



St Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy

We grow and learn as a family in the footsteps of Jesus



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<https://www.facebook.com/staugustinescva>

LET US PRAY

**Come Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove,
With light and comfort from above.**

**Be Thou our Guardian, Thou our Guide,
Stay close by every child's side.**

Amen



A MESSAGE FROM MRS COX, HEADTEACHER

What a lovely week we've had at St Augustine's! On Tuesday we had Collective Worship assembly with a liturgy led by our Year 4/5 Willow class. The children spoke to the whole school about the importance of commitment, and how we can all stand by promises that we make within our families and in school. I was particularly struck by the mature attitude that our Willow pupils had towards this subject, and I am so proud of them all for their hard work.

You will have received my letter this week detailing the outcome of our recent OFSTED report. or perhaps seen the article in the Stamford Mercury. Once again, I would like to thank all of our staff for their support and work over the past year, and also to all of you: the parents, carers and grandparents of our pupils. Your support and kind words to the OFSTED inspectors meant so much to us all.

Education and learning is not only important for our pupils, but continuing professional development happens for our staff all of the time - even me! I have been at a conference yesterday and today with many other primary and secondary school headteachers from across the Nottingham Diocese. Tom Bennet, DofE Behaviour Advisor, led day 1 with the importance of leading behaviour culture in schools. Day 2 was led by Mgr. Mark Crisp, and focused on the day to day reality of Catholic service leadership and how to maintain a strong relationship with God in today's challenging world. It has also been a great time for leaders to meet and learn from the best practice across our many excellent schools. I am very much looking forward to bringing this learning back to my staff team and pupils in school!

As always, please log in to your Seesaw app to see what your child's class have been up to this week - wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Cox



NETBALL

Last night, Thursday 10th Nov, we participated in our last netball fixture of this academic year. We played against Uffington school and unfortunately lost 11-5. I am so proud of how well the team has gelled together and support each other throughout each game.

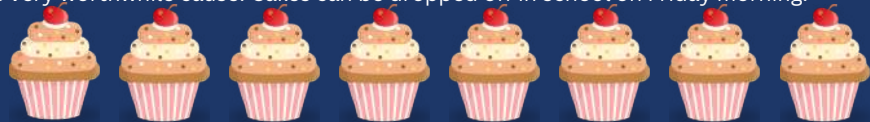
I'm extremely proud of everything that everyone has achieved whether it's playing a new sport and competing for the school for the first time, or playing their last netball matches of their primary school lives! Thank you to all of the parents who came to support us during this tournament - it was highly appreciated.

Congratulations to Harri who received Player of the Match last night. You have all done so well and I can definitely say that you have all made the school unbelievably proud!

CHILDREN IN NEED BAKE SALE - FRIDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

Yesterday the School Council met to discuss how they would like to raise money for Children in Need which takes place on Friday 18th November. The children have decided that for a £1 donation, everyone can come to school in their own clothes that day. The theme this year is 'SPOTACULAR!' We are not asking you to buy new clothing but to recycle current clothing with spots - paper spots safety pinned on or round stickers will be absolutely fine.

Please ensure clothes and shoes are suitable for a day in school. Please send your £1 donation into school on Friday in a named envelope. We will also be holding a bake sale in the dining hall from 3pm. Children and parents will be able to buy a cake/cookie etc for 50p. Any donations, either brought or homemade with all ingredients listed please (no nuts) would be gratefully received and sold in aid of this very worthwhile cause. Cakes can be dropped off in school on Friday morning.



SAINT MARTIN OF TOURS - FEAST DAY 11TH NOVEMBER



"Lord, if your people still need me, I do not refuse the work. Your work will be done."

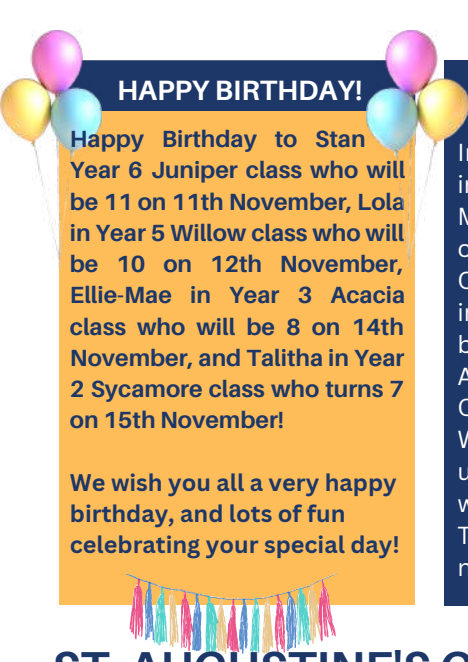
A conscientious objector who wanted to be a monk; a monk who was maneuvered into being a bishop; a bishop who fought paganism as well as pleaded for mercy to heretics—such was Martin of Tours, one of the most popular of saints and one of the first not to be a martyr.

