

# ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER: Mr D Linehan

Bosworth Drive, Chelmsley Wood, Birmingham, B37 5DP

Tel: 0121 779 8060 Email: parentmail@st-annes.solihull.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.stannessolihull.co.uk> Follow us on Twitter: @StAnnesCP



**St. Anne's Mission Statement: "Each one of us is unique, each one of us is special, because we are created by God's love. May God's love shine on our lives as we care and share and learn together."**

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## St Anne's Catholic Primary School

A school that welcome children of all backgrounds and all faiths

School places are available for Nursery and Reception



Ofsted  
**OUTSTANDING**  
in all areas



We are open 8am - 6pm to assist families who require childcare.

Please contact school office for admission enquiry



0121 779 8060

[www.stannessolihull.co.uk](http://www.stannessolihull.co.uk)



### Link to both OFSTED and CSI reports

[Ofsted Reports and Catholic School report | St Anne's Catholic Primary School](#)  
[St. Anne's Catholic School Inspection Report](#)

1. Overall effectiveness – 1 (OUTSTANDING)
2. Catholic Life & Mission – 1 (OUTSTANDING)
3. Religious Education – 1 (OUTSTANDING)
4. Collective Worship – 1 (OUTSTANDING)

St. Anne's Catholic Primary School has been graded "OUTSTANDING" across all areas of the inspection. This is a truly exceptional outcome and a wonderful achievement for our school and school community. This important external validation sits alongside our recent OUTSTANDING Ofsted Report, received and shared in March.

The report is detailed and reflects our mission as a school. Some comments from inspectors include:

**"St. Anne's is a welcoming and inclusive community where every child is known, loved and cared for".**

**"Pupils know they are unique and loved and take immense pride in being part of the school family".**

**"Governors are passionate, committed and highly knowledgeable".**

**"The curriculum is carefully planned and delivered with genuine passion by teachers who are deeply committed to nurturing each pupil's spiritual growth".**

The report also reflects the outstanding offer to pupils at St. Anne's through the expertise, dedication and commitment to Catholic education. This extends to all staff at our school, including teachers, support staff, governors and of course, each and every pupil at our school.

The inspection process was thorough and robust. All aspects of school life were inspected and assessed thoroughly with a focus on the 3 areas of Catholic Life & Mission, Religious Education and Collective Worship.

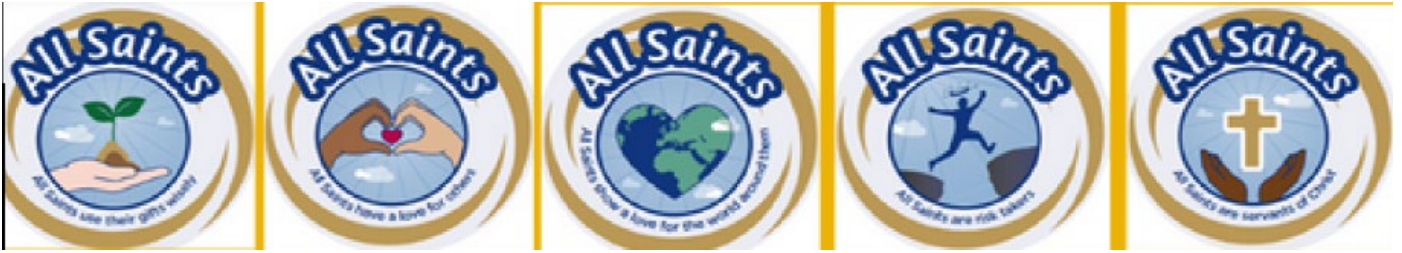
Inspectors observed how **"Christ is at the heart of St. Anne's"** and that **"leaders and Governors have an inspiring vision for outstanding Catholic education and are exceptionally driven to make God known to all"**.

This extends to all staff in school who are devoted to ensuring that your child receives the highest quality Catholic education possible.

This wonderful news places St. Anne's as one of the top performing Catholic schools within the Archdiocese and indeed across the country.

The partnership between home and school is vital to the success of our pupils, and I want to thank you for your trust, encouragement, and commitment. Together, we have ensured that St. Anne's Catholic School continues to thrive and serve future generations. As we move forward, we will continue to build on this success, remaining ambitious for all our pupils, and staying true to our mission to recognise how unique and special our children are.

Thank you once again for your continued support.



### School Virtue for this half term – Curious and Active

We encourage the children to be curious in their learning and active in their faith, asking questions, seeking understanding, and putting their beliefs into action through kindness, service, and responsibility to others.

