

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

We have lots of exciting news this week from St. Augustine's! We've hit the ground running, with lots happening in the classrooms and wider grounds and community.

We are delighted to have some new volunteers and a student teacher joining us over the coming weeks. Stephanie Crook, a previous language teacher at the Stamford Endowed Schools, is joining us every Thursday afternoon to support with our French curriculum and clubs in KS2; Year 3 parent Charlotte Charlesworth is going to be supporting our TTRS club each Tuesday evening and will be helping Mrs T with the allotment set-up.

Finally, Miss Jess Edwards will be getting to know Olive class over the coming weeks ready to start full-time as a student teacher after half term. Welcome to all of you and thank you for your time and efforts in supporting our school.

Canon Peter joined us this week for our first ever Adoration session. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, or Eucharistic Adoration, is the practice of praying before Jesus in the form of the Eucharistic host. Our link Governor for Catholic Life and Collective Worship, Chris Gallagher, was extremely impressed at how well the children embraced this new aspect of worship and Liturgy, which is not always easy.



Finally, and possibly most exciting of all – I'm delighted to announce that our nurture dog, Bonnie, is going to be a Mummy! Mrs Garland took Bonnie to the vet last week and the puppies are expected next week. We are all so excited – we can't wait to see the photographs and eventually hope to meet them in school. Congratulations, Bonnie!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Mrs Cox

VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

Cedar Class - Austin - **Love of Learning & Determination**

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

Olive Class - Benjamin - **Hope & Confidence**

Acacia Class - Hollie C - **Hope & Confidence**

Willow Class - Jonah - **Love of Learning & Determination**

Juniper Class - Luke - **Hope & Confidence**



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



TEA WITH MRS C!

Our top virtue points winners for this week are:

Cedar Class - Emma

Sycamore Y1 Class - Molly

Sycamore Y2 Class - River

Olive Y3 Class - Talitha

Acacia Y4 Class - Leo

Willow Y5 Class - Lola-Rose

Juniper Y6 Class - Sylvie

**Well done,
everyone -
enjoy your tea
with Mrs Cox!**

I'M HAVING
**TEA
WITH
MRS C!**



I'M A TOP VIRTUE POINT WINNER!

LET US PRAY

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
To whom God's love commits
me here,
Ever this day, be at my side,
To light and guard,
Rule and guide.

Amen.



SCHOOL COUNCIL & GREEN TEAM

A reminder that Monday 15th January is our next School Council meeting, and Monday 22nd January is our next Green Team meeting. Please collect your child at 4pm.

GREEN TEAM

Our Green Team have found a useful way of re-using old Christmas cards! They have made some lovely gift tags to add to their Christmas gifts next year. What a great idea!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

A very happy birthday to Olivia in Olive Class who will be 8 on the 17th January.

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



BISHOP PATRICK MCKINNEY OF NOTTINGHAM 'ENCOUNTER PRAYER'

Our diocese is producing a monthly podcast for the Year of Prayer called 'Encounter Prayer'. Each month a different type of prayer will be showcased; this first episode is given by Bishop Patrick who introduces the Year of Prayer, his hopes for it, and shares insights from his own prayer life. You can find these podcasts on Apple, Spotify, Google, Amazon Music and Audible by searching Diocese of Nottingham. These podcasts will also be available on the diocesan website - please [click here](#) to listen .

Pope Francis has initiated The Year of Prayer for 2024 in preparation for the Jubilee Year in 2025:

'Christ is the Mediator, the bridge that we cross to turn to the Father. He is the only Redeemer; He is the Mediator par excellence. Each prayer we raise to God is through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, and is fulfilled thanks to his intercession.

The Holy Spirit extends Christ's mediation to every time and every place: there is no other name by which we can be saved. Jesus Christ, the only Mediator between God and humanity'.

WILLOW CLASS POETS!

Our Y5 Willow Class children are now published authors!

You may remember reading last year that the Willow children had worked on some amazing poetry for the Young Writers national competition.

Their entries have now been published in a book called 'This Is Me - Kaleidoscope of Thoughts'. Congratulations to Miss Copeland and all of the Willow Class children!



GEORGE'S FOOD HUB

We are delighted to share this message from George:

“George's Food Hub opened in September 2022 in the 'BIKE SHED' at St Augustine's School, Kesteven Road, Stamford. The aim being to save as much food waste/surplus as possible. Expansion to other schools, as requested by the schools now means a greater ability to 'SAVE surplus food and SERVE the community'.



Currently we are at;

- St Augustine's - 5 days a week (not Tuesdays or Sundays)
- Stamford Free Church - 2 days a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays)
- St George's School - Mondays
- Malcolm Sargent School - Wednesdays
- Bluecoat School / Children's Centre - Fridays

We have attended local events on the Recreation Ground.
We have provided food for school and youth work events.
We have provided food to, in the region of, 50,400 people.

