



# 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>

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation, and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.



### CHRISTMAS FAIR

We would like to say a huge thank you to Wendy McDonald, Tanya Milojevic and Lara Kurys from F.O.S.A for all of the hard work and planning that went in to organising our wonderful Christmas Fair that took place last night, Thursday 8th Dec.

The school was full of Christmas cheer with all of the amazing stalls. Thank you all for coming along and supporting this event, and thank you to Santa Claus for taking time out of his very busy schedule to come and see all of the boys and girls of St. Augustine's CVA.



### A MESSAGE FROM MRS COX, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

Thank you all so much for coming to support the children in their two performances of their amazing Christmas production on Wednesday! It was so lovely to see the hall full of families, and to see all of the children sing and dance their hearts out for us. We are so proud of them all - almost every child in school was up on stage during the performance, from our adorable Early Years sheep right through to comedy turns from our oldest pupils in our Year 6 class, and heavenly singing from our whole school; it was certainly the most wonderful way to start our countdown to Christmas.

Thank you to Mrs Oliver for all of the fantastic work that went in to put on our production, and to each and every staff member for every hour that they have spent rehearsing with the children, creating backdrops and props, organising costumes and for supporting the children throughout.

The message of the true meaning of Christmas was conveyed beautifully by all of the children throughout the whole performance, and you will have noticed that many of our school virtues were on display during the performance, both within the script and from the children themselves - Love and Respect, Friendship and Kindness, Honesty and Forgiveness, Hope and Confidence, Love of Neighbour and Self Control, and Love of Learning and Determination. A standing ovation from you all at the end of the evening performance was just wonderful for all of the children and staff to see, and brought us all so much joy.

Our Advent theme this week is 'Joy'. Sunday 11th December is the third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means 'rejoice!', and Mass on Sunday will start with the words **"Rejoice! Rejoice in the Lord always! Again, I say rejoice!"** from Philippians 4:4. What is joy? The dictionary defines joy as an emotion of great delight or happiness caused by something exceptionally good or satisfying. It is also defined as a state of happiness or felicity. In Catholicism, joy is a state of soul equated with happiness and it is also defined as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Click [here](#) to listen to The King's Singers performance of 'Gaudete'.

Throughout the season of Advent, the Church uses many symbols to help us understand the significance of God becoming one of us, through the birth of Jesus. The lighting of the pink candle of the Advent Wreath reminds us that Christmas is almost here.

Wishing you a joyful weekend ahead,

Mrs Cox



### INSPIRE+ CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY AND FOOD CAMP!

Grantham, Spalding & Stamford

Dates: Christmas holidays - various dates

Timings: 09:30 - 15:30 Ages: 5 to 16

Price: FREE! This provision is free to access for children in receipt of free school meals or who meet other eligibility criteria. There will also be limited paid places available to book for £18 per child per day, or £24 per child per day including lunch and snacks.

Come and join us for lots of fully inclusive festive fun including games, music, cooking, arts, crafts, challenges & sporting activities!

Each day there will be a hot, nutritious meal at lunch time and healthy snacks.

All you need to bring is a drink, warm clothing and wear suitable clothing for being active!

To book please go to:

<https://inspireplus.magicbooking.co.uk/Identity/Account/Login>

If you have any questions, please do get in contact with inspire+ by calling 01476 578137 or emailing [emma.sharpe@inspireplus.org.uk](mailto:emma.sharpe@inspireplus.org.uk)



### ST MARYS AND ST AUGUSTINE CHURCH - CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Sat 24th Dec: 6pm - Vigil Mass beginning with Nativity Story

Sat 24th Dec: 11.30pm - Office of Readings followed by Midnight Mass

Sun 25th Dec: 9am - Dawn Mass of Christmas

Sun 25th Dec: 11am - Day Mass of Christmas





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday to Ava in Year 5 who will be 10 on 11th December, and to Nazim in Year 4 who turns 9 on 11th December!

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

## CAROL SINGING AT MORRISONS!

On Wednesday 14th December, our Year 4, 5 and 6 children will be singing Christmas carols at Morrisons in Stamford! We will be leaving school at 9:30am and will be singing from 10:00 11:30am.

If anyone would like to accompany our classes when walking down to Morrison's, please get in touch with your class teacher or email the office on [enquiries@st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk) to let us know. We'd be very grateful for your support.

It would be really great to see lots of parents, grandparents, friends and neighbours listening to our lovely singing, so please do consider doing your shopping next Wednesday, between 10.00 and 11.30am and spread the word for others to do the same!

## ATTENDANCE



Our whole school attendance this week was 89.28%. Our attendance by class is as follows:

Cedar - 76%  
Sycamore - 95.17%  
Acacia - 87.04%  
Willow - 87.76%  
Juniper - 97.08%

70 of our pupils had 100% attendance at school this week.

Please click [here](#) to link to the gov.uk website for more information on attendance and absence.

## CONGRATULATIONS, FATHER PETER!

On Wednesday 7th December, Father Peter was installed as Canon of our Cathedral Chapter in a special service at St Barnabus Cathedral in Nottingham. After Mass in church on Sunday, parishioners presented Father Peter with a beautiful cake and a special card. Congratulations, Father Peter, from all of us at St. Augustine's CVA.



## CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION PHOTOS - WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER



## GROUP A STREPTOCOCCAL (STREP A) INFECTIONS AND SCARLET FEVER

You will have heard or read about several cases nationwide, and we wanted to give you some advice regarding both conditions.

For more information on Streptococcal A infections, please click [here](#) follow this link to the NHS website.

For more information on Scarlet Fever, please click [here](#) to follow this link to the NHS website.



Persons with Strep A are more likely to suffer from throat infections, impetigo (which we have had recently in school), scarlet fever, cellulitis or other more serious illnesses.

Strep A and scarlet fever start with symptoms such as high fever, severe muscle aches, pain in one area of the body and unexplained vomiting or diarrhoea. If you or your child suffers from these, the UK Health Security Agency recommends contacting NHS 111 and seeking medical help immediately. Both are usually treated with antibiotics.

If any member of your family suffers from either of these infections, please take medical advice about returning to school and any exclusion periods.