

# 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

Next week is a busy week in all state-funded primary schools in England, as the children in year 6 are given the chance to 'show off' everything they have learned in their time with us, when sitting their long-awaited compulsory Standard Assessment Tests (SATs). I know first hand how very hard Mrs Oliver and Mrs Jones have been working, not only to teach and prepare the children for the tests, but also to keep the school environment calm and free from any sense of pressure or negativity around what can ultimately, feel like quite a stressful time in school with 'all to play for'. Throughout this time, the children themselves have demonstrated so many of our school virtues - determination, self-control, hope and confidence to name a few. However, as I do every year, I feel it's important to mention that here at St. Augustine's, we know full well that school is about so much more than these tests – not least, our virtues of love, friendship, kindness and love of learning, which are central to these young people that we are helping to nurture and to grow. So here's a poem that I found, which I think says what I'm trying to say much better than me:

SATs don't measure sports, SATs don't measure art,  
SATs don't measure music, or the kindness in your heart.  
SATs don't see your beauty, SATs don't know your worth,  
SATs don't see the reasons you were put upon this earth.  
SATs don't see your magic, how you make others smile,  
SATs don't time how quickly you can run a mile.  
SATs don't hear your laughter, or see you've come this far,  
SATs are just a tiny glimpse of who you really are.  
So sitting at your table, with a pencil and your test,  
Remember SATs aren't who you are, remember you're the best.

Wishing everyone a lovely, relaxing weekend in the sun. Year 6, do come to school rested, breakfasted and ready to do your best – but remember that whatever the outcome, we are all very proud of you!



Mrs Cox

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# LET US PRAY

Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Amen



## 13 MAY - OUR LADY OF FATIMA

The story begins in the village of Fatima, Portugal, on May 13, 1917. The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, appeared to three young peasant children: Francisco, Jacinta, and Lucia; ages 10, 9 and 7. As was the custom, these youngsters were tending their family's sheep when "a Lady all in white, more brilliant than the sun... indescribably beautiful," standing above a bush, appeared to the youngsters. From May through October 1917, Mary appeared and spoke to the children on the 13th day of each month.

News of these apparitions began to spread throughout the region. The children recounted that Mary told them that God had sent her with a message for every man, woman, and child. She promised that God would grant peace to the entire world if her requests for prayer, reparation and consecration were heard and obeyed. While many people believed the children had actually seen the Virgin, many others discounted the children's story, subjecting them to much derision and ridicule. When it became known that Mary would visit the children for the last time on October 13, 1917, and had promised a sign that would convince the world she had appeared, many pilgrims made plans to attend. Though the region had been subjected to three days of torrential downpour, nearly 70,000 people journeyed through the heavy rain and mud to the place of the previous apparitions to witness the predicted miracle. Many were scornful, unbelievers whose sole intent was to discredit the children's stories.

Suddenly the "clouds separated...and the sun appeared between them in the clear blue, like a disk of white fire." The people could look at the sun without blinking and while they gazed upward, the huge ball began to "dance". The huge fireball whirled rapidly with dizzy and sickening speed, flinging out all sorts of brilliant colours that reflected on the faces of the crowds. The fiery ball continued to gyrate in this manner three times, then seemed to tremble and shudder, and plunge in a mighty zigzag course toward the earth. The crowd was terrified, fearing this was the end of the world. However, the sun reversed course and, retracing its zigzagging course, returned to its normal place in the heavens.

All of this transpired in approximately ten minutes. After realizing they were not doomed, the crowd began ecstatically laughing, crying, shouting and weeping. Many discovered their previously drenched clothing to be perfectly dry. After what has become to be known as "The Miracle of the Sun," the children were grilled many, many times, about what they had seen and been told; their story never changed.

The heart of Our Lady's message to the world is contained in what has become known as the "Secret," which she confided to the children in July 1917.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We have three St. Augustine's children celebrating their birthday today!

Seth in Acacia Class is 9 today, and Charlie and Jack from Willow Class turn 10 today!

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



## SUPERSTAR SYLVIE!

Sylvie's dad, Ben, got in touch to tell us about Sylvie's achievement last weekend, where playing up an age group (u12s), Sylvie and her Stamford Daniels team mates successfully won a very competitive Lincs County Cup final against Grimsby Borough Ladies. It was an incredibly tight game that remained 0-0 after extra time but Stamford Daniels won 5-3 after penalties with Sylvie scoring the first, leading the team to be crowned U12 County Cup Champions.