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?!

Well, it is beyond my imagination, but yes it has happened and I am so proud of my small hardworking team who have made this possible.

Would you like to join us? There are more requests for us to expand our work but our current team are stretched. Give me a call on 07891 437914 for more details.”

- George



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 89.38%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

- Cedar** - 94.71%
- Sycamore** - 87.92%
- Olive** - 81.94%
- Acacia** - 95.68%
- Willow** - 90.34%
- Juniper** - 84.92%

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](#),

PRIMARY ADMISSIONS 2024

If you or anyone you know has a child due to start school in September 2024 (children born between 01/09/2019 and 31/08/2020), please be advised of the following information from Lincolnshire School Admissions Team:

The initial closing date for reception 2024 applications is 15th January.

The Parent Portal will be open for parents to make an online application. After that it would be best to make a telephone application on 01522 782030.



SEESAW!

Please do log in to your child's Seesaw account for updates of their amazing learning during their school week; you can access the termly curriculum offering, class learning, and your child's own work.

It's a great way to keep in touch with what your child has been doing, and you will also see information on your child's homework, PE lesson schedule etc.

You can also use Seesaw to upload your child's homework and keep in touch with the class teacher.



E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MACKENZIE

Around 20% of children (8-17) with a social media profile use a false age over 18. This ties in with the numbers I find in Primary schools (KS2) when I'm talking to the children and when I ask why they're using a false age it's usually one of 3 reasons:

- They just use the first age (year of birth) shown when signing up - this is all about the speed of getting into the app.
- They are fully aware that if they give their true age they won't be allowed access.
- Because they've been taught in school, "Don't share personal information online." Be very careful with this message as it can be very confusing for younger children. 'Don't share personal information online' is impossible, it is the context that matters. In other words, "When is it appropriate to share personal information online and what is appropriate to share?"

You can see more top trends [HERE](#) and you can download the full report [HERE](#).



At St. Augustine's, we try to ensure that children in **every** year group go swimming for at least six weeks a year. To ensure our pupils leave KS2 with the National Curriculum requirement of being able to swim 25m, we do prioritise our upper KS2 classes, who will swim for 12 weeks. Today, Year 5 went swimming for the first time – they were all very excited to leave first thing and came back delighted with the session. Parents, please ensure Y5 are in promptly on a Friday as they children set off walking at 8.50am.

THANK YOU!

We are so grateful to one of our Y3 parents, Charlotte, and her friend at Waterside Garden Centre in Baston, for the extremely generous donation of over £1000 of plants and shrubs for our garden.

Charlotte has also worked with Mrs Tuisavura and our school council to organise a very reduced purchase of the equipment we need to build new planting allotment beds, which Charlotte's husband, Jason, has agreed to build for us. Thank you so much to all involved, and to our school council children for all of your fundraising work for this special project.

Please do get in touch if you have any spare soil that you could donate to us for our planting area - we would be extremely grateful for any donations.



CARPET!

Mrs Cox's Dad has a huge amount of carpet off-cuts which he will be delivering to school over the coming weeks for people to take for free. Whilst they are not big enough for a large room, they could easily be pieced together with a bit of know-how.

The carpet is a neutral colour and of a good quality. Please contact the school office if you would be interested

SMART WATCHES IN SCHOOL

Please ensure that your child does not wear a smart watch to school. Smart watches are not permitted for use in school. If your child wears one to school, the smart watch must be handed in to the class teacher as with handing in mobile phones each morning. Thank you for your understanding.

PLAYGROUND GATES

A polite reminder that our playground gates are closed and locked at 3.30pm - if you are visiting George's Food Hub at this time, please leave our school grounds via the main entrance gate at the front of the school.

CLUBS AT ST. A'S

We have a new clubs list, with some new additions including a lunchtime table tennis club, after school country dancing and after school French club coming very soon.

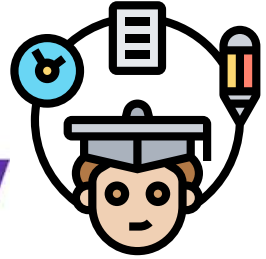
If you haven't already, please do check the clubs section of your Arbor parent app to book a place.

CURRICULUM BY CLASS

Our newly updated curriculum offers for the Lent Term 1 are now live and available to view on Seesaw and on our website. You can access the curriculum plans on our website by clicking [here](#).

Accessing Seesaw will take you to a slide deck, which shares the timetable, knowledge organisers for the different subjects and videos of the class teachers sharing exciting news about the term ahead.

Seesaw



SWIMMING