**In our Liturgical Calendar we are currently in Christmas (Gold and White).**

### The half term focus for Catholic Social Teaching is: 'Rights and Responsibilities'

God gives every person rights so they can live with dignity, such as the right to be safe, loved, and educated. With these rights come responsibilities — to care for one another, to respect others, and to help build a fair and caring community.

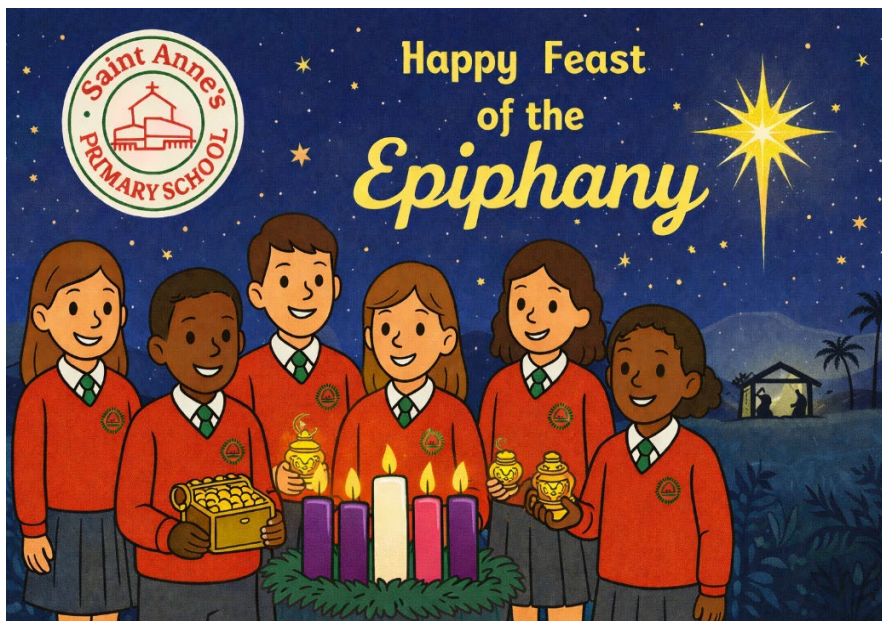
When we understand our responsibilities, we learn that our actions matter and that we are called to look after our world and the people in it.

“By recognising both our rights and our responsibilities, we help create a community rooted in respect, justice, and love.”

### The Feast of the Epiphany – A Holy Day of Obligation

As the children returned to school on the Feast of the Epiphany, we celebrated this important moment in the Church's year when Jesus is revealed to the world. We gathered with the parish community to attend Mass for this Holy Day of Obligation, marking the start of the new term in prayer and thanksgiving.

The Epiphany reminded us to be curious and active in our faith, like the Wise Men, who followed the light of the star with trust and determination. It was a joyful opportunity for our school community to come together, renew our commitment to learning and faith, and begin the term guided by Christ's light.



### TEN TEN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

Please see link below for the monthly TenTen R.E Newsletter. The information shared on this newsletter links to the children's Collective Worship in class.

[www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/](http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/)

### BUILDING THE KINGDOM – HOMEWORK

# Building the Kingdom Homework



## January's Big Question:

How do other faiths and cultures celebrate throughout the year?

As Catholics, we believe God loves everyone. God's Kingdom grows when we live with love and respect. People around the world celebrate in different ways. Learning about these celebrations helps us understand others and build God's Kingdom. E.g. Hindu - Diwali, Jewish - Passover / Yom Kippur, Muslim - Ramadan / Eid - ul - Adha, Sikh - Birthday of Guru Nanak

They may choose one of the following activities:

- Create a poster
- Make an art piece
- Create a presentation or video
- Interview a friend/neighbour

Thank you for supporting your child in Building God's Kingdom.

Please hand your homework in to your class teacher by the end of January



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026- DEADLINE 2026

Applications for **Reception** school places for September 2026 must be made via the Council Website: <http://www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions>. If you live outside Solihull you must apply to your local council even if you want to include Solihull schools on your application. **The deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> January**

### ~~~~~ Applying for a Nursery school place for September 2026

**Please apply for a Nursery pack via email or at the school office.**

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 you can apply for 30 hours free Nursery education in a Solihull school starting in September 2026. These applications are now made directly to schools and not via Admissions. St. Anne's application forms are available now. To request one, please send your child's name, date of birth and your name and contact number to: [nurseryadmissions@st-annes.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:nurseryadmissions@st-annes.solihull.sch.uk). Please type 'Nursery 2026' in the subject line so that we can easily identify your email. We will email an application form to you in due course.

