

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

As we start a brand new year, I'd like to welcome you all back to St. Augustine's. I hope that you and your families have had a relaxed and peaceful Christmas break; it is lovely to be back and to see all of the children being very excited about a new year ahead.

Fionuala Boucher, Deputy Director of Education at the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service, came to visit with us on Thursday. We spent the day with Mrs Donington, who leads RE, Catholic Life and Mission for the school.

This year our school is expecting a Catholic Schools Inspection, which looks at the quality of our Catholic Life and Mission, Religious Education and Collective Worship. Fionuala came along in a supportive role, spending time in every classroom across the school during RE lessons, and was extremely pleased and positive about what she saw. She said that our pupils are engaged and enthusiastic in lessons, speaking confidently and working together on a range of different tasks which were delivered by teachers very well. She also looked at a range of pupil books, which again she felt were of a high standard. We are very grateful to our Diocesan Education Service for this support and guidance and will continue to do our very best, as a Catholic School, for our pupils and families.

We have launched our new behaviour curriculum this week, 'Flourish in Love', which is linked to our St. Augustine's virtues.



The children are very excited about the new points system and have made some beautiful acrostic poems that are on display in our front reception area.

I will be making some parent videos over the next few weeks to break the information down into bite-sized chunks as there are a few layers to the new policy.

Wishing you all a lovely Epiphany weekend,

Mrs Cox

VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

Cedar Class - Ash - **Love of Neighbour & Self-Control**

Sycamore Class - Everleigh - **Love of Neighbour & Self-Control**

Olive Class - Hazel - **Love & Respect**

Acacia Class - Martin - **Hope & Confidence**

Willow Class - Arlo - **Friendship & Kindness**

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



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



LET US PRAY

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again
Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders
of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.

Amen



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

A very happy birthday to Ezra in Olive Class who will be 8 on the 9th January, and to Bryony in Juniper Class who is 11 on 10th January.



We all wish you a wonderful time celebrating your special day!

SCHOOL COUNCIL & GREEN TEAM

A reminder that Monday 8th January is our next Green Team meeting, and Monday 15th January is our next School Council meeting. Please collect your child at 4pm.

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

As we start a brand new year, we are re-establishing our expectations for uniform, punctuality and attendance, and homework.

We are encouraging the children to come to school wearing the correct St. Augustine's school and PE uniform, down to their socks! Please click [here](#) for our uniform details. As of next week, we will be sending uniform reminders home with the children.

Please visit the policies page on our website [here](#) and scroll down to read our Pupil Attendance Policy.

Please see the last page of this newsletter for a reminder of our homework expectations.



THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY 6TH JANUARY 2024

Today is the 12th Day of Christmas, also known as Twelfth Night or Epiphany Eve.

Tomorrow we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany! This special day celebrates the coming of the Magi – the three wise men (or kings) from the East who followed a star and came to adore Jesus.

The definition of the word “epiphany” is a divine or supernatural manifestation – just as the wise men discovered Jesus.

There are many special ways all around the world to celebrate the Epiphany. In some countries, children open presents on the Epiphany instead of Christmas. Some people believe the Magi bring the presents instead of Santa Claus. Christmas decorations can be taken down on the Epiphany but some people choose to wait until Candlemas – the Presentation of the Lord. The Epiphany reminds us of how special Jesus is and that we should spend our lives seeking Him. Jesus is the light for everyone, and if we follow Him we will never go astray.

*“Star of wonder, star of might, star with royal
beauty bright – westward leading,
still proceeding,
guide us to the perfect light.”*



TEA WITH MRS C!

Our top virtue points winners for this week are:

Cedar Class - Hattie
Sycamore Y1 Class - AJ
Sycamore Y2 Class - Andre
Olive Y3 Class - Zachary
Acacia Y4 Class - Elspeth
Willow Y5 Class - Charlie
Juniper Y6 Class - Oscar & Archie

I'M HAVING

TEA
WITH
MRS C!

I'M A TOP VIRTUE POINT WINNER!



Well done to you all - enjoy your tea with Mrs Cox!

A MESSAGE FROM CANON PETER

In his church newsletter last week, Canon Peter answered the question *'Why do we call Mary our Blessed Mother?'*

"In Sacred Scripture, after the angel Gabriel visits Mary in her home to tell her that she will bear the Saviour of the world at the Annunciation, Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth, who calls Mary "the mother of my Lord" (Luke 1:43). The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that because Mary is the mother of Jesus—and Jesus is God made man—she has the beautiful privilege of being called "the Mother of God." She is not just the mother of His human nature; she is the mother of the whole person of Christ, and Christ has two natures: human and divine. The Catechism explains: "In fact, the One whom [Mary] conceived as man by the Holy Spirit, who truly became her son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father's eternal Son, the second person of the Holy Trinity. Hence the Church confesses that Mary is truly the 'Mother of God' (Theo-tokos)" (CCC 495).



And we call Mary our Mother too, even though she is not our biological mother, as Mary gave birth to Jesus, who is the Head of the Mystical Body of Christ, and we are all members of His Body. She therefore brought us spiritually into being as sons and daughters of God. This fundamental truth is also why we have high regard for Mary. Before she said "yes" to God, we were not able to enter heaven. Her role in salvation history is crucial. Mothers guide, nurture, and teach their children. The Blessed Mother guides, nurtures, and teaches us to become faithful followers of her Son, Jesus Christ. As we honour the Holy Family this weekend and celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God this coming Monday, let us honour our Blessed Mother for her yes to God, and for giving us our Saviour, Jesus Christ."



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 92.31%*

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Cedar - 92.98%

Sycamore - 92.75%

Olive - 97.92%

Acacia - 92.39%

Willow - 91.3%

Juniper - 86.9%

*These figures are based on a three day week.

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

THE WEDNESDAY WORD



Wednesday Word Family Time presents an opportunity for even the busiest of parents to enrich relationships with their children through spending a very special 10 minutes together each week.

Every Wednesday a 'word', inspired by the coming Sunday's Gospel, will be suggested for families to talk about in the home. We have structured The Wednesday Word around the Sunday Gospel, because evidence shows that Gospel values really do help family relationships to thrive.

Click [here](#) or on the image above to access this lovely resource.

LOL NEWSLETTER WINTER 2023



The OLoL newsletter is a great round-up of news spanning the 36 primary and secondary academies across Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City that are united by the Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust.

The latest edition of the OLoL newsletter is now available to view [here](#) or by clicking on the image above...can you spot any familiar faces?!

St. Augustine's Homework Expectations	Reading	Maths	Spellings	Other
EYFS	Oxford Owl e-book. Phonics book.	Number work on Seesaw.	Red tricky words.	Retrieval/ remembering activity based on knowledge of a specific subject. Will be set each Friday on Seesaw and marked the following Friday.
KS1	10 mins of reading per day and record in reading journal (coming home with children soon!)	10 mins of Numbots per day.	Red tricky words.	Retrieval/ remembering activity based on knowledge of a specific subject. Will be set each Friday on Seesaw and marked the following Friday.
KS2	15 mins of reading per day and record in reading journal (coming home with children soon!)	15 mins per day of Times Tables Rock Stars	Spelling Shed games - set each week.	Retrieval/ remembering activity based on knowledge of a specific subject. Will be set each Friday on Seesaw and marked the following Friday.
Year 6 *CGP books for SATs revision will be given out to children later in the school year with further details on revision.	20 mins of reading per day and record in reading journal (coming home with children soon!)	20 mins per day of Times Tables Rock Stars	SPaG CGP	Retrieval/ remembering activity based on knowledge of a specific subject. Will be set each Friday on Seesaw and marked the following Friday.