

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

St. Augustine's children have had another wonderful week of learning. We started the week marking Anti-Bullying week with Odd Sock Day, and we have ended the week being very SPOTacular for Children In Need. Some of the spotty outfits today show just how creative and talented our children are. Thank you all for going the extra mile for Children In Need today; Pudsey is very proud.

We have also been celebrating World Nursery Rhyme Week - please pop to our Facebook page to watch our staff showing that nursery rhymes can be fun at any age!

I had the pleasure of spending some time with three of our Year 6 Juniper girls, Sylvie, Evie and Rose. They chatted to me about their writing and explained that they were composing letters from a character in their class book, The Last Bear. As a headteacher, it really is amazing to watch children progress during their school life; from learning how to put sounds together in Early Years Phonics to being able to sit and write so effortlessly and imaginatively in Year 6. All three girls received Headteacher Awards for demonstrating our school virtues of confidence, determination and love of learning; you will see some photos of the girls' beautiful handwriting over on our Facebook page.

FoSA raffle tickets for the Christmas Fair on Thurs 14th December are available at the front office if you'd like to purchase some more, and today is the last day to order your child's special Christmas cards through 'Class Fundraising'!



Art Pop-Up, MindSpace Stamford and George's Food Hub have joined forces for a new initiative, Family Winter Warm Spaces. Every Thursday evening until March 2024, they will be at the Free Church here on Kesteven Road to offer a free evening meal and creative corner for children and adults in a warm, cosy and friendly space. Take a book, your homework or just go and hang out for a while. Please book your place by clicking [here](#) and scrolling to 'Thursday' events.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,
Mrs Cox

VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

Cedar Class - Wilbur - **Love of Learning & Determination** - superb phonics work!

Sycamore Class - Renzo - **Love of Learning & Determination**

Olive Class - Ezra - **Love & Respect**

Acacia Class - Stanley - **Hope & Confidence**

Willow Class - Mia - **Hope & Confidence**

Juniper Class - Luke - **Love of Learning & Determination**

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

LET US PRAY

As we venerate the glorious memory of the most holy Virgin Mary, grant, we pray, O Lord, through her intercession, that we, too, may merit to receive from the fullness of your grace.

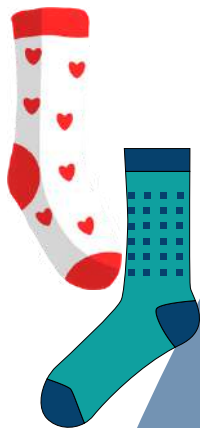
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.



ODD SOCKS DAY!

We had a wonderful array of odd socks on Monday to mark the beginning of Anti-Bullying Week! Here's some of our St. Augustine's staff celebrating their uniqueness in their odd socks.



FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TUESDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

When Mary was asked to be the mother of the Saviour, she was completely free to accept or reject the offer. Her response, "Let it be done to me," was a great act of faith. Because she did not understand what was happening, she must have known that there would be difficulties ahead.

She replied yes to the angel's announcement and agreed to become the mother of Jesus, and the Church declared Mary to be the Mother of God.

The feast of the presentation of Mary dates back to the 6th century in the East and the 15th century in the West. It is based on an ancient tradition that says Mary was taken to the temple in Jerusalem when she was 3-years-old and dedicated to God.

What we celebrate on this day is the fact that God chose to dwell in Mary in a very special way. In response, Mary placed her whole self at the service of God.

E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MACKENZIE AT WWW.ESAFETY-ADVISER.COM

Resource - Primary and Parents - Lego Build and Talk

Lego, makers of those plastic bricks that really hurt when you step on them, have created some wonderful activities for children aged 6-9 years which I think would be very useful for parents and the classroom. There are six different topics which are designed to help children navigate the online world safely, including conversation starters. The topics include cyber bullying, screen time, false information and others. All the activities and resources are free. See [HERE](#) for further information.



For Parents - Helping Children Create a Kinder World Online

At the moment there seems to be so much hate online and being reported in the media. In this article from Internet Matters, 3 experts (including myself) discuss how to create a kinder world online to promote positivity and kindness. You can see the Internet Matters article [HERE](#).

