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Issue: 4

St Agnes' Weekly News

The family of St Agnes loves, learns and grows together as followers of Jesus.

Head: Susan O'Reilly

Deputy Head: Sophie Gale

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SEPTEMBER

29th—Year 4 Swimming starts for 10 days

30th—Class 3FW Assembly 9:05am

OCTOBER

2nd—Nursery Information & Coffee Morning 9am

2nd—Year 1 Science Dome Workshop

3rd—St Faustina Feast Day

3rd—Maggie's Bake & Brew Morning 9am in hall

7th—Class 3M Assembly 9:05am

9th—Individual Photo Day

10th—Year 5 Golder Green Park Trip

15th—Class 6C Assembly 9:05am,

16th—Year 2 Tower of London Trip

20th—Flu Vaccinations Day 1

20th—Parents Evening Years 1-6 only—3:30-6pm

Dear Parents,

FOSA - Friends of St Agnes

We are at the time of year when we need to recruit parents to our version of the Parent's Association - which we call **FOSA** (Friends of St Agnes) and in particular have named people for the key roles including Chair and Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary for the school year ahead. We have been really fortunate in the last few years with very willing parents taking on these roles and creating a number of successful events for the children and parents to enjoy and raising much needed funds at the same time. Unfortunately their current work commitments mean they can no longer do this.

Schools have always had active Parent Teacher Associations but in the current climate with budgets being so tight, the work of organisations such as FOSA is invaluable. There are many things that the monies raised from FOSA goes into supporting over the course of a year that the school budget simply cannot do, this has included:

- Year 6 leavers gifts
- Ice Lollies for Sports Days
- Whole School Christmas Pantomime in school
- Visiting whole school Workshops such as Judaism, Yoga and mindfulness and meditation
- Science Week Workshops for all children
- Resources for themed weeks and Pathways days

I completely appreciate that it might seem a daunting prospect - to put yourself forward for one of these roles but I can guarantee a sense of satisfaction and the support of others to assist. There is no reason why the Chair of FOSA needs to be just one person - it can be jointly shared by two parents with a further two as Vice Chairs. Margaret our school secretary has held the position of treasurer for several years and is happy to continue if needed. Ewelina and Indy who were Chair and Vice last year would be willing to have a conversation about the role and share any words of wisdom!

Our first FOSA meeting of the year will be held on **Tuesday 21st October at 2.15pm**. It is open to ALL parents - by virtue of having a child at St Agnes, you are already a member of the group. Please pop the date in your diary and do your best to come along. At this meeting we can hopefully allocate the roles and then begin to plan our events for the year - namely the Christmas Fayre which is being held on **Thursday 4th December**. We really need as much support as possible so that the work of FOSA continues this year. Together we can do it!

Wishing you all a great weekend,

Mrs O'Reilly





Please see the information below where you can celebrate the weekly gospel at home with your family.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/good-news?pid=MTA101634&v=163.4>

Maggie's Bake & Brew Morning



MAGGIE'S

Everyone's home of cancer care

We will be hosting a coffee morning for Maggie's Cancer Care at the Royal Free hospital on Friday 3rd October at 9am in the hall. It would be great if we could ask you to support this great cause by donating cakes to sell on the day and of course dropping in for a cuppa on the day itself.

We have chosen to support this local charity for the past few years and they are always incredibly grateful for all funds received which go to support people living with cancer—indeed it has supported members of our own community in recent years.

Maggie's Royal Free

Who we help each year and how

Maggie's is a cancer care charity that relies entirely on donations. We couldn't exist without them so thank you very, very much for your support.



MAGGIE'S

10,000

visits to Maggie's Royal Free in 2024
from people living with cancer and
their loved ones

£1.7million

claimed for our visitors with the
support of our Benefits Advisor

5,820

cancer support
sessions with
specialists

1,485

exercise sessions for
people on treatment
and post-surgery

1,769

appointments reduced with
NHS Talking Therapy because
of Maggie's psychological
support

Last year St Agnes' coffee morning
raised money that could provide

13

emotional sessions with a
cancer specialist nurse

In 2023 St Agnes' coffee morning
raised money that could pay for

10

support sessions with our
specialist psychologist for children
dealing with cancer in the family

THANK YOU VERY MUCH ST AGNES'

Contact Information

Could you ensure that the school office has all your up to date contact information ie mobile number and email address in case we need to speak to you or send emails/text messages to keep you updated on school life. It is important we also have up to date emergency contact details should your child have an accident at school.



Please note that all payments must be made via Arbor. If you have any issues accessing Arbor, please contact the school office.

Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Celebrating Birthdays

This is a reminder that we ask parents who wish to celebrate their child's birthday with their classmates to either send in fruit/raisins to share or even better liaise with the class teacher to buy a book that can be donated to the class library.

This book will have a special addition on the front page, saying who donated it on the special occasion of their birthday.

This will be enjoyed by the children throughout the year.

Individual Photo Day

The photographers will be in school on Thursday 9th October, taking individual photos (not class groups) of the children. Please ensure that your child is wearing full school uniform on that day and is prepared for the photo shoot!

Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any person (parent or staff) have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform one of the school safeguarding team (Mrs O'Reilly, Mrs Gale, Mrs Breslin or our Chair of Governors Gill Abbott). In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a duty to discuss the issue with Social Services to seek further advice. This is the statutory obligation of all schools.



St Agnes' Catholic Primary School

2 Class Teachers required to cover Maternity Leave (Year 1 and Year 5)

from November 2025 for one year

MPS/UPS

Group 3 School NOR 434 (including Nursery)

Thorverton Road, Cricklewood, London, NW2 1RG

Tel: 020 8452 4565 Email: office@stagnes.barnetmail.net

Headteacher: Mrs Susan O'Reilly

St Agnes Catholic Primary is seeking two dedicated and enthusiastic class teachers to cover maternity leave within our thriving school community. We are looking for candidates who possess a genuine passion for education coupled with a strong knowledge of the curriculum. The successful candidates will be creative individuals, who can inspire and motivate our pupils, making learning an engaging and enjoyable experience.

Team players are essential, as collaboration is at the heart of our school ethos. You will be committed to fostering a nurturing and inclusive classroom atmosphere, ensuring learning is memorable and motivating for all pupils.

The school was for the second time graded as **outstanding** in all areas in our most recent Ofsted inspection (March 2025) with no areas for improvement. Inspectors commented *'Pupils are very happy and thrive at school. Pupils are enthusiastic about learning in all subjects and meet the school's very high academic expectations'*. Our February 2022 section 48 inspection graded us as **outstanding** in both the RE Curriculum and the Catholic Life of the School.

We can offer you:

- a warm and welcoming Catholic community where the well-being of all is highly regarded
- children who love coming to school, whom demonstrate resilience and enthusiasm for learning
- a supportive and friendly staff team
- a modern stimulating learning environment
- excellent classroom resources (including Pritt Sticks!)
- guaranteed PPA time each week, working alongside your year partner
- great quality CPD
- opportunities for career progression
- good transport links
- on site car parking
- enthusiastic governors and supportive parents

Please feel free to look at our detailed website to get a flavour of who we are, in addition we are happy to show visitors around our wonderful school. Please contact us to arrange a convenient time.

Closing date: Friday 3rd October 2025 (Noon)

Interview date: Thursday 9th October 2025

CES application forms are available from and returnable to the school. Please phone or email for an application pack. *St Agnes is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Appointment is subject to an enhanced DBS check.*

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 6% actively seek it out; most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA

Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after seeing violent content. For some, these effects may be short term, but for those with existing vulnerabilities or past trauma, the impact can be more severe. Many also feel pressured to 'laugh off' violent content to fit in with friends, even when they find it distressing.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

Exposure to online violence can lead to fear and avoidance behaviours – such as skipping school or staying indoors. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION

Violent videos often go viral quickly. What begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even admit to sharing or creating violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

DESENSITISATION

Older teens may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, admitting they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – usually because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being labelled a 'snitch' by their peers.

HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES

Violent content online may overlap with racist, misogynistic or otherwise extremist ideas. These messages can dehumanise others or glorify violence as a way to gain power, popularity or notoriety. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, marginalised, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES

Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to build trust through non-judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, gently signpost towards trusted services they can turn to for support.

KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL

Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or a safeguarding matter that needs reporting. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. A useful resource is reportharmfulcontent.com.

AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS

Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to overreact or threaten to take away devices. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA

Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these tools and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy for both online and offline life.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, media law, and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit onlinemedialawuk.com for more.



The National College

Class	Star of the Week
1C	Vyan
1M	Maya
2D	Adonai
2HK	Raffie
3FW	Evangel
3M	Madison
4I	Eina Sofia
4M	Celine
5A	Ryan
5J	Cairo
6C	Nathalia
6P	Sara
Reading Eggs	Nathanael 2D
TT RockStars	Charlie 4M
French Certificate	Class 6P

Birthdays: up to 28th September 2025

22nd Connor 4M
 23rd Kuba 4M
 24th Nick 5J
 25th Maksym 5A & Oli 4I
 27th Ciara 6P & Aron 5A
 28th Ameenah RZ



Weekly Attendance		
Class	Attendance %	Number of Lates
RM	95	6
RZ	95	8
1C	99	0
1M	98	0
2D	97	5
2HK	94	1
3FW	98	2
3M	98	9
4I	96	1
4M	90	1
5A	100	1
5J	98	0
6C	93	3
6P	90	0
School Target 97.5%		

Pupil Premium:

The school receives additional funding for some families. This funding is used to enhance your child's learning in many different ways e.g. additional support, learning experiences and may help with payments for school trips. This funding is a vital part of the school's budget so please read the criteria below to see if you qualify.

If either parent is on income support, job seekers allowance, is in receipt of child tax credit but not working tax credit and has an income less than £16,190 or is an asylum seeker supported by the NASS or the local council.

Thought of the Week

'No spring nor summer beauty hath such grace as I have seen in one autumnal face'

John Donne (poet)

