

St. Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy



Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



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A MESSAGE FROM MRS COX

Wow, what a great week we've had to round up this term, and what a lovely turn out we had to our Open Classrooms event on Wednesday afternoon; thank you all so much for your support.

The DfE have sent guidance out to all school leaders on key attendance practices, and have shared a resource from the NHS called 'Is my child too ill for school?'. This is a really informative guide to childhood illnesses and can be accessed [here](#). Every week I meet with Mrs Garland and Mrs Coleman to review attendance on a Monday morning, in line with our Trust policy. Whilst I know that some illnesses – like my own this week – are unavoidable, we also need to follow our policy robustly due to the huge importance of everyone being in school as much as possible. If you feel you need support with your child's attendance, please click [here](#) to read some helpful information from the Children's Commissioner.

A reminder that the Seesaw app should not be used to communicate anything other than learning messages with the teacher – absence, collection information and anything else must be communicated through your Arbor app, or by telephoning the school, in case the teacher is off that day and doesn't see the message in time. Thank you for your continued support of our apps and for your communication with us.

We have Mass for the whole school on Wednesday 1st November to celebrate All Saints Day - families are welcome to join us at 1.30pm.

The FoSA Light Party is on Thursday 2nd Nov from 4.30pm until 6.00pm - this will be a lovely event for the whole school. A hotdog and refreshments are included in the £3 ticket price.

Wishing you all a lovely half term break; we have an inset day on Monday 30th October and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 31st October.

Mrs Cox



VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to all of the recipients of this week's Virtue Certificates:

Sycamore Class - Jack - **Love & Respect for wonderful focus and listening.**

Olive Class - Talitha - **Honesty & Forgiveness**

Acacia Class - Elspeth - **Love of Learning & Determination for always giving everything her all!**

Willow Class - Aurora - **Love of Learning & Determination in lessons..**

Juniper Class - Jenson - **Love of Learning & Determination for his super improvement in writing.**

Well done to you all! We are all very proud of you.



LET US PRAY

Oh, St. John Paul, from the window of heaven, grant us your blessing! Bless the Church that you loved and served and guided, courageously leading her along the paths of the world in order to bring Jesus to everyone and everyone to Jesus. Bless the young, who were your great passion. Help them dream again, help them look up to the heavens again to find the light that illuminates the paths of life here on earth.

May you bless each and every family! You warned of Satan's assault against this precious and indispensable divine spark that God lit on earth. St. John Paul, with your prayer, may you protect the family and every life that blossoms from the family.

Pray for the whole world, which is still marked by tensions, wars and injustice. You opposed war by invoking dialogue and planting the seeds of love: pray for us so that we may be tireless sowers of peace.

Oh St. John Paul, from heaven's window, where we see you beside Mary, send God's blessing down upon us all.

Amen.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



We have lots of birthdays being celebrated over the half term!

Flynn in Willow class will reach double figures when he turns 10 on 28th October.

Our Sycamore class twins, Anastasia and David, will be 6 on 29th October, and Emilia in Olive class who will be 8 the same day!

Luke in Juniper class will be 11 on 30th October, and Ava-Lilly from Sycamore class turns 7 on the same day!

Lucy in Olive class turns 8 on 2nd November.

Happy birthday from everyone at St. Augustine's!

We hope you have lots of fun celebrating your very special days.



POPE JOHN PAUL II

Feast Day

SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER

Pope Saint John Paul II was born Karol Wojtyla (voy-TIH-wah) in the small Polish town of Wadowice. During World War II, when the Nazis invaded Poland, Karol secretly studied for the priesthood in an underground seminary established by the archbishop of Krakow. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1946. In 1964, Father Karol was appointed archbishop of Krakow; just three years later he was made a cardinal. In 1978, Cardinal Wojtyla was elected Pope, the 264th in the Church's history. He took the name John Paul II. He began his papacy on Oct. 22 by telling the world, "Be not afraid"; his life showed everyone that to change the world, we must "cast into the deep for a great catch."

From the start of his papacy, Pope John Paul II made evangelization a key part of his mission, and made pastoral visits to all parts of the world. In 1981, a Turk named Mehmet Ali Agca shot the Pope twice in an assassination attempt and wounded him. Following Jesus' example of forgiveness and compassion for the sinner, Pope John Paul II later met with Agca in his prison cell and, gently speaking to him of the forgiveness of Christ, forgave him for what he had done.

Pope John Paul II died April 2, 2005, and he was declared blessed on May 1, 2011.

He was declared a saint on April 27, 2014 along with Pope John XXIII. .

GREEN TEAM LAUDATO SI

This week, our Green team has been celebrating National Recycling Week. The children learnt about what happens to our waste and looked at ways in which we could reduce the amount of plastic going into landfill.