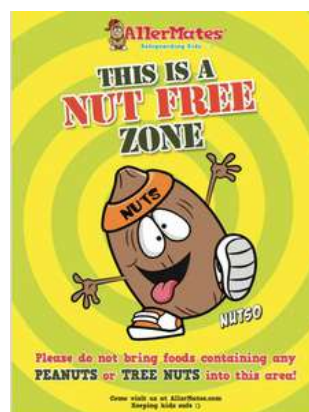
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - THURS 14TH DEC

We are having our St. Augustine's Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 14th December! This is going to be a wonderful day at St. Augustine's as we are going to see the pantomime at the Stamford Corn Exchange in the morning, and then we will come back to school for our whole school Christmas lunch...and then we have the FoSA Christmas Fair!

Children can come to school in their Christmas jumper with their school uniform but there is no pressure for you to go out and buy a Christmas jumper. We will have a donation box in the front reception area if you are able to donate any pre-loved Christmas jumpers, and a box for any pre-loved baubles and tinsel etc that the children could use to jazz up their school jumpers on the day.



ST. AUGUSTINE'S - NUT FREE ZONE



A reminder that we are now a nut free school due to a child with a nut allergy. This includes snack bars and foods that contain nuts. Please support our nut free school.

INSPIRE+ AMBASSADOR ASSEMBLY DAI JONES

On Wednesday, we had a visit from an inspire+ ambassador, Dai Jones.

Dai is a professional track and field Olympic gold medal athlete who specialises in the 400m hurdles and has represented Wales and Great Britain at the highest level.

Dai chatted to us about the importance of sportsmanship in any sport; how to treat your team members and opposition with respect, how to remain resilient when you or your team lose, and how to be gracious in defeat as we won't win all of the time.

Dai also spoke to us about self-control and how to be gracious when celebrating our victories and being mindful of our opponents feelings, and reminded us to not give up when we're losing. So many of the things that Dai spoke to us about connect with our school virtues that we practice every day.



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 93.54%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Cedar - 92.94%

Sycamore - 95.24%

Olive - 93.06%

Acacia - 99.26%

Willow - 91.92%

Juniper - 89.68%

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](http://www.gov.uk) website [here](#),

OLIVE CLASS - THIS WEEK

Our Year 3 Olive Class have had so much fun using the Scratch programme in their I.T learning this week.

They had to follow instructions to create an animation and then edit it to make it better. Here's Luna's:



Olive Class also had a brilliant practical Science lesson with Mrs Mumford; they made predictions, then investigated what would happen to beads with and without sun cream. The classroom smelled of summer on a cold November day!



CHILDREN IN NEED - FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

Our super-creative children looked SPOTacular today in their spotty clothes! Here's Mrs Worrick and Mrs Ellis with some of the Acacia Y4 children, and some of our Juniper Y6 children!



CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER

SCHOOL COUNCIL & GREEN TEAM

A reminder that after school on Monday 20th November is our next Green Team meeting, and Monday 27th November is our next School Council meeting.

FoSA NON-UNIFORM DAYS

Friday 1st and Friday 8th November will be FoSA non-uniform days in return for something for the Christmas Fair stalls - thank you!

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Here's Stan (Y4), Renzo (Y1/2) and Wilbur (EYFS) receiving their Virtues Certificates today!



A reminder that we have a very exciting opportunity planned for the whole school to visit Stamford Corn Exchange during the morning of Thursday 14th December to see 'Christmas Adventure with Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.

The whole school will walk to the theatre for the 10am show which will last for approximately one hour. We will then walk back to school and continue the festivities by having our Christmas lunch...in our Christmas jumpers!

We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £5 per child for this trip. If we do not receive enough voluntary contributions, the trip may not be able to go ahead.

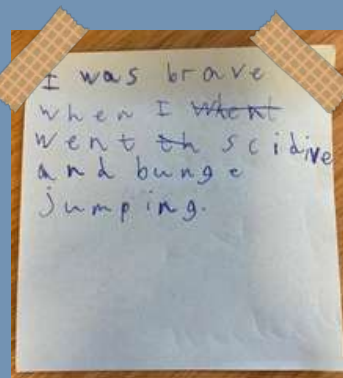
Please make payment and consent to the trip via your Arbor app by Friday 1st December.

CHRISTMAS CARD PLEA!

Do you have any spare blank Christmas cards at home? If you do, please could you consider donating some to our school? We'd love for our children to be able to send cards to their classmates and friends in other classes without the expense of having to buy full packs of cards for just a few friends. If you are able to donate any at all, we would be so grateful.



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.