SLT presence in the hall. These changes were introduced to ensure greater consistency between our face-to-face and online consultations, with everyone receiving the same allocated time. The changes helped appointments run to time, ensuring that meetings did not extend beyond their allocated slots or cause delays for parents attending later appointments. This also gave teachers a valuable few minutes between meetings to gather their thoughts and prepare for their next conversation. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in helping us make the consultation process fair, efficient and positive for everyone.

Admission to Reception 2026

If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, you can now apply for a place in the Reception Class at St. Anselm's for September 2027. Applications can be submitted online, via KCC, starting from Friday 6th November. In addition to the online application, please ensure that a Certificate of Practice and a Baptism Certificate are provided to the school office as part of your supporting documentation. Prospective parents and carers are invited to attend an Admissions Meeting on Monday 23rd November at 10:30am in the school hall—everyone is welcome but pre booking is encouraged via the QR code. Please see the admissions page on our website for more details and the attached Kent information flier.



Winter Uniform Reminder

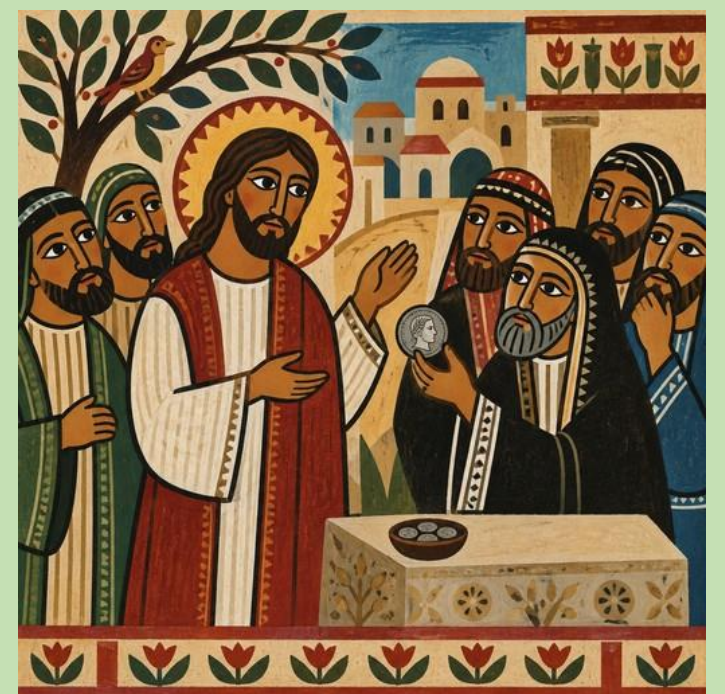
When children return to school after the half-term break, they are expected to be wearing their full winter school uniform. On Fridays, children should wear their school PE tracksuits rather than shorts and T-shirts. Full details of our uniform requirements can be found on the school website. Please take a moment to check these to ensure your child has the correct uniform ready for the start of Term 2. Please also ensure that all items of clothing, including coats and PE kits, are clearly labelled with your child's name. Thank you for your continued support in helping our children look smart and take pride in their school.

More overleaf...



In this week's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trick Jesus by asking whether people should pay taxes to Caesar, the Roman emperor. Jesus asks them to look at a coin and see whose image is on it. He then tells them, "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God."

Jesus teaches us that we all have responsibilities as members of society, such as following rules, respecting others and contributing to our communities. However, our greatest responsibility is to God. As we are all made in God's image, we belong to Him. We show our love for God through the choices we make, the kindness we show and the way we treat others.



Lord God,

Help us to remember that we are all made in Your image and belong to You. Guide us to make good choices, respect others and fulfil our responsibilities with kindness and honesty. May our words and actions reflect Your love, and may we always put You at the centre of our lives.

Amen.

Power Projects Are Now Live!

