



FRIDAY ROUND UP

13th December 2024



A MESSAGE FROM MR FARRELL

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the festive season, I wanted to take this opportunity to share some important updates with you.

Although, at the time of writing, our Christmas Fayre has not yet taken place, I want to express my gratitude to the St Anne's PTA and all the wonderful volunteers who have worked tirelessly to ensure the event's success. Their dedication and enthusiasm have been instrumental in bringing the school community together and raising vital funds for our school. I hope everyone who attended the Fayre had a fantastic time celebrating the season with us.

On a more personal note, it is with mixed emotions that I announce Mrs. Spyer will be leaving us at the end of this term. She has accepted an exciting new role outside of teaching but still within the field of education. Mrs. Spyer has been a fantastic member of our team and her commitment to the children's learning has been tremendous. We wish her all the very best in this next chapter of her career and thank her for her incredible contributions to St Anne's.

I am pleased to inform you that we have appointed a new teacher, Mrs. Milton, who will be joining us after the February half-term. Mrs. Milton will be working as a job share with Mrs. Tavender in Year 1. We are delighted to welcome her to our team and are confident that she will bring great enthusiasm and expertise to her role. In the meantime, Mrs. Tavender will continue her excellent work in Year 1 and we are actively seeking a teacher to cover the first half-term before Mrs. Milton's start. I will update you as soon as we have confirmed these arrangements.

Once again, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the PTA and all volunteers who contributed to organising the Christmas Fayre and similar events throughout the year. Your efforts make a significant difference in supporting our school and enriching the experiences of our children.

Best wishes,
Mr. Farrell

CLASSROOM NEWS

In DT, Class 3 have been taste testing seasonal fruit and vegetables grown at different times of the year. They described the taste of the food, using words such as sweet, savory or bitter.

One pupil said the pears were like 'healthy sweets'. Class 3 also enjoyed investigating permeable and impermeable rocks in science. We weighed pumice, sandstone and marble before submerging them in water and finding out whether the weight of the rocks changed. We found out the only the marble did not absorb any water (which makes it useful for kitchen surfaces!).



Year 5 have excelled themselves cooking bolognese from scratch as part of their DT project. Children worked brilliantly in small groups and the taste of the vegetarian and meat-based versions were bellissimo! St Anne's definitely has some chefs in the making: watch out Buddy Oliver! Well done team



Year 6 had a great first day of advent, making their advent calendars. Year 6 have also been working really hard on writing a story about an unexpected visitor at Christmas. They have written some beautifully descriptive work that is amazing to read.



E Safety - Protecting Ourselves Online

The Dangers of Underage Social Media Use

In today's digital world, social media is everywhere, but it's important to remember that platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and Snapchat have age restrictions for a reason. Children under 13 are especially vulnerable to online risks such as cyberbullying, exposure to inappropriate content, and potential contact with strangers.

At St Anne's, we are committed to online safety. Parents are encouraged to visit their child's class page on the school website for helpful links to e-safety resources and tips. Additionally, the NSPCC offers expert guidance on how to keep children safe online, which can be accessed using the following address.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

We would also really encourage you to watch a Channel 4 programme shown this week, Swiped: The School That Banned Smartphones, hosted by Matt and Emma Willis. This includes some quite shocking statistics, but also some really useful information, which highlights the hidden dangers of children engaging on these platforms without proper supervision. The programme is a must-watch for parents and guardians looking to better understand the risks and how to address them.

Let's work together to ensure our children use technology safely and responsibly.

Please could we ask parents to send your child into school with an orange for the Christingle service on Friday 20th December. We would ask that oranges are brought into school by Tuesday 17th December. Thank you.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon 16th/Tues 17th December - KS1 Nativity 2.30pm

Thursday 19th December - Christmas Dinner

Friday 20th December - Christingle 9.30am service

Friday 20th December - Last day of term - collect at 1.30pm

Monday 6th January - Inset Day

Tuesday 7th January - Children start back

Friday 24th January - Vision screening for Class R