Please note that when you apply for a **Nursery** or **Reception** place we follow the Admissions policy and we can only record your child as Catholic if you have provided a baptismal certificate **before** the closing date for applications. We cannot accept that you intend to get your child baptised, even if the child's siblings are already baptised. Therefore, it is really important that if you are looking to organise a baptism this takes place before the closing dates for admissions. However, we accept children of all faiths at St Anne's.

If you wish your child to be baptised one parent must be a Catholic. If you wish to contact our Parish Priest, his telephone number is 0121 770 3283 or by emailing: [stanne-chelmsleywood.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stanne-chelmsleywood.bham@rcaob.org.uk)

**Please see below a polite reminder of the uniform expectations**

Children must wear school shoes unless it is their PE day.  
 Please find the information from the prospectus on the website.  
 Thankyou for your continued cooperation in the matter to ensure our children continue to look smart and in the right uniform.

**Shoes**

Shoes should be smart black leather type shoes. Fashion shoes, canvas pumps and trainers are not allowed.

**Haircuts**

At St. Anne's we do not allow extreme haircuts. Similarly, we do not accept boys having shaven heads or tramlines/patterns shaved into their hair, logos or a fashion statement hairstyle is not acceptable.

**Girls and boys** with long hair (hair long enough to be tied back) must tie their hair back. If children with long hair (hair long enough to be tied back) come to school with loose hair they will be provided with an elastic band so that their hair is tied back for the rest of the day.

**NURSERY**

**Religious Education**

In our RE unit 'Christmas-Mary the Mother of Jesus' the children know that Christmas is Jesus' birthday and that Mary is Jesus' mother. They thought about the different ways that their Mums show love and care for them just like Mary did for Jesus.



**Understanding the World**

This week the Nursery children have been learning about the season of winter. They have been observing the changes in the weather and how it is now very cold. They enjoyed exploring the ice and snow and were excited to observe what would happen to the snow when we took it inside.



**RECEPTION**

A huge welcome back to all of our children. They have all returned to school beautifully and ready for the new term ahead. We are so excited to see you all!

**Religious Education**

In RE this week we continued our work around the Christmas Story and the children were able to recall the story in lots of detail. We focused on the Epiphany and walked through the story in our garden area. We were delighted to have a visit from the three wise men. We also hot seated some of the characters from the story and discussed how they felt during different parts of the story. The children used super vocabulary such as "amazed", "astonished", "shocked" and "surprised".



## PE

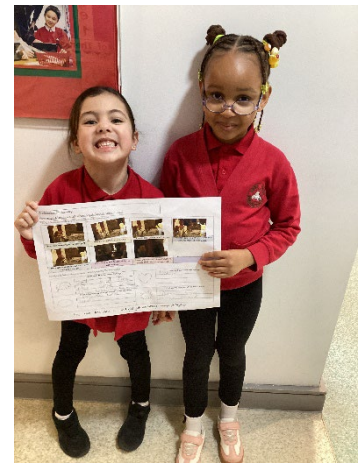
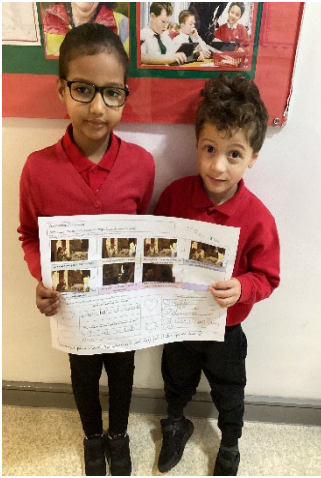
In PE this week the children began their gymnastics unit. We enjoyed listening to the story “Jack and the Beanstalk” and using shapes and balances to represent parts of the story. We practised freezing and holding a balance to the count of five. The children showed some wonderful gymnastic skills.



## YEAR 1

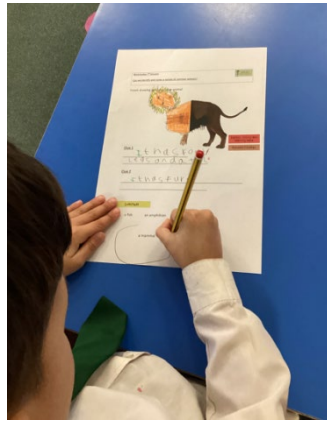
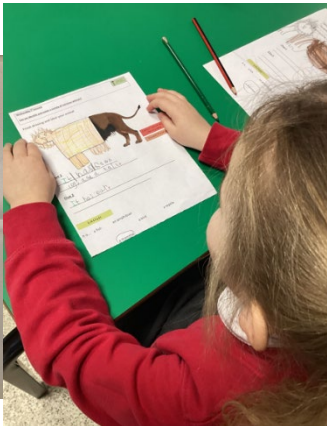
### Religious Education – The Annunciation

This week in RE, we started our new unit on Christmas. We learned about the Annunciation and why Mary saying yes was so important. We retold the events that took place when the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and discussed how she may have felt at that moment. We also thought about what Mary might have said and how grateful she was that God trusted her and had faith in her. The children also thought about how Mary had to have faith in God and the important message that this teaches us.