Born of pagan parents in what is now Hungary, and raised in Italy, this son of a veteran was forced at the age of 15 to serve in the army. Martin became a Christian catechumen and was baptized when he was 18. It was said that he lived more like a monk than a soldier. At 23, he refused a war bonus and told his commander: "I have served you as a soldier; now let me serve Christ. Give the bounty to those who are going to fight. But I am a soldier of Christ and it is not lawful for me to fight." After great difficulties, he was discharged and went to be a disciple of Hilary of Poitiers.

He was ordained an exorcist and worked with great zeal against the Arians. Martin became a monk, living first at Milan and later on a small island. When Hilary was restored to his see following his exile, Martin returned to France and established what may have been the first French monastery near Poitiers. He lived there for 10 years, forming his disciples and preaching throughout the countryside.

The people of Tours demanded that he become their bishop. Martin was drawn to that city by a ruse—the need of a sick person—and was brought to the church, where he reluctantly allowed himself to be consecrated bishop. Some of the consecrating bishops thought his rumpled appearance and unkempt hair indicated that he was not dignified enough for the office.

Along with Saint Ambrose, Martin rejected Bishop Ithacius's principle of putting heretics to death—as well as the intrusion of the emperor into such matters. He prevailed upon the emperor to spare the life of the heretic Priscillian. For his efforts, Martin was accused of the same heresy, and Priscillian was executed after all. Martin then pleaded for a cessation of the persecution of Priscillian's followers in Spain. He still felt he could cooperate with Ithacius in other areas, but afterwards his conscience troubled him about this decision.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday to Stan Year 6 Juniper class who will be 11 on 11th November, Lola in Year 5 Willow class who will be 10 on 12th November, Ellie-Mae in Year 3 Acacia class who will be 8 on 14th November, and Talitha in Year 2 Sycamore class who turns 7 on 15th November!

We wish you all a very happy birthday, and lots of fun celebrating your special day!



ODD SOCKS DAY - MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

In order to raise awareness for Anti-Bullying Week, we are inviting our pupils to come to school in odd socks on Monday 14 November. The socks can be any colour, pattern or size.

Odd Socks Day is a nationwide initiative to send an important message to pupils that they should be allowed to be themselves free from bullying. It helps us to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a fun and positive way.

Odd Socks Day takes place on the first day of Anti Bullying Week, to help raise awareness for the fact that all of us are unique. This links closely to our PSHE topic this half term which is all about 'Celebrating Differences.'

The rest of your child's school uniform should be worn as normal.



REMEMBRANCE DAY



Our Year 6 Juniper class represented our school this morning at the Royal British Legion Remembrance Day Service in Stamford.

Here's Jake and Emilia with the beautiful wreath that was laid at the War Memorial.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S CVA YOUTH COUNCIL

On Wednesday, our Youth Council representatives, Charlie, Harri and Eliana, attended the Stamford Youth Council meeting at the Town Hall! We were the only primary school in attendance other than the Malcolm Sargent primary school. The meeting lasted about an hour, and the agenda included an introduction to everyone, an explanation of what happens at Stamford Town Council, a discussion as to why a youth council is being set up, and input from all representatives as to what is important to them - well done, everyone!



ART POP-UP WORKSHOP - TUESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

On Tuesday we welcomed local artist, Sam Roddan, into school to host an art pop-up for some of our families!

It was lovely to see everybody being so creative - thanks to all of our families who attended, and to Sam for her time and skills!



OPEN DAY - WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

On Wednesday we welcomed lots of prospective new 2023 families into our school for our open day! Our visitors looked around our whole school, in particular our Early Years Cedar classroom, and met with Miss Darby and Mrs Cox to hear lots of information about our school. Arthur and Autumn, our teddy mascots, looked very smart in their special school uniforms to welcome everybody to our school!

