

Date: 09/10/2026

Issue: 06

# St Agnes' Weekly News

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

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[www.stagnesnw2.co.uk](http://www.stagnesnw2.co.uk)

## OCTOBER

12th Brent Cross Town trip  
Year 6 10:00am

13th— Chatty Children Workshop—nursery & reception parents, 9am

14th—Flu jabs Reception to Year 6

15th—Ben Kinsella workshop  
Year 6

15th—Phonics meeting for parents 9:00am

15th—Black History Workshops

14th—5N assembly 9:05am

16th—One Tree Day £1 donation—wear your own clothes

19th Golders Green Orienteering Trip Year 5

19th and 21st—Parents evenings 3.30 –6.00 pm

22nd - 5J assembly 9:05am

22nd - Science Museum  
Year 4

22nd— Year 2 Significant people dress up day

23rd - Pathways Day

23rd— Break up for Half Term

Dear Parents,

### **Black History Month**

This week we have launched Black History Month at St Agnes. Children took part in a nationwide virtual assembly to explore the meaning of Black History Month and learn about this year's theme, 'Honouring Our Communities.'

In reception the children have been learning about quilt making and the patterns used in black history, from Bible stories to telling of personal histories. They will be celebrating BHM using their math's knowledge of patterns to make quilts.

Across the rest of the school, children are taking part in workshops from the 'Big Foot Theatre Company'. They will be exploring the themes of 'Her Story' and 'Black and British'. The 'Her Story' workshops focus on struggles women faced, and consider the values we can adopt in our own lives to stand up for what is right. The children will learn about Black British inspirational women through a range of poetry, music and drama.

Children attending the, 'Black and British' workshops will celebrate Black British figures past and present, focusing on five inspiring individuals: Marcus Rashford, Malorie Blackman, Lenny Henry, Maggie Aderin-Pocock, and the Kanneh-Mason family. they will explore their stories through interactive games, storytelling and role-play.



Miss Duggan

(History Subject Leader)

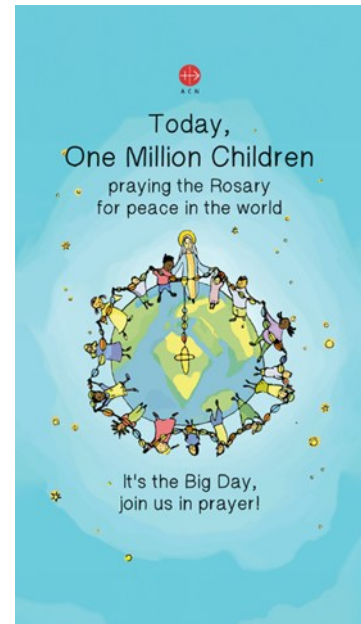
## **One Million Children**

On Thursday, the children had an assembly where they learnt about the launch of One Million Children praying the rosary for peace in the world. They learnt about the power of prayer and sharing peace with all those that we meet. Today's mission was to pray together for the people of Ukraine experiencing war.

We were reminded that October is significant for the rosary because it is a month dedicated to it. The children have been challenged with a competition where they can win a prize from the pope! It needs to include the message: a small heart brings peace. This can be in a variety of ways for example: baking, craft, drawing or dance. Please send entries to Miss Moran by Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

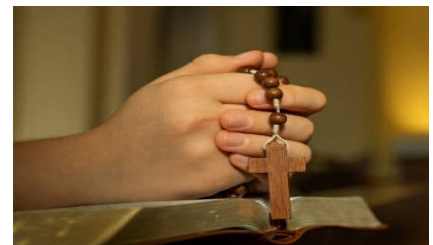


Miss Moran (Curriculum RE Leader)



## **Prayer Rosary Station**

Throughout October, our Pause and Pray Rosary Station will be open at lunchtime. Children are warmly invited to spend a few quiet moments in prayer, reflection, and contemplation as they learn more about and pray the Rosary. This provides a wonderful opportunity to deepen their faith and enjoy a peaceful space during the school day.



## St Francis Assembly

We were witnesses to a wonderful assembly on Wednesday, led by class 6M on the feast day of St Francis.

Through their recollection on the life of St Francis, the qualities he showed and the lessons he taught us we were reminded of his contribution to our lives today. St Francis was born into a rich family but gave away much of the wealth that came with this, as he didn't feel it was needed to live a good life. He instead devoted himself to work with the poor and needy, showing care for those around him a determination to care for animals. He was influential to others who wanted to live like him which is how the Franciscan Brothers came into being.

Class 6M reminded us to be more like St Francis in our stewardship of the earth, they reminded us of links to Catholic Social teaching and why we too need to be more like St Francis. As Pope Leo XIV has recognised it is 800 years since the death of St Francis we are being encouraged to remember his legacy, to bring harmony and repair discord where it exists around us.



### 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 essential 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.

### Maggie's Coffee Morning

#### **Maggie's Bake and Coffee Morning Sale**

A HUGE thank you to everyone who supported us last Friday in our endeavours to raise much needed funds for Maggie's Cancer Care at the Royal Free Hospital. Your cake donations and attendance at the coffee morning itself, plus the sale of cakes after school helped to raise **£600**. This will be sent off to them this week and I know they will be incredibly grateful for this generous donation.

