

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

This week has been all about new experiences at St. Augustine's, how we embrace these opportunities and how we work together (sometimes outside of our comfort zone) to show determination to succeed, recognising all the joy this brings.

On Tuesday, a group of Year 5 children went along to Borderville to take part in the inclusive 'New Age Kurling' Festival. New age kurling is similar to bowls, but is traditionally played inside and uses a static target rather than a moving ball. Players are permitted to move the stones with their hands, feet, or using a ramp if needed. Each team has a set number of stones and take it in turns to slide a stone towards the target. Each game is completed when all of the stones have been used, with a match traditionally made up of four or more ends. The team which has their stone closest to the centre of the target at the completion of the end receives one point, with an additional point for each stone closer than their opponent's nearest stone. I'm delighted to report that not only did the children win every match, but were also recognised for their kindness, supportiveness and helpfulness – they really did us proud.

On Wednesday, we welcomed Mary from our St. Augustine's Church Parish, who offered to come and give all of our classes a taster session in country dancing – which we hope will lead to a thriving club and troop, ready for the Summer Country Dancing Festival in Peterborough! All of the classes thoroughly enjoyed listening to Mary, watching her model some steps and 'having a go'. It was a joy to see the children smiling, working together and enjoying a style of music and dance they may not have heard or seen before.

On Thursday, selected members of our football team played the first match of the season against Uffington C of E Primary School. Miss Bush and Mr Sinclair have trained the team superbly and were thrilled with their 5-1 victory. A parent came to tell me personally how the children had worked brilliantly as a team, with every player supporting each other to shine and that each and every one of them contributed to their success.



Finally, today I met with two parents who volunteered to be part of the new 'Uniform Working Party', looking at different ideas to update our school uniform. We looked closely at the data from the recent parent survey, which gathered 43 responses; discussed colours and fabric options and thought about how we would like our logo to reflect what we're about as a school. It was lovely to hear that we represent love, friendship, kindness and community, and hope that any future designs will reflect this. If you have any ideas for uniform or logo please do get in touch.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Mrs Cox

VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

Cedar Class - Kiyana - Love of Learning & Determination

Sycamore Class - Ben - Friendship & Kindness

Olive Class - Olivia - Hope & Confidence

Acacia Class - Holly S. - Love of Learning and Determination

Willow Class - Margarita - Hope & Confidence

Juniper Class - Lola - 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 - Eli

Sycamore Y1 Class - Renzo

Sycamore Y2 Class - Bow-Blue

Olive Y3 Class - Olivia

Acacia Y4 Class - Romeo

Willow Y5 Class - Luke & Elliot

Juniper Y6 Class - Bailey

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

O Little Therese of the Child Jesus, please pick for me a rose from the heavenly gardens and send it to me as a message of love.

O Little Flower of Jesus, ask God to grant the favours I now place with confidence in your hands ... (mention your special prayer request here)

St. Therese, help me to always believe as you did in God's great love for me, so that I might imitate your "Little Way" each day.

Amen.



SCHOOL COUNCIL & GREEN TEAM

A reminder that Monday 29th January is our next School Council meeting, and Monday 5th February is our next School Council meeting. Please collect your child at 4pm.

LITTLE STARS

This beautiful photo was taken by Miss Fiona in Little Stars this week...



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



A very happy birthday to Indje-Rae in Cedar Class who is 5 today!

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



THE FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL 25TH JANUARY 2024

After Jesus Christ, Saint Paul is often considered the most important person in the history of Christianity. He was one of the leaders of the first Christians. Paul's life and his writings make up 13 of the 27 books of the New Testament in the Bible. These books played a large role in the development of Christian beliefs. Paul was given the name Saul at birth, which was in about ad 4 in what is now Turkey. He was Jewish and initially persecuted the followers of Jesus. He travelled to synagogues and suggested that any Jew who accepted Jesus as the messiah (saviour of the Jews) be punished.

The story of Saul's conversion to Christianity is a popular Christian story. It is said that he was traveling to Damascus when a bright light shone on him and Jesus spoke to him. After this experience, he was convinced that Jesus was the messiah. From that day on, he used the name Paul. After his conversion, Paul went to Jerusalem to meet Peter, chief of Jesus' apostles, to learn how Jesus had lived. Paul then became one of the greatest missionaries of all time. For the next 20 years or so, he established churches in Asia Minor and in Europe. As a result of Paul's work, Christianity soon became a worldwide religion.

Paul believed his purpose was to preach to and to convert Gentiles (people who were not Jewish) to Christianity. His greatest impact on Christian history comes from the letters he wrote. His thoughts on Jesus, Jewish law, and the relationship between God and Jesus were the foundation for the development of Christianity.

THE BRIARS YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6

The school has reserved two dates for the Briars Catholic Retreat Centre:

Current Year 6 pupils 19th- 21st June 2024

Current Year 5 pupils 25th – 27th September 2024

We will be holding an information meeting for the parents of both classes on Wednesday 28th February at 3:30 in the Juniper classroom. During this meeting we will be able to give you more information about the Briars and some of the trips we have organised whilst we are there.

I look forward to meeting you all on the 28th.

- Mrs Oliver



National STORYTELLING WEEK AT ST. AUGUSTINE'S

EACH DAY A DIFFERENT MEMBER OF STAFF WILL BE READING A STORY TO UPLOAD ON TO SEESAW FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY AT HOME!



