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St Agnes' Weekly News

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

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DECEMBER

8th—Years 1-6 Reconciliation
Service in school 2pm

9th—Trauma Informed Coffee
Morning Part 2 9am

10th—Flu Vaccination Catch
Up

10th—Christmas Dinner Day

11th—Year 4 trip to Abbey
Lesnes

12th—Years 1 & 2 Nativity
9:30am Year 1 parents and
2pm Year 2 parents

18th—Reception Arts Depot
Trip PM

18th—Years 5 & 6 Carol
Concert in church at 5pm

19th—Early closing for all
children 1:45pm

22nd December—2nd January
School Closed Christmas
Holidays

JANUARY 2026

5th—INSET Day—school
closed for children

6th - Children Return

Dear Parents,

A Great Big Thank you!

This newsletter must really be a newsletter of **thanks** because as parents you have done much to support us in recent weeks with the build up to Christmas. A really big thanks to everyone who donated a bottle on last Friday's mufti day to go towards the adult tombola at yesterday's Christmas Fayre - all of these together made a great display. We also are so grateful to our three Co -Chairs of FOSA - Ana, Sandra and AnneMarie who organised the wonderful Santa's Grotto on Wednesday. This event was a number of weeks in the planning, as you can imagine it is a HUGE task to shop for and wrap over 430 gifts. This in addition to the actual creation of the grotto itself, which looked amazing. Thank you to the team of parents who supported this and gave much of your time to make it so special for the children.

This then leads me onto our Christmas Fayre itself which was held yesterday. You have been very generous in your donations of toiletries, chocolates, biscuits, crackers and toys to add to the stalls and because of this it really helped to make the fayre a success. I appreciate that the hall is a very small space and as such we are limited in what we can offer and of course relying on the weather to be good enough for outside stalls, plus a lack of lighting minimises what we can offer. As always the hall was jam packed but we had fun! Thank you to all who bought raffle tickets - the winners were drawn towards the end of the event. I am pleased to announce the following prize winners:

1st Prize Angelina Di Rosa 1M

2nd Prize Vee Sibanda

3rd Prize Juan David Anton Bohorquez

4th Prize Malou Cultura

Still on the theme of thanks I would like to say it was great to see so many parents at both the Reception Nativity and Nursery singalong this week, it was evident that you were all so proud of your children and their achievements and you are truly in the mood to say Christmas has officially started! It will be the turn of parents with children in Years 1 & 2 next Friday and finally Years 5 & 6 will finish the festivities with their carol concert in St Agnes' church on Thursday 18th December at 5.00pm (Year 3 & 4 will not be performing a Christmas concert this year but will instead prepare an easter celebration - something for us to look forward to!).

Wishing you all a great weekend,

Susan 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>

Supporting Trauma

Coffee morning @ St. Agnes'
Primary School

Part two on Tuesday

9th December 2025

From 9:00 – 9:30



chibird

**Come along, have a coffee
and meet with our
Educational Psychologist, Dr.
Ghowrigah Parameswaran to
learn more about Trauma,
what it means and how we
can further support
ourselves and our children.
All parents welcome.**



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.

Christmas Jumpers

Please note children can wear their Christmas jumpers (over their uniform) on Wednesday 10th December for our Christmas Lunch day and on Friday 19th December (last day of term) for our Christmas singalong.



School Holidays

A reminder of the forthcoming Christmas holidays - we break up on Fri 19th December at 1.45pm and we return on Tuesday 6th January (Monday 5th is an Inset day).

We are receiving a large number of requests to take children out of school early to travel and visit family abroad. Whilst we fully appreciate that the cost of travel increases the closer it gets to Christmas, this is experienced by us all.

Parents are not permitted to take their children out of school to travel and almost all requests (with the exception of bereavement with evidence) is not authorised and you will be issued with a fixed penalty notice from Barnet.

The image is a promotional poster for a 'Coffee Morning' event. It features a background photograph of three cups of coffee with latte art on a wooden table, with a sprig of rosemary on the right. A black banner at the top left reads 'COFFEE MORNING' in white capital letters. In the center, there is a white square containing the 'REACH OUT' logo, which consists of the word 'REACH' in black above the word 'OUT' in white on a purple arrow pointing right. Below the logo is the hashtag '#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK'. At the bottom left, black text invites people to the event on Friday 16th January at 9:00.

COFFEE MORNING

**REACH
OUT**
#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

You are invited to come along on Friday
16th January at 9:00 to discuss how
we support behaviour to be good at St
Agnes, our antibullying work with the
children and answer any questions you
may have.

Year 5 Trip to Science Museum

Last Friday, Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the National Science Museum. In the morning, they explored the Space Gallery. They got to see spacesuits, spacecrafts and even a piece of the Moon!

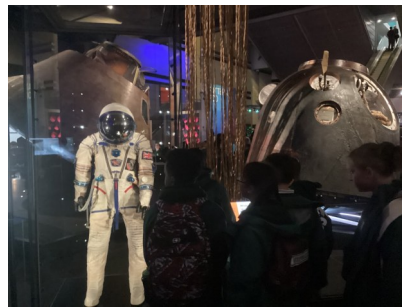
The children were especially excited to see the radio headset used by Neil Armstrong on his moon landing mission.

In the afternoon, children watched a 3D film at the IMAX cinema called A Beautiful Planet. The film was about the International Space Station and we saw spectacular views of the Earth from Space.

Year 5 loved seeing the astronauts celebrate Christmas in Space.



Miss Jones
Class Teacher



Choir Visits to Care Homes

Our choir visited Lansdowne Care Home on Thursday 4th December and Candlewood Care Home on Friday 5th December.

Choir sang the carols beautifully and brought some Christmas cheer to the residents of the care homes.

The residents enjoyed singing along and appreciated the visit from the children - thank you to the staff for welcoming us.

Children were well prepared and excited for their trips, and represented St Agnes well with their excellent behaviour and lovely performances.

Thank you to Mrs Gale and Mrs O'Reilly for accompanying us.

Mrs Rawlings

Music Teacher






SUPERKIND




YOUNG CHANGE-MAKER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION



Are you aged 4-18 and making the world a better place?
Could your story inspire tens of thousands of other young people?



SuperKind's Change-Maker of Year Competition
is looking for the UK's most amazing young change-makers.



Submissions can be made in text,
a video, or something visual.

Scan the QR code or visit

WWW.SUPERKIND.ORG/YOUNG-CHANGE-MAKER

for more information.

Entries close on December 19th 2025.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



The National College®

Class	Star of the Week
1C	Luca V
1M	Prince
2D	Zoe WM
2HK	Krystian
3FW	Dylan
3M	Maya
4I	Sura
4M	Daisy
5A	Thomas
5J	Kayden
6C	Isabella
6P	Leo
Reading Eggs	Aiden 2D
TT RockStars	Azzurra 3FW
French Certificate	Sean B 5A

Weekly Attendance		
Class	Attendance %	Number of Lates
RM	96	9
RZ	88	2
1C	96	5
1M	97	3
2D	98	2
2HK	98	3
3FW	93	7
3M	93	5
4I	95	2
4M	97	8
5A	93	1
5J	95	4
6C	94	3
6P	95	5
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.

Birthdays: up to 7th December 2025

3rd Luana Nursery
 5th Javier Nursery & Federico 1C
 6th Melissa 4M
 7th Hasib RM, Daniel 6P, Olivia 6C & Amelia Nursery



Thought of the Week

'Since love grows within you, so beauty grows. For love is the beauty of the soul'

St Augustine