Our Power Projects are now available on Seesaw, providing children with an additional homework opportunity to research inspirational people whose achievements link to their learning in class. Children can complete their research at home and upload their work to Seesaw. Please read the notes accompanying each project carefully, as there is a specific reason why each inspirational person has been included in that particular area of learning. Children should focus their research on the aspect of the person's life or achievements that connects to their classroom learning. This may not necessarily be what the individual is most famous for. We look forward to seeing the creative and interesting ways in which the children choose to present their research!

Jim Dickson MP, Christmas Card Competition

Children are invited to take part in the Dartford Christmas Card Competition 2026, open to all primary school children in the Dartford constituency. The winning design will feature on the front of a Christmas card sent to over 500 businesses, schools, community groups and charities, as well as HM King Charles III and the Prime Minister! The winner and their family will also be invited to the Houses of Parliament for a tour and a cup of tea. Runners-up will have their designs featured inside the card. The closing date is Friday 6th November, when entries will be collected from school. Please see the attached flyer for further details.

DfE Breakfast Club Survey

Last chance: the DfE breakfast club survey closes on 23rd October 2026. Please spare 10 minutes to share your views and enter the free prize draw; you could win £100 Complete it [here](#) your voice matters!

Progressive Sports Holiday Club

Progressive Sports are running a holiday club during half term at our Lady's Catholic Primary School. Please see attached flier for details

Congratulations to these children who received an award last week.

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Mila

You are always working hard on ensuring your work is neat and tidy. You show personal excellence by challenging yourself, learning from your mistakes and never giving up! You are an inspiration with your positive attitude and encouraging others to all do their best.

Teacher Miss Vellous 16.10.26

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Joshua

Joshua, you consistently take great pride in your learning and present your work beautifully. You approach feedback with a fantastic attitude, listening carefully and using suggestions to make your work even better. You follow instructions brilliantly and always strive to achieve your very best. Your positive attitude, commitment to learning and determination to produce work you can be proud of make you an excellent role model for others in the class. You truly embody Personal Excellence and set a wonderful example every day! Well done, Joshua! You should be incredibly proud of yourself. Keep shining, believing in yourself and showing everyone what you can achieve!

Teacher Mrs. Anderson 16.10.2026

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Michelle

We have seen you show 'initiative and independence' this week with the additional science research you have done at home. It was so lovely to see how you extended our 'skeleton's' learning to find out more facts about the human body. We are seeing this maturity developing across subjects as you are demonstrating a positive attitude to your studies. This is a great example of 'Inspiration.' Well done, keep it up!

Teacher Mrs Kelly 16.10.26

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Michelle

We are consistently impressed by your attitude and behaviour in the classroom. Michelle, You are a curious learner, always asking questions and seeking clarification on anything you do not understand. You are an Inspiration to others in the way you approach your learning. Every morning, you come into class with a smile and a positive attitude. It is wonderful to see you sharing this with others, always offering help whenever you can. You show Respect and Friendship in everything that you do. Keep on shining, well done!

Teacher Mrs Smith 16.10.26

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Udolisa

Udolisa, you are such a kind and well-behaved learner. You always bring a positive attitude to our learning activities, and you have maintained this enthusiasm consistently throughout. You have also consistently demonstrated Respect and Friendship by always being kind to others and offering help to anyone who needs it, whether it is your teachers or your peers. Your caring nature and thoughtful actions make you a wonderful member of our class. Keep shining, Udolisa! Continue spreading kindness wherever you go. Well done!

Teacher Mrs Anna 16.10.26

St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Adriano

Adriano, you are a wonderful example of our PRIDE Values of Respect and Friendship and Personal Excellence. Your impeccable manners and the respect you show to others make you a pleasure to have in our school community. You have also demonstrated a consistently positive attitude towards your learning, approaching challenges with determination and a willingness to succeed. It was particularly rewarding to witness you conquer long division and BODMAS. By trusting the methods you have been taught and persevering when faced with challenges, you have achieved real success. I hope to see this continue throughout your time in year 6.

