

ST. ANNE'S NEWS

A monthly newsletter brought to you by Mr. Sheldon Logue, Executive Headteacher.

May 2024

A very warm welcome to my May newsletter. As you see, the newsletter has a different format that reflects a more professional and confident school. I hope that you enjoy.

CATHOLIC LIFE OF SCHOOL

The Yr11 pre-exam liturgy was a reflective and reassuring time of prayer celebrated just before the GCSE exams began. Yr11 students were reminded of their importance and beauty in the eyes of God and how we were all created in his image and likeness. We also listened to the Gospel story 'Put out into the deep'. This passage encouraged our students, like the disciples, to keep working even though by now they are tired and ready for a break. Finally, we listened to a reflection on the life of St. Joseph Cupertino, the patron saint of those taking exams. As he said, 'Let me never be asked a question in an exam that I don't know the answer to'.



Dave and Cath from the 'Good News Retreat Team' led CPD for our staff 7th May. The focus of the session was looking at the new Prayer and Liturgy Directory which we are seeking to be guided by as a school. We then focused on practical ways staff can improve how they lead our students in prayer and ways we can include more time for prayer and reflection in school life. The session was very well received and also gave staff a moment of prayer and reflection away from their many duties and responsibilities.

YEAR 11

Yr11 students are now more than half-way through their exams. Their maturity towards their exams has been good. However, it is important that this maturity, their work rate, and focus continue until they finish their **last** exam. This means that they should be working throughout the May break, including attending the many extra revision sessions during the May break. Below is the revision timetable for next week. Your child will have been told to attend if applicable.

Date	Time	Teacher	Subject
Tuesday 28th May	9.30am—12.00pm	SSW	Science
Tuesday 28th May	12.30pm—3.00pm	SSW	Science
Wednesday 29th May	9.30am—12.00pm	ASI	Music
Wednesday 29th May	9.30am—12.00pm	RGA	PE
Thursday 30th May	9.30am—12.00pm	TKH/COS/DBR	Maths
Friday 31st May	9.30am—12.00pm	LRI	Geography
Sunday 2nd June	9.30am—12.00pm	JLE/AWA	History

PE / SPORTS UPDATE

The Yr11 girls' football team played in the Greater Manchester Final vs BTH from Timperley. The girls made a fantastic start to the match and created numerous chances, penning BTH in their own half despite the gale force wind in their faces. BTH scored against the run of play to give them the 1-0 lead at halftime. Once again, the girls started the half well but were undone by long passes over the top of our defence and we conceded twice to make it 3-0. Our girls never stopped battling and were rewarded for their efforts with a goal from Lexie Moore. The girls were disappointed to lose the final, but they should all be proud of their efforts. To reach the final of a Greater Manchester competition is a brilliant achievement for a small school like ours.



The Yr10 boys' football team was beaten on penalties by Harrytown in a recent league playoff semi-final. The winners would play at Edgeley Park for the final, so a lot was at stake. The progress our boys have made over these last 2 years cannot be understated. Their attitude and willingness to keep going was evident throughout the match. Despite the defeat on penalties, following on from a 1-1 draw in normal time, it was the reaction of our boys at the end that was the most impressive: handshakes, togetherness and congratulations for the opposition. Well done, lads!

Extra-curricular badges will be given out next month as a reward for students' commitment to extra-curricular PE. Please collect a letter of application from the PE team.

Finally, we have a focus on athletics and cricket this term as we look forward to our first league match at Cheadle Hulme School on Wednesday 15th May. Parents/carers, please look out for messages on ClassCharts for any upcoming fixtures.

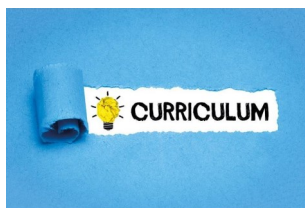
SAVE THE DATE!

Save the date! Advance notice that we will hold our Celebration Evening on 10th July, an evening where we will celebrate all the students' achievements over the past academic year, *The St Anne's Way*.



CURRICULUM AND TEACHING UPDATES

Curriculum: St Annes continues to deliver a robust, subject-rich curriculum, based on the National Curriculum. As we approach the last half term of this academic year, subject leaders have been reviewing and reflecting on their subject curriculums at our recent curriculum development session. Key questions included what has gone well this year and where do we need to improve our curriculum provision to ensure it is outstanding. This is the start of a bigger piece of work enhancing all aspects of the curriculum, and in particular, how the whole school curriculum knits together across each subject. For further information on what is being taught to your child across key stage three in the summer term please check out the school website link [Key Stage 3 \(KS3\) | St Anne's \(stannes.academy\)](https://www.stannes.academy)



Teaching: This term's focus continues to be on Quality First Teaching. We are dropping into lessons focusing on our provision for students with special educational needs and providing opportunities to stretch and challenge Key Stage Two high prior attaining students. Continued Professional Development on 'Embedding Formative Assessment' enables effective adaptations of lessons to suit student needs and ensure their academic success. We will continue to place research at the heart of what we do at St Anne's, to ensure that we are doing 'all we can do, to improve life chances'. Homework is

continuing to increase, with student participation also showing improved positive outcomes in students' examinations, and we would like to thank you for your continued support in our journey to be 'outstanding in all that we do'.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

After half-term we will be gearing up for a very busy summer for our students. Yr10 are preparing for their work experience in July, and we have a 'speed dating' careers event for Yr7 and Yr8 on July 1st. If you are able to give an hour of your time to support this event and speak to students about your job, please get in touch with Mrs Simmons.

LifeSkills
Created with  BARCLAYS

Yr9 and Yr10 have completed their final Barclays Life Skills session. Over the last year, all students have completed 4 sessions looking at resilience, positive thinking, understanding behaviours for work and self-confidence. These sessions have been delivered by professionals from Barclays and the feedback from staff delivering them about student engagement has been superb, as has the students' feedback about how the workshops have supported them.