READING BUDDIES ACROSS ALL YEAR GROUPS WILL SHARE STORIES TOGETHER THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.

KS 1 CEDAR AND SYCAMORE CLASSES WILL BE VISITING STAMFORD LIBRARY.



ON FRIDAY 2ND FEB, PROFESSIONAL STORYTELLER MARK FRASER WILL BE TELLING STORIES TO THE CHILDREN DURING WORKSHOPS WITH THEM.

MARK WRITES AND CREATES HIS OWN STORIES AS WELL AS ADAPTING CLASSIC FOLK TALES AND SONGS. MARK SAYS THAT HE "TRAVELS ALL OVER THE UK TELLING STORIES TO CHILDREN, FAMILIES, ADULTS AND JUST ABOUT ANYONE WHO IS PREPARED TO LISTEN".

STORIES BELONG TO EVERYONE ... WHAT'S YOUR STORY?
29TH JANUARY - 2ND FEBRUARY 2024



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 87.85%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

- Cedar** - 88.24%
- Sycamore** - 78.79%
- Olive** - 82.64%
- Acacia** - 97.01%
- Willow** - 88.54%
- Juniper** - 97.12%

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](#),

SAFEGUARDING

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any parent or visitor to the school have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform the school's Designated Safeguarding officer: Mrs Garland.

We also have two Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Cox and Mrs Oliver.

Our expectation is that everyone at or visiting our school shares in this commitment.

In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a statutory duty to discuss the issue with one of the Designated Safeguarding Officers to seek further advice.



St. Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

Our expectation is that everyone at or visiting our school shares in this commitment.

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SAFEGUARDING FOR ALL VISITORS

E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MACKENZIE

Assessing Smartphone Readiness

"Is my child old enough to have a phone?" It's a common, understandable question that I get from many parents, but it's also one that is very difficult to answer as there are so many factors involved. For younger children it's often peer pressure, with older children social isolation is very common. Often, advice has to be given particular to that child/family, rather than a one-size-fits-all solution.

The Institute for Digital Media and Child Development have put together some tip sheets for parents which I think are really useful. There are 3 parts:

- Assessing readiness.
- Preparing for healthy use.
- What now?
-

You can view all the tip sheets [HERE](#).



RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH TEA WITH MRS C

The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring. It's easy to be part of Big Garden Birdwatch. Simply choose an hour between 26 and 28 January and count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony, or in your local park. Only count birds that land. Then tell us what you saw. Even if you saw nothing, it still counts.

Our Green Team would love for you all to get involved! Please [click here](#) to see a video from the RSPB with more information on how you can take part at home.
- Mrs T



HEADTEACHERS AWARD



Mrs Cox says 'This superstar read her psalm to me - not a dry eye in the house! Brilliant work and a Headteacher Award sticker.'

Well done, Luna!



OLIVE CLASS

We used the Parish Mass Books to explore at the order of Mass. We chose to focus on The Epiphany of the Lord as this was a familiar event for us. We said the readings and prayers for the day and looked at the Gospel reading in more detail. We wrote the Gospel in our own words, using the Mass book to help us.



On Tuesday 23rd January, some of our children attended a New Age Kurling Festival at Borderville Sports Centre with Miss Hawkins. We played against Malcom Sargent, Uffington and St. George's. Considering we have never played Kurling before we did so well and ended up winning all of the games! A huge congratulations to Evelyn, Nazim, Elliott and Lilly-Mae who took part and represented the school brilliantly, showing all of our school values throughout the festival.

- Miss B



ST. AUGUSTINE'S FOOTBALL TEAM

On Thursday 25th January, our school football team played Uffington in a very exciting away game. We are so proud to say that they won their first match of the year 5-1! Uffington were a brilliant team and showed great sportsmanship during a fantastic game. Our St. Augustine's children worked so well together!

Tyler won Player of the Match and Flynn scored a goal off his knee! Thank you to Mr Sinclair and Miss B for coaching and supporting the team so well.



Top L-R - Luke, Tyler, Sylvie, Flynn and Bryony
Bottom L-R - Oliver, Jake and Mia

BABY AND CHILD *first aid*

ONLY
£30

16TH MARCH

FROM 10 AM - 1 PM



PERFECT FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS AND NEW PARENTS - THIS 3 HOUR COURSE PROVIDES PARENTS REASSURANCE THAT THEY WOULD KNOW HOW TO HELP THEIR CHILDREN IN A FIRST AID EMERGENCY

ST AUGUSTINES SCHOOL
STAMFORD, PE9 1SR

REGISTER ONLINE:
ERFIRSTAIDTRAINING@GMAIL.COM

INCLUDED IN THE COURSE

PRIMARY SURVEY AND IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS
RESUSCITATION OF BABIES AND CHILDREN
RESPIRATORY CONDITIONS (EG. CROUP, RSV, COUGHS,
CHEST INFECTIONS)
SEIZURES (INCLUDING FEBRILE CONVULSIONS)
CHOKING (SPECIFICALLY WHEN WEANING)
ALLERGIES AND ANAPHYLAXIS
MINOR INJURIES
TREATMENT OF TEMPERATURES (PYREXIA)

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING ONE PARTNER
WITH YOU FREE OF CHARGE