Teacher Mr Puckock 16.10.2026

Lean and Green Award

is awarded to

Y5

The most active class active on the way to school this week

16.10.26

Punctuality Pup

is awarded to

Y1, Y2 & Y5

100% punctuality

16.10.26

Attendance Red

is awarded to

Y1 & Y5

99.3% attendance

16.10.26

KEY DATES

Wednesday 21st October
YR Welcome Assembly – 2.15pm

Thursday 22nd October
Y5 trip to Tower of London

Friday 23rd October
Y4 trip to Westminster Abbey

Friday 23rd October
End of Term 1

Monday 26th October
Half Term Week – School closed

Monday 2nd November
Inset Day – School closed to pupils

Tuesday 3rd November
Term 2 begins

Monday 9th November
PTFA AGM 7pm in the school hall

Tuesday 10th November
Individual & Sibling Photographs

Wednesday 11th November
Y6 trip to Imperial War Museum

Saturday 21st November
St Vincent's Parish Bazaar

Sunday 22nd November
School Mass - St Vincent's Church 11am

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

Thursday 17th December
Choir singing at Bluewater 11am

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

Meta has created the Muse Charm, a small device that can fit in a pocket or hang from a keyring. The Charm uses Muse, Meta’s artificial intelligence (AI), so people can talk to it, ask it questions, and show it what is happening around them. It is designed for adults over the age of 18, and Meta aims to have the new device ready to buy by December.



Things to talk about at home...

- Do you use any AI at home or school at the moment?
- When do you think technology can be helpful in our everyday lives?
- What rules might help people use an AI companion safely?
- Talk to someone older at home about what it was like to find information out before the internet, AI and other similar technologies.

Which British Values?

Individual Liberty is highlighted, as people can choose how they use technology and make responsible choices.

We can use technology to help us while showing Mutual Respect and Tolerance, by remembering that people have ideas and experiences to share.

Which protected characteristic?

The protected characteristic of **age** is highlighted, because the device is designed for people aged 18 and over, showing that some technology has age limits to help keep people safe.

Rainbow Curriculum Link

This story links to **Organisation and Self-Discipline**. As AI becomes an increasing part of everyday life, it is important that children learn to use technology responsibly and make sensible choices about when and how to use it. AI can be a helpful tool, but children also need the self-discipline to think independently, solve problems for themselves and recognise when technology is not needed. Developing these skills will help them become responsible, confident and independent learners.



This week's focus for Y5 & Y6:

Gender respect and Sexism

Key messages we learned:

Children learned that sexism means judging or treating someone unfairly because they are a boy or a girl. We explored how stereotypes can influence expectations, opportunities and the way people are treated. We also discussed misogyny, which involves deeply prejudiced attitudes towards women and girls. Through everyday examples, children considered how comments disguised as jokes can still be hurtful, why everyone deserves to have their opinions heard and the importance of respecting personal boundaries. We also explored how messages shared online can reinforce harmful stereotypes.

This week's task:

Children have been challenged to spot a gender stereotype in an advert, television programme, book or online video. What assumption is being made about boys or girls? Is it fair? How could the message be changed to make it more respectful and inclusive?

How you can support at home:

Talk to your child about the messages they encounter in everyday life, particularly through advertising, social media and entertainment. Encourage them to question statements such as "That's for boys" or "Girls can't do that." Discuss why someone's abilities, interests and opportunities should not be determined by whether they are male or female. Reinforce the importance of treating others fairly, respecting their choices and speaking up safely when they witness unfair treatment.



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



Sister Helen Prejean was born in Louisiana, USA, in 1939. She is a Catholic nun who has dedicated much of her life to helping people who are often forgotten or treated unfairly. Inspired by the teachings of Jesus, she believes that everyone deserves to be treated with kindness, dignity and respect. Sister Helen is best known for her work with people in prison, including those sentenced to death for committing very serious crimes. She has also supported families who have lost loved ones through violence. She campaigns against the death penalty because she believes that, although people must face the consequences of their actions, taking another life is not the answer. Her work reflects the Catholic Social Teaching principle of Human Dignity, which reminds us that every person is made in the image and likeness of God. Sister Helen teaches us that we can stand up for justice while also showing forgiveness and compassion. She reminds us that every human life has value and that people can change, even after making terrible mistakes.



