



# FRIDAY ROUND UP



16th January 2026



## MESSAGE FROM MR FARRELL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week, we were delighted to begin the teaching of the ukulele across the school.

Each cohort will receive the equivalent of a full term of specialist ukulele teaching during their time at St Anne's. Our long-term aim is that every child leaves St Anne's at the end of Year 6 able to read basic musical notation and confidently play a musical instrument.

Mrs Rees, our Music Lead, has invested a significant amount of time in carefully weaving ukulele teaching into our existing music curriculum. This ensures that the learning is progressive, purposeful and genuinely enhances the high-quality music provision already in place at St Anne's, rather than sitting alongside it.

There are many well-documented benefits to learning a musical instrument. These include positive impacts on wellbeing, confidence, concentration and memory, as well as supporting teamwork, perseverance and creativity. We are already seeing great enthusiasm from the children as they begin to develop these skills.

Currently, Year 1 and Year 6 are receiving weekly ukulele lessons. The timetable has been thoughtfully planned so that ukulele sessions do not clash with Forest School provision, ensuring children continue to benefit fully from both experiences.

Looking ahead, we are already planning end-of-term ukulele concerts, which will give the children the opportunity to showcase their newly acquired skills to parents and the wider community. In addition, we will shortly be launching both lunchtime and after-school ukulele clubs. Further correspondence with details about these clubs will be sent out in due course.

Have a great weekend.

Best wishes

Mr Farrell



# CLASSROOM NEWS

## CLASS R

Last Friday afternoon Class R were visited by Dr Mark - explorer and scientist from the British Antarctic Survey. He came to talk to the children about life as a researcher in Antarctica. The children learnt about the climate, wildlife and equipment that researchers need. The children then had the opportunity to test out the clothing needed to stay warm in such a cold climate.



## CLASS 1

### ✨ This week in Year 1 ✨

- PE – We used bean bags to help improve our balance and control.
- Science – We learned about the human body and practised labelling different body parts.
- Geography – We explored maps of the school and how places can be represented.
- Maths – We named, sorted and described 2D and 3D shapes.
- English – We wrote snow poems using adjectives to describe what it looks and feels like.
- Music – We started learning the ukulele – how to hold it, pick the strings and strum. The children did brilliantly!

Well done Year 1 – a great week of learning! ✨



## CLASS 2

Year 2 have been enjoying their Forest School session this term. They have been engaged in all the possibilities including making their pendants, roasting marshmallows and exploring the area. They took inspiration from the panto last week and used bows and arrows they made to act out Robin Hood.



Just a reminder that Pinpoint have a number of support packages, advice and information for parents with SEND children.

Here is the link to their web-page

<https://www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk/>

**SEND is everyone's business**

### PTA NEWS

Please remember to return attendance slips and money to class teachers by Wednesday 28th January for the school disco.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January - Young Voices

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - Sign up sheets for parent consultations

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - Break the rules day

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January - School disco

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February - Y6 Bikeability

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February - Parent Consultations 4.30pm - 7.30pm

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February - Parent Consultations 3.40pm - 6pm

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February - Class 3 Assembly 2.50pm start

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> - HALF TERM