



St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy NEWSLETTER

'Let us be shining lamps, giving light to all around us.'



July 2026

SPOTLIGHT: SHINING LAMPS

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of this academic year, I would like to thank you for all your support. Our Year 11 and 13 students were outstanding during the exams, and we really hope they get the results they deserve. We are looking forward to celebrating their success in August. If the results don't go to plan, there will be plenty of staff around to give them help and guidance on their next steps.

This half term has been exceptionally busy with so many fantastic events taking place! I hope you enjoy reading about all the amazing things our students have been getting up to both in and out of school.

Staff Leavers

We say goodbye to the following staff this term:

Mrs Jones (Receptionist)
Dr Laval (Science Dept)
Mrs Smith (History and Politics Dept and Sixth Form)
Mr Holgate (Technology Dept)

We thank them for their loyal and dedicated service to St Anthony's, and wish them all a happy and healthy retirement. Mr Holgate will be returning to work with us in a different role in Technology in September.

We wish our students, their families and all our staff a restful and relaxing holiday.

Best wishes,
Mrs Lanaghan.

OUR SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God,
Bless our school community here at St Anthony's.
Let us follow in the footsteps of Catherine McAuley.
May we be inspired by her determination to educate, empower and serve the poor.
Let us work together to create a just world in the true spirit of our Mercy tradition,
And as she said, '...to resolve to be good today, but better tomorrow'
We ask this through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

SUMMER HOLIDAY SAFEGUARDING

Important safety messages have been shared with students this week. Please follow this link to access some additional information for parents, carers and families: [Safeguarding update 2026](#)



For more on what is happening in school daily, please follow us on social media or visit our school website:
www.st-anthonys-academy.com



www.st-anthonys-academy.com



enquiries@staga.co.uk



[@StAnthonysGirlsCatholicAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/StAnthonysGirlsCatholicAcademy)



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BUILDING COMMUNITIES: STUDENT SUCCESS



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WONDERFUL YEAR 11

We had a lovely evening at our Year 11 Leavers Celebration in school last month, rewarding our students for all their hard work over the last five years.

Students enjoyed a buffet, DJ and disco, photo booth, candy floss and bubble machine, and an ice cream van!

We will see you all on results day - Thursday 20th August!



STEM ON TRACK: SUCCESS!

After our year-long go-kart build, we're delighted to report that our team headed to Whilton Mill Circuit in Daventry in June, to compete in the Enduro race against schools from all over the country and beyond; even as far as Hong Kong! We've had an absolute blast throughout the journey. Pictured are the student team, staff, families and our sponsors Netgenium, and our driving team Samantha, Olivia, Sophia and Mathilda. Huge well done to our whole STEM on Track community!



SUMMER CONCERT

Thank you to Miss Lockey and the Music department for another wonderful evening of vocal and instrumental talent at our summer concert. We were treated to performances from our Senior and Junior choirs, orchestra and musical theatre group, and many other amazing soloists and ensembles.





PURSuing EXCELLENCE: STUDENT SUCCESS

THE BIG DEMOCRACY

Our KS3 pupils took part in 'The Big Democracy' lesson, where teams had to pitch an idea on how to improve their local communities, and present it to the Senior Leadership Team! The students pictured were winners, and their ideas have been passed onto our local Sunderland councillors. A big thank you to Mrs Hoey, Head of Law and Politics, for organising this for the students!



MATHEMATICAL SUPERSTAR!

Congratulations to Helen from Year 8 who took part in the Junior Kangaroo Maths Challenge, after qualifying for this with her score in the Junior Maths Challenge. Helen achieved a bronze certificate in this, which is an amazing achievement. Mrs Wheeler, Deputy Subject Leader for Maths, commented "Only a handful of students in my career have made it to the follow-on round, and none have achieved an award before now!" Well done, Helen!



SWIMMING SUCCESS!

Congratulations to sister Macey, Year 9, and Molly, Year 7 who recently competed in Liverpool representing South Tyneside swimming club and did amazingly well.

Macey won 2 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze medals, and Molly won 3 bronze medals!

At another competition, Macey won 10/11 medals: 5 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze, after competing at the Scottish Nationals the weekend before, swimming with Olympians and British record holders.

What an amazing achievement for two very talented sisters!



DRAMA STUDENT OF THE TERM!

Well done to Isabella from Year 8, who was awarded 'Student of the Term' in her speech and drama lessons at The Drama Lab, Sunderland. This recognises Isabella's commitment to performing arts. Congratulations!

YEAR 10 SCHOLARS VISIT CAMBRIDGE!

Four of our Year 10 students visited Cambridge earlier this month for an overnight residential, discovering what life would be like as a student at the University of Cambridge. The students took part in lectures, masterclasses, tours, Q&A sessions with current university ambassadors, and had some much needed social time. Thank you to Mrs Jackson who accompanied the girls, and said they were "an absolute delight to be with".





BUILDING COMMUNITIES

SENIOR CHOIR TRAVEL TO PARIS!

Our Senior Choir had an amazing five day tour of Paris this month, where they had the privilege of performing on the Videopolis stage at Disneyland, in Parc Montsouris and in the prestigious La Madeleine. They even managed to fit in some sightseeing, including the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe and a Seine river cruise. The girls were a credit to themselves, the school and their families at all times, and the audiences at each venue were in awe of them. A big thank you to Miss Lockey, Mrs Tomlin, Miss McKeown and Miss Stonehouse for taking the students - where to next year...?!



ACTIVITIES WEEK: A FITTING END TO A BRILLIANT YEAR!

Our students have been enjoying their Activities Week this week, which started with our annual Sports Day organised by our brilliant PE department. Students then visited to the cinema and bowling alley, completed a sponsored five-mile walk to the beach and back, a youth challenge course from the British Army, and also took part in art, drama, enterprise, mindfulness and law activities in school! A wonderful week making memories and building communities.





PURSUING EXCELLENCE: STUDENT SUCCESS



FREYA: OUR SHINING LAMP

Huge congratulations to Freya, Year 8, who has been cast as Dot – the leading role in our BCCET Musical 'No More Sleeping'!

Freya auditioned alongside 100 other students from BCCET secondary schools.

The musical will be on at City Hall, Newcastle in September.

Freya is pictured with Mike McGrother – the composer and producer of the musical.

We are so proud, and can't wait to see you in action!



WE ARE FUTUREREADY!

Well done to Elshaddai, Jessica, Isabel and Maddie, who are our student representatives for FutureReady Sunderland, and attended a launch event in June and spoke to employers and business leads.

FutureReady Sunderland is a SHINE funded project led by Careers Leaders from St Aidan's Catholic Academy, St Anthony's Catholic Girls' Academy, Southmoor Academy and Castle View Enterprise Academy, and we are keen to extend opportunities for employers to play an active role in shaping experiences for young people across Sunderland's secondary schools.

If you are an employer and would like to learn more, please get in touch with our careers leader, Mrs Dudley, at enquiries@staga.co.uk.

MFL CREATIVITY

Our Year 9 students have been immersing themselves in Hispanic culture in their MFL lessons this half term, learning about famous Hispanic celebrities, music, and traditions such as Día de los Muertos. They have created 'ofrendas'; altars traditionally seen in Mexico to celebrate and remember a loved one who has passed away.



Proud to be St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