### Science – Looking at Animals

This term, we have started our new unit all about "Looking at Animals." We've had lots of fun exploring how animals can be sorted into different groups, known as *classification*. The groups we've studied are Fish, Birds, Amphibians, Reptiles, and Mammals. We were given the challenge of identifying animals from black-and-white photos—and guess what? *We were amazing* at it! For our practical science lesson, we got creative by finishing a drawing of an animal. Then, we labelled our pictures with clues about the different body parts. It was a fantastic way to learn more about animals!



## YEAR 2

### Religious Education

This week in RE, the children began their new unit on **Christmas**. To introduce the unit, they revisited their prior learning about the **Annunciation**, when the Angel Gabriel visited Mary to tell her that she was going to have a baby. The children took part in some fantastic role play, confidently retelling the story and bringing it to life. They then engaged in deeper spiritual thinking linked to the story by answering thoughtful questions such as *Why do you think Mary agreed to be the mother of Jesus?* and *What do you think might have happened if Mary had not said "yes"?* The children shared some insightful and reflective ideas, showing great understanding and curiosity.



### Computing

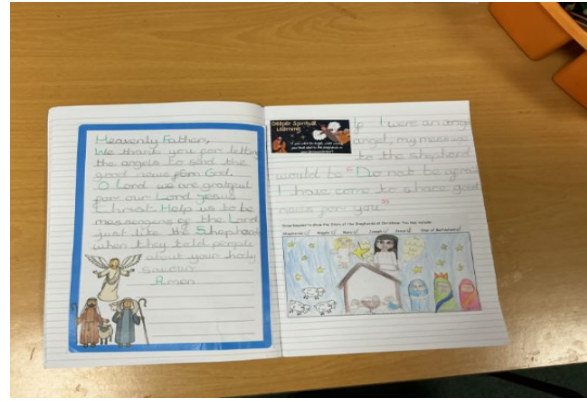
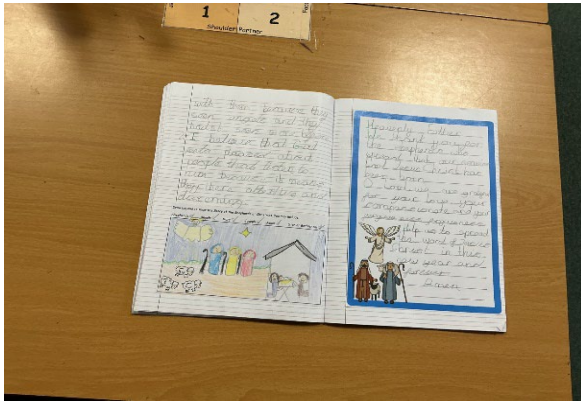
This week in Year Two computing, we have been learning how to make our own binary trees to help us sort information. First, we worked in pairs and created our own characters. We asked questions and used the answers to decide where each character should go on the binary tree. After that, we worked together as a class and used different shapes to make another binary tree. We had to think carefully about the questions we asked so that the shapes could be sorted correctly. We learned that binary trees could help us organise information in a clear and simple way. It was lots of fun and we really enjoyed learning together.



## YEAR 3

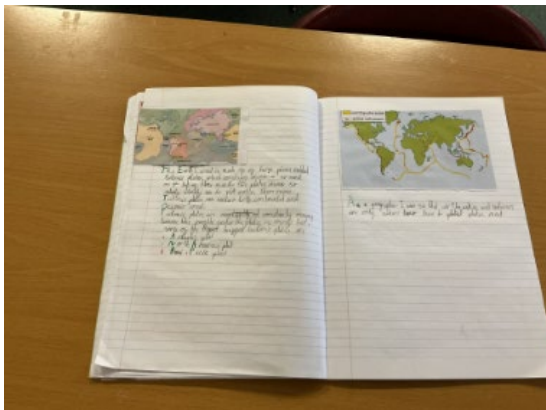
## Religious Education

The children have been learning about the shepherds this week in RE and their key role in the Christmas story, as well as the angels. Along with retelling the shepherd's story, the children have written a special prayer to God thanking him for Jesus and the shepherds.