At our Open Classrooms event, our Green Team challenged our visitors and children to sort a pile of rubbish into the different recycling categories. A reminder that **Monday 6th November** is our next Green Team meeting after school, and the School Council will have their next meeting on **Monday 13th November**.

- Mrs T



VISIT FROM SAM RUDDOCK

We had a lovely visit on Thursday from Sam Ruddock. Sam is a Paralympic track cycling athlete who represented Great Britain in the F35 classification in the 100 metres and shot put events, for athletes with cerebral palsy. He is the British Record holder for the F35 Shot Put and the C1 Kilometre Time Trial, specialising in the track sprint events.

Sam gave a special talk to all of us about how to 'Be Your Best', and we all joined in with lots of interesting questions for Sam.



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 89.9%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

- Cedar** - 90.53%
- Sycamore** - 92.88%
- Olive** - 89.31%
- Acacia** - 86.11%
- Willow** - 89.55%
- Juniper** - 91.43%

Being around teachers and friends in a school environment is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.

For more information, please visit the gov.uk website [here](#),

SYCAMORE CLASS

Our Year 1/2 Sycamore Class have been learning how to sign in to laptops and access applications in their ICT lesson. The children enjoyed experimenting with Sketchpad yesterday afternoon.



WILLOW CLASS

This week in computing, Mrs Taylor set the Willow Class children an important task. The children created their own e-safety posters, sharing all the top tips that they have learned about being safe online.



Margarita with her amazing work!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUST LAY CHAPLAIN, MRS LUCY WRIGHT

It has been a privilege to begin to get to know the wonderful pupils and staff at Saint Augustine's throughout the first half of the Advent term. As this term draws to a close, we have found ourselves thinking back to Education Sunday which occurred on 10th September, and we have spent time reflecting upon our own experiences within Catholic education. It was a joy to share a special Celebration of the Word together based on this theme and hear some of the pupils' own opinions on why their time in Catholic education has been so special. One reason why Catholic education is so special is because we look for opportunities to encounter God, and we make it our mission to help others encounter His love too through our own words and actions. As this academic year continues, we will explore this important theme of 'encounter' more, and our own reflections regarding what makes Saint Augustine's a special school will form part of a new display linked to this.



- Mrs Wright – Lay Chaplain

GUS SAYS...

"Happy half term to all of my St. Augustine's friends!"



ACCELERATED READING

A reminder that children are able to log in to their Accelerated Reader accounts from home to complete quizzes and earn points. The following URL must be used to access our school portal: [Accelerated Reading](#).

Your child will receive a letter today with log in details so they can quiz during the half term holiday. Please note the website also contains some non-fiction texts that children can quiz on anytime.

You can also find out which books have quizzes by following the website link [here](#).

- Mrs Oliver



Congratulations to the following pupils who have now achieved their Million Word badge: **Mia Sinclair - 1,526,470 words** **Rose Hawkins - 1,156,563 words**, and **Sylvie Erskine - 1,353,472 words**; well done, girls!

SCHOOL UNIFORM CONSULTATION

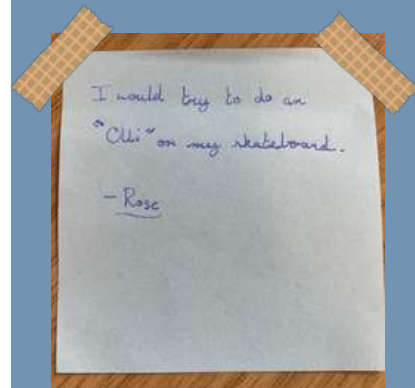


With permission from our multi-academy trust, I would like to begin the initial consultation with stakeholders, regarding the possibility of updating the school uniform. Any changes made would not become available until September 2024 at the earliest, and would be phased in over a two year period. We would really appreciate it if you would be happy to help us by giving your thoughts on the form [here](#), including as many comments and suggestions as you wish. Once I have gathered these in on the deadline of Monday 6th November, I would like to convene a working party to begin looking at the cost and availability of uniform locally and online, consulting with possible suppliers. I will then be able to meet with the CMAT marketing team in January with initial consultation and research findings. Please indicate within the form if you would like to be involved in the working party.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts and opinions.

- Mrs Cox

I AM BRAVE...



We recently had discussions around what it means to #bebrave and how we can help our wellbeing to mark Youth Mental Health Day Over the next few weeks, we'll add a sticky note here from one of the children with their example of being brave or how they think wellbeing can be improved.

TUESDAY 24TH OCTOBER - HORRIBLE HISTORIES EVENT AT STAMFORD LIBRARY



Pop down to Stamford Library on Tues 24th Oct between 10am and 11.30am for some Horrible Histories themed crafts and activities for children!

WELL DONE!

Ava in our Year 6 Juniper class has gone above and beyond with some wonderful work this week! We have been reading The Golden Horseman of Baghdad and Ava has drawn this amazing map detailing all of the places visited in the book - well done, Ava!

- Mrs Oliver