JIM DICKSON MP'S CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

**TAKE YOUR DESIGN TO SCHOOL BEFORE FRIDAY 6th
NOVEMBER OR SEND A SCAN TO
JIM.DICKSON.MP@PARLIAMENT.UK BY SUNDAY 8th
NOVEMBER**

PRIZES

- ★ YOUR DESIGN ON JIM'S CHRISTMAS CARDS
- ★ A CUP OF TEA IN THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT WITH JIM
- ★ AND MORE....

RULES

- ★ Your design must be A4
- ★ Please include your name, age, home address, and the name of your school on the back of your design
- ★ Please no glitter or 3D designs!



BOOK YOUR CHILD'S

OCTOBER CAMP

FREE FUNDED
CAMP SPACES

FREE HOLIDAY FUN FOR CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

PROGRESSIVE
HOLIDAY
CAMPS



SCAN FOR
HAF INFO

FREE
HAF PLACES
Eligible families at
selected venues.



CLICK TO BOOK

Our Lady's Catholic Primary
King Edward Avenue, Dartford, Kent, DA1 2HZ

26 OCT - 30 OCT | 8:00am - 6:00pm



www.progressive-uk.co.uk

01889 343120

info@progressive-uk.co.uk

PROGRESSIVE

YOUR SPECTACULAR
OCTOBER STARTS HERE

This half term is packed with GREAT twists, big challenges and plenty of reasons to get moving.

WHAT'S ON
AT CAMP?

Laser Tag
Grab your blaster. Hunt down the ghosts.

Crazy Karts
Strap in. The spooky circuit awaits.

Monster Mayhem
Fast games, wild challenges and
Pumpkin Dodgeball & MORE

An October twist on a camp favourite
& MORE

Ready to Book?

Paid Camp Spaces Available

BOOK BEFORE 6TH OCT & GET
20% Off Holiday Camp
Code OCT20 at checkout.

Spaces will fill quickly.
Lock in their place before this one disappears!
To Book Your Space:
<https://app.holidayactivities.com/login>

HAF CAMP PLACES
Available for
eligible families.

Book your free HAF place here:
<https://app.holidayactivities.com/login>

PROGRESSIVE



Healthy Choices

for a Happy, Healthy Day!

Healthy Food Helps Us Learn!

Good food gives us energy, helps us concentrate and keeps us healthy.

Break Time Snacks

Snacks give us a light, healthy boost of energy to help us concentrate and learn.

✓ **These snacks are allowed:**



Fresh fruit



Fresh vegetables



Items from the school tuck shop that meet our food standards

✗ **These snacks are not allowed:**



Sweets



Chocolate bars and chocolate-coated products (including biscuits)



Juice cartons or flavoured drinks

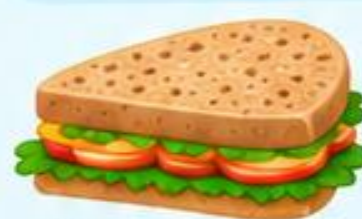


Fizzy drinks

Packed Lunches

A healthy packed lunch gives us the nutrients we need to stay healthy and do our best.

A healthy lunch usually includes:



A starchy food such as bread, wraps, pasta, rice, couscous or crackers



A protein source such as meat, fish, eggs, beans, lentils, cheese or hummus



At least one portion of fruit and/or vegetables



A dairy product or suitable dairy alternative



Water as the only drink

✗ **These should not be included in packed lunches:**



Fizzy drinks



Juice cartons or flavoured drinks



Sweets, chocolate bars and chocolate-coated products (including biscuits)



Takeaway food or leftovers from takeaways (e.g. pizza, fried chicken, chips)



Any products containing nuts due to allergy risks

Remember...



Choose healthy, nutritious foods



Drink water



Keep sugary foods and treats limited



No takeaway food or leftovers



No nuts

Healthy Food Brighter Futures!





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

Holiday

Bank holiday

INSET day

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