## Geography

We have started our new unit of learning on Mountains, Earthquakes and Volcanoes. This week, we have learnt about the different parts of the earth and the tectonic plates that sit on top of them. The children noticed how earthquakes, mountains and volcanoes occur on top of these plates.



YEAR 4

## Religious Education

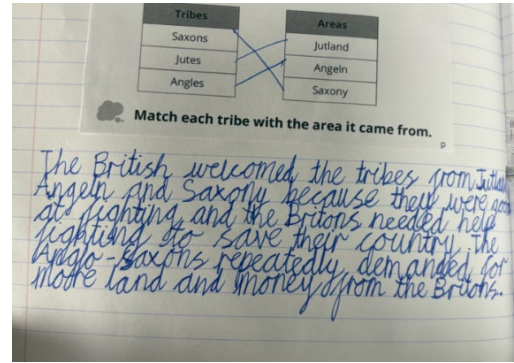
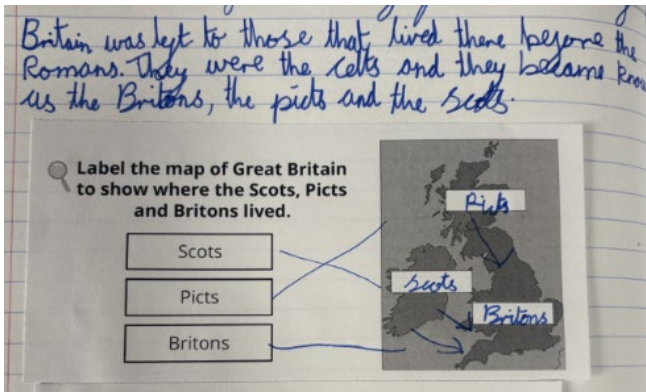
In Religious Education this week, Year 4 revisited the Christmas story within our Catholic faith. The children reflected on the key events of Jesus' birth and worked together to place them in the correct order, from the Annunciation and journey to Bethlehem, to the birth of Jesus, the visit of the shepherds, and the arrival of the Wise Men. Through discussion and activities, pupils deepened their understanding of the meaning of Christmas and why Jesus' birth is such an important celebration for Christians. The class showed great focus and respect as they shared their knowledge and made thoughtful links to God's message of love, hope, and peace.



## History

This week, Year 4 began an exciting new History unit on the Anglo-Saxons, building on our previous learning about the Romans. The children explored what happened in Britain after the Romans left and discovered who the Anglo-Saxons were and where they came from. They learned about the origins of the Anglo-Saxons and discussed why different

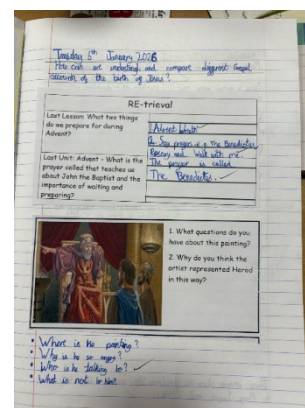
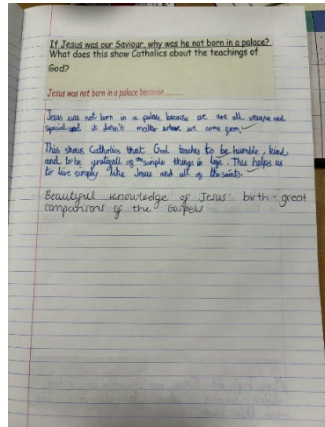
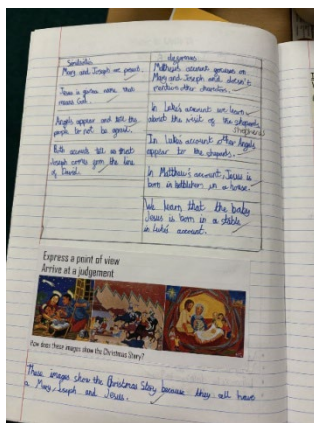
groups migrated to Britain during this time. The class showed great curiosity as they made links between the end of Roman rule and the beginning of Anglo-Saxon Britain, asking thoughtful questions and sharing ideas.



