



# FRIDAY ROUND UP



11<sup>th</sup> September 2026



## MESSAGE FROM MR FARRELL

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a brilliant first full week back at St Anne's! It has been wonderful to see the children settling into their new classes, getting to know their teachers and quickly re-establishing our school routines. There has been a fantastic atmosphere around school, with lots of enthusiasm for learning and plenty of examples of our school values of resilience, creativity, respect and joy in action. It really has been a wonderful start to the new school year.

This week, I have met with our Front Office team to begin planning the term ahead. We have now agreed many of the important dates for the school calendar, including events such as our Christmas Fayre, Nativity performances and other key school events.

We will be sharing these dates with families in the near future, so please keep an eye out for further information. We hope that providing these dates early will help families plan ahead and, importantly, enable you to join us for as many of our special school events as possible.

### A Reminder About Homework

As we begin the new school year, I would also like to take this opportunity to remind families about our homework expectations.

Our homework approach is deliberately focused on the areas that we believe have the greatest impact on children's learning and progress. These are:

- Reading – regular reading at home, supported by parents/carers and recorded in reading journals.
- Spellings/Phonics – weekly spelling or phonics activities appropriate to the children's age and stage.
- Times Tables/Number Facts – regular practice to develop fluency and confidence with number.
- Optional Maths Homework – children may also receive a weekly maths activity linked to recent learning.

The precise homework children receive will, of course, depend on their year group and stage of development. For example, our Reception and Key Stage 1 children may have a greater focus on phonics, counting and number bonds, and may use Numbots rather than Times Tables Rock Stars. As children move through Key Stage 2, the emphasis increasingly includes regular times tables practice, including the use of TTRS.

The core expectations are reading, spellings/phonics and times tables or number-fact practice, with optional maths homework provided alongside these where appropriate. Our policy is designed to develop good learning habits, encourage a love of reading and provide opportunities for children and families to work together.

Homework is shared weekly through ClassDojo, with teachers providing the specific activities and expectations for each class.

If you are unsure about what your child has been asked to do, or if you experience any difficulties accessing the homework set on ClassDojo, please contact your child's class teacher. We are always happy to help.

For full details of our homework expectations, including the expectations for each phase, please visit the homework section of our school website:

[St Anne's Homework Information](#)

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It has been a brilliant first full week, and I am incredibly excited about the year ahead.

# CLASSROOM NEWS

## CLASS 3 – CHESTNUT CLASS

In the first week back Chestnut Class enjoyed an RE Enrichment day on the theme of Spirituality. Spirituality can be interpreted in many different ways, but we focused on using moments of spirituality to help us deal with worry, stress and 'big emotions'.

We spent time outside in the morning, appreciating the nature all around us, before looking at all the tiny details with magnifying glasses and recording them in Nature Journals. We agreed that Nature Journaling made us all feel calm and grounded and was a great spiritual moment that could be used to help with any problems we might face in life.

We also looked at the story of Martha and Mary in the Bible (Luke 10) and acted it out. We talked about how it teaches the importance of slowing down and taking the time to listen to God, and the teachings of Jesus. The children wrote prayers based on this.

We finished the day with some great work on how to look after our bodies and minds. The children had lots to say on this! And they each created posters explaining how to stay healthy. We said that 'a healthy body + healthy mind = happy life'.



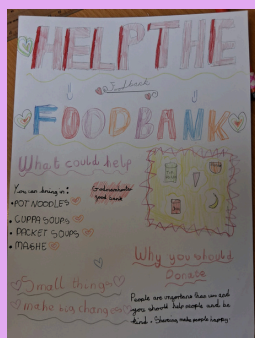
## CLASS 4 – BIRCH CLASS

In PE, Birch Class have been developing their teamwork, cooperation and problem-solving skills through various activities using hoops in their OAA (Outdoor and Adventurous Activities) topic.



## CLASS 5 – ROWAN CLASS

Rowan Class enjoyed an enriching RE day exploring spirituality and the four hearts of spirituality: the Divine, Me, Myself and I, Others, and Nature. We wrote thoughtful prayers after reading the Parable of the Farmer and the Seeds. We also explored our own wellbeing, considered ways we can support and help others in our community, and spent time developing our connection with nature. It was a great start to Year 5.



## CLASS 6- HAZEL CLASS

Year 6 have made a fantastic start to the new school year and have already shown what wonderful role models they can be.

The children have particularly enjoyed their Forest School sessions, embracing the opportunity to learn outdoors, work together and develop their teamwork and problem-solving skills.

They have also begun their exciting new World War Two topic. The children have been enthusiastic about exploring this important period in history and are looking forward to discovering more as the term progresses.

Well done, Year 6, on such a positive start.



## Congratulations on our new school Librarians

Gracie May, Liora, Noah, Koyinsola, Lenna, Grace and Ada



## Reminders and Requests

A few requests to start the year, please could everyone make sure to read and adhere to these.

- Please could parents stay with their children and walk them to class to handover to school staff, this is required until they reach Year 5. We are seeing too many parents drop off at the gates and letting their child walk to class or the office prior to year 5.
- Please could all bikes and scooters be left at the bike racks at the far end of the car park rather than by the bins, we are finding bikes blocking the kitchen gates and other access points.
- Payments should be made in advance for meals, please do not allow your accounts to be in debt.
- Should you require to speak with OSC regarding collections please call them directly on 01480 227809 (After 3.30pm)
- Monday's at OSC is Forest School, if you book your child a place please bring a change of suitable clothing.
- Absence can be reported via your Arbor Account, please log on and state the reason for absence, please do not simply write 'unwell' please give us the specific symptoms. Please do not use this system for medical appointments as these should be sent to [office@stannes.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@stannes.cambs.sch.uk) with a copy of the appointment confirmation.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> Sept** - Y6 Class Trip

**Wed 21<sup>st</sup> - Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct** - Y6 Residential Trip

**Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Nov** - Y5 Class Trip

Further event dates to follow