The Student Council are busy working hard to prepare school for Refugee Week from 17th June. The theme of 'Our Home' will be explored in lessons and in other activities throughout the week. The Prefect Team's Culture Club launched this month with the first meeting being a roaring success. Students talked about their home country and told us all about the life and culture.



STAFFING UPDATE

The governors, Ms. Sutcliffe (Head of School) and I were delighted to appoint permanent Assistant Headteachers (see below). As well as the creation of a permanent leadership, there have been other first-class appointments over the past few weeks. These appointments will enhance the learning across the school.

- Congratulations to Miss Scanlan who, after a year as temporary Head of English, has now become the permanent Head of English. Her leadership and stature have grown over the past year, and I have no doubt she will continue to lead the English department with zeal.
- Additionally, we have appointed Mr Shaw, an experienced teacher, who will lead on whole school literacy. Improving literacy is a key strategic aim of the school.
- Sarah Roche is our new Business Manager. Sarah has a wealth of experience in educational settings, and I am very excited to work with her. Already, she has made a positive impact and is working tirelessly to improve the learning environment for our children.
- A new PE teacher, Mr Boughey, will join our increasingly confident PE department from September. Mr Boughey is an ECT, and I am pleased he will start his teaching career here at St Anne's.
- A new RE teacher, Miss Coyne, will join our successful RE department. Miss Coyne is also an ECT and she will be exposed to great teaching in the RE department.

LEADERSHIP UPDATE



It gives me great pleasure to announce that the governors of St Anne's have appointed 4 permanent Assistant Headteachers. This was a robust selection process, and the calibre of the candidates was really strong. The importance of these appointments should not be under-estimated, and it is a real significant step in ensuring a stable senior leadership who will work tirelessly to make St Anne's a great community where the children here flourish.

The successful candidates are Mr Byrne, Mrs McGloin, Miss Morgan, and Mrs Simmons. I wish all the successful candidates the best of luck as they embark on the next exciting stages of their careers.



STAFF PROFILES



In this newsletter I have profiled the 2 members of our finance team.

Miss Roche, Business Manager. I recently joined St Anne's and it has been wonderful thus far, meeting our lovely students who demonstrate hard work and respect for one another. The staff are very passionate about supporting the children to be the very best that they can be! Prior to joining St Anne's, I worked in School Business Management for 8 years at primary and secondary level, as well as in a variety of roles for Manchester City Council for 12 years. My experiences will ensure we are spending every penny as best we can to deliver at least a good education for the St Anne's children. It is evident St Anne's has come a long way in the past two years and I hope that my knowledge and expertise will help drive further improvement. I am highly driven and committed to achieving outcomes. I'm looking forward to getting to know our students more over the coming months. I am keen to set up parental coffee mornings with those who may be struggling to access some of our systems (which in time, we will be looking to streamline) and we will support with any queries you may have. Improving communication is a priority for the forthcoming year. Further information will be sent out over the coming weeks about this.

Outside of school, I love spending time with my family and friends, I have two daughters who certainly keep me occupied with both their academic and social calendars! I love to travel, everything Manchester United (but we won't dwell on that right now!) and cooking is a new-found interest.

Miss Hill, Finance Administrator. I have been employed at St Anne's since November 2023. I attended St Anne's as a pupil starting in 2009 and leaving in 2014. Once I left St Anne's, I completed an apprenticeship achieving my Association of Accounting Technicians [AAT] qualification. As soon as I achieved my AAT qualification, I was able to begin my studies to be a chartered accountant.

Outside of work I have been a Wrexham FC season ticket holder since 2005, going up and down the country with my family and a few friends. Being a Wrexham fan has been a roller-coaster ride. We have gone from owning our club to the Hollywood owners and a documentary. I have been to Portugal and America following Wrexham which was an amazing experience, and I am off back to America and Canada on the football tour this year. I also play semi-professional football for Altrincham Ladies as a centre forward which keeps me busy on Sundays.

YEAR 9 OPTIONS PROCESS

The options process is now complete, and Mr Ostmeier has spoken to individual students that have had to use a reserve option; this was a minority of students in the year group. There were record attendances at both the Yr9 Parents' Evening and Options Evening. This support has enabled students to be fully informed about the important choices they have made. I would like to thank those parents that came to both evenings in support of your child. Working together is the only way that your child will achieve their potential.



A MEXICAN FEAST FOR LUNCH!



The students were delighted with our Mexican themed lunch on Tuesday 21st May. From Burritos to chicken wings, salsa and guacamole, the canteen certainly tantalised our tastebuds! It was great to see so many students trying our new food. We will be continuing to offer a variety of themed days and will communicate this with parents so that if your child usually has a packed lunch, they may wish to consider trying something new! Masterchef's working tirelessly at St Anne's!

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Whilst working tirelessly to raise educational standards, we are also on a journey of making significant improvements to the building and grounds for both present and future students at St Anne's. Over the past two years we have benefitted from over £3million in capital projects including a new roof, windows and doors, new equipment in the kitchen, as well as the refurbishment of the sports hall, and redecoration/grounds maintenance works. More significant building works are taking place in the summer including new interactive screens in all classrooms to support teaching and learning, the final phase of our LED lighting scheme, new flooring in the main building, replacement of all our network infrastructure to support IT provision and the installation of new automated pedestrian and vehicular gates to increase site security. We cannot wait for students to return in September to see the benefits all this will bring to St Anne's!

AND FINALLY....

I hope that everyone has a restful May break, and I will look forward to the summer term. School reopens on Monday 3rd June.

Mr Sheldon Logue, Executive Headteacher