**YEAR 5**

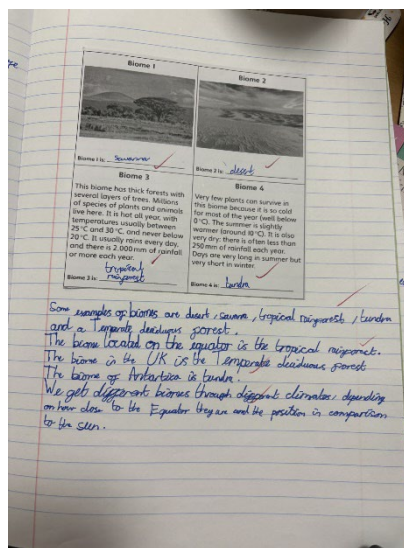
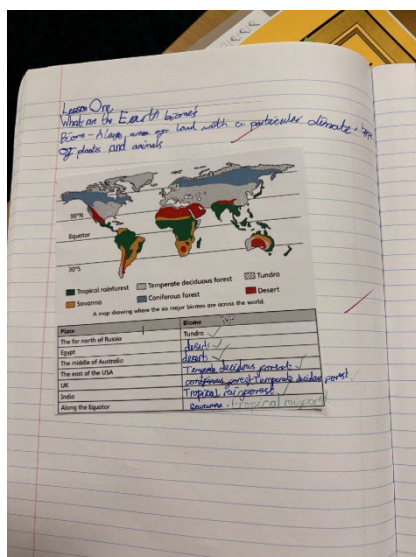
**Religious Education**

This week in RE we have begun our 'Christmas' unit. The children have read from the Bible and studied 2 different Gospel's from Matthew and Luke, regarding the Nativity story. We compared similarities and differences of the two Gospel's and reflected on why Jesus was not born in a palace, if he is our Saviour. On Thursday, we then used this knowledge to consider how we would feel about the birth of Jesus if we were: King Herod, Mary, Joseph or one of the Wise Men.



**Geography**

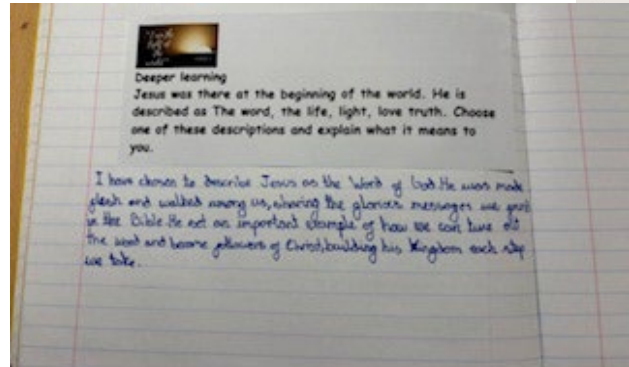
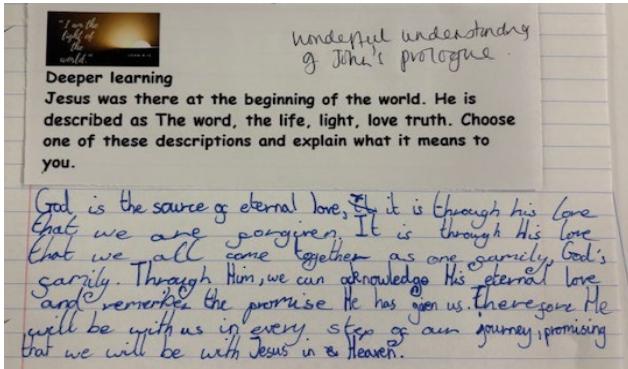
This half term the children will be studying all about Biomes in Geography. This week the children were introduced to what a biome is, what the main types of biomes are and where they are in the world, as well as why we have different biomes on Earth. By the end of this unit the children will be able to answer our Big Question 'How much do you agree with the following statement: It is already too late to protect biomes from climate change'.



**Religious Education**

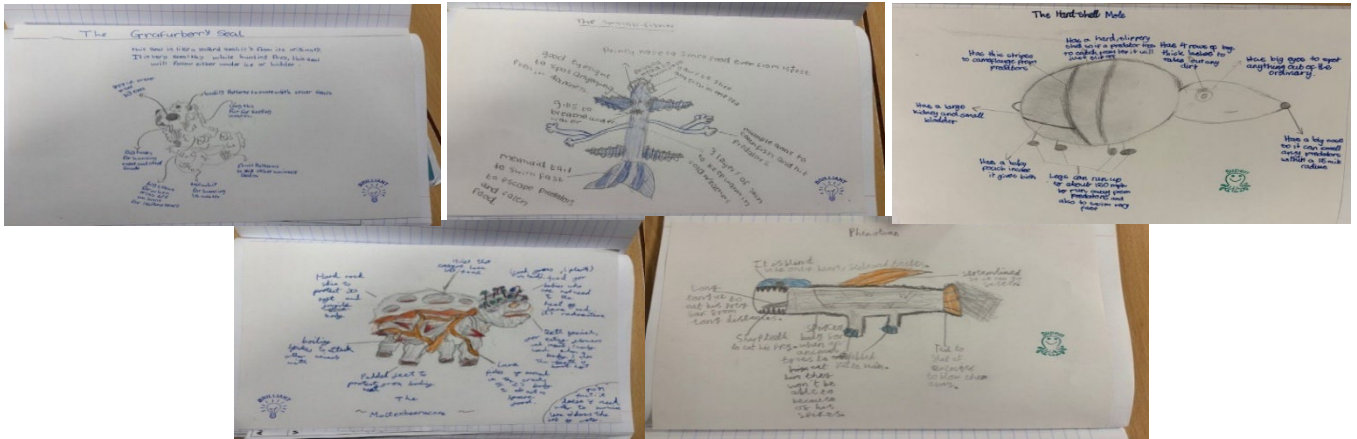
Year 6 have reflected beautifully in their Christmas unit of work, especially when reading St John's Prologue in the Bible. The children considered the question: "Jesus was described as The Word, The Life, Light, Love and Truth. Choose one of these descriptions and explain what it means to you." The children's responses were so thoughtful and spiritual, making links to how Jesus spreads light and hope.