Well done to Mrs Gale and the Social Action Leaders in Year 5 who gave up a lunchtime to count the money!



### Birthday Books



We are introducing a new system for each family to purchase a birthday book to celebrate their child's birthday. A payment of **£6** will show on every child's Arbor account and when it is your child's birthday, you can pay the amount. They will then go to the large basket of new books kept in Mrs Jones classroom that school has bought and select a brand new book for their class library. The book will have a dedication at the front to the child to celebrate their birthday and is dated - which will remain as a lasting gift for the class. This is a perfect way to remember their special day.



We are pleased to share the latest **Ten Ten Family Newsletter** with our families.

As a school, we make use of Ten Ten resources to support prayer, liturgy and faith formation, and this newsletter helps to extend that faith journey into the home. It provides ideas, reflections and activities to help families continue conversations about faith, prayer and Catholic life together.

We hope you enjoy reading it and find some of the suggestions helpful for your family.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

### **Headteacher Conference (14th—16th October)**

I will not be at the gate from Wednesday afternoon till Friday next week as I will be at the annual Barnet Headteacher Conference in Bournemouth. This is always a great time to be with colleagues and share initiatives which are working well in other schools. There is always something to learn and a new idea to return to school with!

### **Half Term Reminder**

Please note as per the school calendar we will break up for Half Term on Friday 23rd October at the usual time, with children returning on Tuesday 3rd November. School is closed to pupils on **Mon 2nd November** as this is an INSET day for staff which will be dedicated to RE, our core purpose as a Catholic school with some input from Fr Chinedu on the use of and church opinion on AI.

### **Parent Tours - Reception September 2027**

Should you know of any friends or neighbours considering St Agnes as a school for their Reception Child for next year, please can you let them know that our tours for prospective parents will be held on **Friday 6th November at 1.45pm and Tuesday 10th November at 9.30am**. A final tour will take place on **Friday 4th December at 9.15am**. Due to numbers attending we ask parents not to bring children with them. They do not need to book a place but can simply come along on any of the given dates.

### **E-Scooters**

Following advice from a number of sources, and due to the potential risks that e-scooters pose to pupils and school buildings, we have taken the decision to not allow e-scooters on school premises. Therefore, children and adults are not permitted to bring or ride e-scooters onto school property. For further information please check:

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/roads-and-pavements/road-safety/road-safety-education/driving-safely/e-scooters>

<https://capt.org.uk/e-scooters-and-children/>

<https://www.rospa.com/health-and-safety-news/addressing-the-rising-concern-of-e-bike-and-e-scooter-battery-hazards>

## BKK British Open 2026 Cup of Europe

Congratulations to Beatrice 5J 1st place for Beatrice at the BKK British open 2026, Cup of Europe 'My name is Beatrice and I do Kyokushin karate. On 3 October 2026, I took part in the BKK British Open 2026 at K2 Crawley and I won 1st place. It was a very exciting competition with karate fighters from different clubs and countries. '

Congratulations to George 5J

"Kyokushin karate is my passion. This year was very successful for me, I won three championships' British open 2026 wasn't easy for me I had very strong opponents who didn't give up and kept going forward. My goal is to reach National team of Great Britain and one day to represent United Kingdom for World Cups. "



## Transition to High School Workshop

On Tuesday, Year 5 and 6 had an insightful workshop delivered by Bishop Douglas. They explained to children about what to expect when they move to high school and how it is different to primary school. It was led by some past ex-pupils of St Agnes and it was lovely to see how they matured and settled in their new environment. At the end, the children had the chance to ask questions and find out more about the school.

Zara- I liked finding out about what secondary school would be like

Melissa - I enjoyed hearing about the range of subjects they learned and which subjects they enjoyed most.

Matteo - They told us about all the exciting trips they'd been on. It made me excited for secondary school!



ed

## Just One Tree Day – Friday 16th October

We are excited to be taking part in Just One Tree Day on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October!

To help support this fantastic cause, we are inviting the children to come to school wearing green or tree/nature-themed colours in exchange for a £1 donation.

Just One Tree is a wonderful initiative that helps tackle climate change by funding tree planting and supporting communities around the world.

We would love for everyone to get involved and help us make a difference.

Thank you for your support

## Our school is taking part in **JUST ONE Tree Day!**

### WHAT IS IT?

A day of worldwide schools' climate action, where a tree is planted for every child.

### WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

Nothing, except send your child into school wearing something green and make a donation. Every £1 plants a tree for their future.

### WHO ARE JUST ONE Tree?

A global non-profit and part of the **United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration**, they fight climate change on land and in the oceans through global reforestation.

*JUST £1 plants 1 Tree*



#### Your kids will be:

- Funding trees where they're needed the most
- Lifting communities out of poverty
- Helping prevent deforestation
- Learning about the importance of protecting our natural world



[www.justonetree.life](http://www.justonetree.life)



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>

### **PE KIT DAYS**

#### **PE Kit Days**

| <b>Year Group</b> | <b>PE Kit Days</b>  |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Reception         | Wednesday           |
| Year 1            | Monday & Thursday   |
| Year 2            | Wednesday & Friday  |
| Year 3            | Monday & Tuesday    |
| Year 4            | Tuesday & Wednesday |
| Year 5            | Wednesday & Tuesday |
| Year 6            | Tuesday & Thursday  |

### **Assembly Dates**

|          |    |
|----------|----|
| 14/10/26 | 5N |
| 22/10/26 | 5J |
| 11/11/26 | 3M |
| 19/11/26 | 4I |
| 26/11/26 | 3D |

### **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 Lisa Pate).

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.

## School Council

At St Agnes, we have a wonderful school council who work together to ensure every pupil's voice is heard. One of the first items on the council's agenda this year was to rewrite our school prayer. The children worked hard together to keep the school values at the centre of our prayer, while also refreshing it!

Dear God,  
Help us to always be honest and fair, to respect one another  
and to persevere when life feels challenging.  
Guide us to follow Your example of showing equality to others.  
Help us to be the best people we can be, and to encourage and  
support those around us.  
Fill our hearts with love, kindness and compassion, so that we  
can make a difference to others each day.  
The family of St Agnes loves, learns and grows together as  
followers of Jesus.  
Amen



### School Council 2026/2027

Year 1: Martha, Aidan, Ariya, Raphael  
Year 2: Andrii, Natasha, Isabella, Anthony  
Year 3: Josia, Isabella, Raffie, Eva-Lucia  
Year 4: Kamil, Azzura, Rien, Julia  
Year 5: Melissa, George, Mehdi, Emily  
Year 6: Daniel, Olivia, Cairo, Abigail

## *Superheroes Save Planet Earth!*

*This week, Year 1 and 2 took part in a Perform drama workshop with Good Boppa, a superhero from Planet Hero. The children helped Good Boppa as he travelled into the future and discovered that Earth is in danger from waste, pollution and the mischievous Party People led by the Bad Boppa. The workshop linked to our RE topic of Creation and Covenant which allowed the children to explore how they can help take care of God's creation.*



*Ayla: We travelled into space!*

*Sean: It was so much fun.*

*Liam: We met a super hero.*

*Martha: The superheroes were really cool. I like helping to save the planet.*



# Santa's GROTTO

Wednesday 2nd December 2026



Children from Nursery to Year 6  
will have the opportunity to visit  
Santa's Grotto in school from  
**9am until 3pm.**

If you would like your child to visit  
Santa and receive a gift there will be  
a small charge of **£8 per child** which  
will go towards buying the presents  
and wrapping paper.



Arbor

Payment can be done via  
**Arbor** under **Trips.**



Deadline for payment is  
**16th October 2026 at 3pm.**

Payments made after this date will be refunded.



**SNAP STREAK**

**97**  
**DAYS**

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
**13+**

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

#### PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

#### MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

#### SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

#### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

#### ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

#### UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

#### BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

#### FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

#### ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



**#WakeUpWednesday**

**The National College**

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

@wake\_up\_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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| Class               | Star of the Week   |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| RC                  | Annabelle          |
| RZ                  | Francesca          |
| 1M                  | Martha             |
| 1AM                 | Kenzley            |
| 2D                  | Natasha            |
| 2HK                 | Juaquin            |
| 3D                  | James              |
| 3M                  | Amelia-Jane        |
| 4R                  | Elisiana           |
| 4I                  | Theodore           |
| 5N                  | Liana              |
| 5J                  | Laura              |
| 6M                  | Michal             |
| 6P                  | Alexander          |
| <b>French</b>       | Olivia (6M)        |
| <b>Reading Eggs</b> | Noah (2HK)         |
| <b>TT Rockstars</b> | 4R 100% engagement |

### *Birthdays: up to 11th October 2026*

7th Oct—Evalucia (3D), Valentino (3M),

8th Oct—Jayden (4R),

9th Oct—Noah (2HK)

10th Oct—Shireen (5N)

11th Oct—Evangel (4R), Siera (3M), Zara (3D)



| Weekly Attendance |              |                 |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Class             | Attendance % | Number of Lates |
| RC                | 94.3%        | 11              |
| RZ                | 96.1%        | 5               |
| 1M                | 98.3%        | 4               |
| 1AM               | 97.1%        | 5               |
| 2D                | 97.7%        | 15              |
| 2HK               | 98.3%        | 9               |
| 3D                | 95.0%        | 2               |
| 3M                | 96.3%        | 4               |
| 4R                | 96.9%        | 11              |
| 4I                | 94.1%        | 8               |
| 5N                | 99.3%        | 0               |
| 5J                | 98.3%        | 0               |
| 6M                | 97.4%        | 8               |
| 6P                | 96.3%        | 12              |

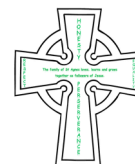
### Pupil Premium:

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*

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy'.



St Francis of Assisi