*He is the way  
He is the truth  
He is the life*



**Science**

Year 6 used their knowledge of adaptations and invented their own animal. They designed their own imaginary animal to suit a particular environment. The children labelled their animal with the adaptations which helps them to survive in this environment.



**ST ANNES & ST ANTHONYS CHURCH PARISH NEWSLETTER**

Please find a link below to the Parish Newsletter which you can find on our website.  
<https://www.stannessolihull.co.uk/autumn-2025>

**HEAD TEACHER ACADEMIC AWARDS OF THE WEEK**

RH – Olivia J	RL – Reggie M	1P – Wren S	1OC – Cameron M	2B – Sofia L
2M – Jessie A	3TR – Harry M	3SR – Leon P	4P – Arthur I	4R – Alex C
5S – Ava B	5T – Phoenix R	6M – Thaleia B	6N – Albey S	

**HEAD TEACHER EFFORT AWARDS OF THE WEEK**

RH – Bonnie F	RL – Charlie O	1P – Alicja K	1OC – Jaxon M	2B – Jagger B
2M – Whole Class	3TR – Huey H	3SR – Vida K	4P – Brogan k	4R – Florence C
5S – Zachary H	5T – Petal M	6M – Sophie C	6N – Neive H	

## OUTSTANDING VIRTUE AWARD – ‘LEARNED & WISE’

RH – Reggie D	RL – Varick K	1P – Kiki S	1OC – Che W	2B – Finley B
2M – Iyla C	3TR – Fayo I	3SR– Finley K	4P – Klara k	4R– Evelyn B
5S – Frankie P	5T – Franc B	6M – Ulysse J	6N – Tian R	

## COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

For queries such as reporting children’s absence, requesting information or other general questions, please contact us via [parentmail@st-annes.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:parentmail@st-annes.solihull.sch.uk).

If you have any queries at all or if it is an urgent message, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office on 0121 779 8060

## SCHOOL NOTICES

Please remember that there is no parking available in the School grounds or outside the school gates for families. All families are expected to park at Asda or the Church when bringing children to/collecting children from school. This also applies when bringing children to school late, collecting early or dropping things off for them.

The on-site car park is for school staff and external visitors.

Please do not use the approach to school as a drop off point as this leads to congestion and can be very dangerous for pedestrians. The school does not own this land or the parking spaces outside of the school gates.

**It has come to our attention that some parents and family members are parking inconsiderately on double yellow lines, across driveways of local residents or on pavement and walkways where children and families are walking to school. Please can we ask that parents park considerately and appropriately outside of school in order for all young children to access and enter school safely.**



## ONLINE SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK

### Signal Messenger App

Signal is rated as 13+ on the App store. It is a messaging app, where users can text, send voice messages and photos plus participate in group chats and calls. There are no parental controls currently available. As with all messaging apps, the risks can include bullying and viewing inappropriate content. Find out more here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-childrensafe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>

## TERM DATES 2025-26

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Spring 1</u></p> <p>Starts: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026</p> <p>Last Day of Term for Children: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Half-Term:</b> Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Spring 2</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – INSET Children NOT in School</b></p> <p>Starts: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February Children return to school</p> <p>Last Day of Term for Children: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Easter Holidays:</b> Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summer 1</u></p> <p>Starts: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April Children return to school <b>Bank Holiday: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b></p> <p>Last Day of Term for Children: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Half Term:</b> Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summer 2</u></p> <p>Starts: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June Children return to school Last Day of Term for Children: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July – INSET Children NOT in School Summer Holidays</b> Starts: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July</p>
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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2025 – Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2026</b>	-	<b>Christmas Holidays</b>
<i>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026</i>	-	<i>INSET Day – Children NOT in school</i>
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>	-	<b>Children return to school – Start of Spring 1</b>
<b>Mon 16<sup>th</sup> February – Fri 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	-	<b>Half Term</b>
<i>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</i>	-	<i>INSET DAY – Children NOT in school</i>
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	-	<b>Children return to school – Start of Spring 2</b>
<b>W/c 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	-	<b>Year 6 Residential Trip to Alton Castle</b>
<b>Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	-	<b>Year 5 Bikeability</b>
<b>Mon 30<sup>th</sup> March – Fri 10<sup>th</sup> April</b>	-	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
<i>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April</i>	-	<b>Children return to school – Start of Summer 1</b>
<i>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May</i>	-	<b>Bank Holiday (Children NOT in school)</b>
<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> May – Fri 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	-	<b>Half Term</b>
<i>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</i>	-	<b>Children return to school – Start of Summer 2</b>
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July</b>	-	<b>Last Day of Term for children</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	-	<b>Summer Holidays (Inset day for staff- children not in school)</b>

Big Brum Theatre-in-Education is starting a **FREE** Youth Theatre – 'Little Brum' - for the young people of North Solihull. We have recently visited your child's school, exploring with them the story of 'The Little Red Cap', and they were amazing, creative and imaginative. This is why we are starting our 'Little Brum' and hope your child will wish to be part of it.

Any local year six child is welcome to come along. We will be engaging our imaginations, exploring stories and making theatre together.

Please contact [katie@bigbrum.org.uk](mailto:katie@bigbrum.org.uk) to sign up or for further information.

**Little Brum  
Youth Theatre**

Open to all Year 6 children

Big Brum Theatre in Education  
Imagination in Action

Every Wednesday  
17:30 to 18:30  
Starting 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Elmwood Family Hub, 37 Burtons Way,  
Birmingham, B36 OUG

Please email [katie@bigbrum.org.uk](mailto:katie@bigbrum.org.uk)  
to sign up or for further details

**SISS Autism Team Parent Workshop.**  
**Understanding Autism for Parents of school-aged children.**

**The SISS Autism Team are pleased to offer a workshop for parents and carers of children in Solihull Mainstream Schools with an autism diagnosis, or who have been accepted for an autism assessment.**

The workshops use the key elements of the [Autism Education Trust Making Sense of Autism](#) training module that is delivered to all schools in Solihull, developing this knowledge and understanding to meet the needs of the family.

The workshops are delivered by experienced Specialist staff from the SISS Autism Team, all of whom are licensed by AET to deliver the training.

**The aims of the workshops are to:**

- ✦ Introduce the current understanding of autism and the 3 areas of difference.
- ✦ Develop your understanding of your child's individual profile of strengths and support needs.
- ✦ Identify a range of strategies that may support your child and wider family.
- ✦ Know what support is available in school and develop a shared understanding of the approaches and language to support working together with your child's school.
- ✦ Signposting to wider services and offers in our local area.

You will receive a range of practical resources for use at home following each session, plus a certificate directly from AET upon completion of the workshop.

The workshops are repeated each school term and are delivered in Family Hubs in North Solihull, Central Solihull & South Solihull, plus one online opportunity.

You can choose the option that works best for you – all dates and venues are available to book now. Please see below for details.

**Please do not attend if you have not completed the booking form below and received a confirmation email.**

**Eligibility to attend the workshop:**

- Your child has an autism diagnosis **or** has been accepted onto the waiting list for an assessment.
- Your child attends a mainstream school in Solihull.
- You can attend both face-to-face days.

**Spring term**

**North** – Riverside Family Hub – 21.4.26 & 28.4.26. 9.00am – 3pm  
**Final Teams Online session** – 1.5.26. 9am – 12pm

**Summer term**

**South** – Shirley Heath Family Hub – 2.6.26 & 9.6.26. 9am – 3pm.  
**North** – Riverside Family Hub – 2.6.26 & 9.6.26. 9am – 3pm.  
**Online** – via Microsoft Teams – 8.5.26, 15.5.26, 22.5.26, 5.6.26. 9am – 12pm  
**Final Teams Online session** – all 3 groups – 12.6.26. 9am – 12pm

**If you have not previously attended a workshop with us and would like to join us, please complete the Booking Form here:** [Autism Parent Workshops Booking Form – Fill in form](#)

**and we will confirm your place via email.**

For any queries, please contact your school SENCo.