They have a further final next weekend against Boston Town in Grimsby for the League Cup and expecting another very tough game.

Huge congratulations to Sylvie and the Stamford Daniels team - well done, Sylvie, you superstar!



Photos courtesy of Ben Erskine



## GREEN TEAM & SCHOOL COUNCIL

Mon 13 May - Green Team

Mon 20 May - School Council

## SPORTS DAY 2024!

Thursday 27th June – Sports Day

Wednesday 3rd July – Reserve Sports Day

in case of inclement weather.

We look forward to seeing you all!

## FOSA RAFFLE TICKETS!

The children will be bringing home raffle tickets today for the FoSA Summer Fayre! This amazing event is taking place on Sunday 7th July from 12-3pm and the raffle is always a crowd favourite! Each child will bring home one book of ten tickets. Please could we ask that you bring back those that you don't want before the fayre; we can then add them to our spares to sell on the day. There will also be tickets available at the front office for anyone who would like extras.



# VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

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

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

Olive Class - **Storm** - **Love & Respect**

Acacia Class - **Seth** - **Love of Learning & Determination**

Willow Class - **Alice & Oliver** - **Friendship & Kindness**

Juniper Class - **Sylvie** - **Friendship & Kindness**



Well done to you all!

We are all very proud of you.

# ICE LOLLIES WITH MRS C!

Cedar Class - **Kiyan**

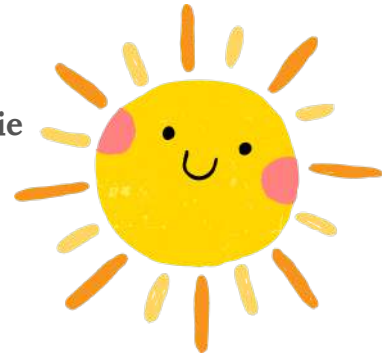
Sycamore Class - **Teddie**

Olive Class - **Benjamin**

Acacia Class - **Raven**

Willow Class - **Lola-Rose & Aurora**

Juniper Class - **Conor**



# MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK: 13-19 MAY 2024

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week; an annual event and the biggest opportunity for the whole of the UK to come together to focus on good mental health. The week aims to tackle stigma and help people understand and prioritise their and others' mental health.

Above all, it keeps up the pressure for change so that we collectively prioritise the UK's mental health, prevent mental health problems and take action to make sure we live in a society that values and promotes good mental health for all.

Mindfulness is a great way to balance and improve your mental health. Journaling, reading, exercise, gardening and crafting are all great ways to spend some mindful moments.

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## A MINDFUL WEEK

**M**

Say something kind to yourself.

**T**

Write down something you are grateful for.

**W**

Find a moment to take five deep breaths.

**TH**

Do a quiet and calming activity you enjoy.

**F**

Celebrate something you achieved this week.

**S**

Observe what you see, hear, and smell outside.

**S**

Something you can accomplish next week.



# E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MCKENZIE

## Courageous and Challenging Conversations

Although not specifically online safety related I think this guidance from Kent County Council could be very useful for some when it comes to safeguarding children. From the guidance, 'there may be anxiety about discussing something sensitive, being seen as accusatory, or the possibility of negative reaction.....managing difficult conversations is a skill that can be developed'.

You can find the guide [HERE](#).

## Talk PANTS - Updated Webinar from NSPCC

I'm sure you will have heard of the Talk PANTS resource from the NSPCC for younger children. They have just released an updated video to support parents but I think it's an extremely useful resource for schools too.

All the information can be found [HERE](#) and the updated video can be found on YouTube [HERE](#).

## Get Smart about Smartphones

Internet Matters has some great advice for parents/carers about staying on top of their kids smartphone use along with advice, setting up smartphones, handy things to know and more.

You can find the resource [HERE](#).



Courtesy of Alan Mackenzie [www.esafety-adviser.com](http://www.esafety-adviser.com)



# ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 91.7%\*

Our attendance by class is as follows:

**Cedar** - 95.24%

**Sycamore** - 90.91%

**Olive** - 90.18%

**Acacia** - 90.08%

**Willow** - 93.37%

**Juniper** - 90.48%

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](#),

*\*Based on a four day school week due to Bank Holiday*

# TERM TIMES MAGAZINE

Your child will have brought home a paper copy of the Term Times magazine this week. If you'd prefer to view this electronically, please click on the image on the right. This brilliant magazine is full of wonderful things to do and places to visit locally - especially helpful for the upcoming half-term!



# L.C.C PARENTAL SURVEY

The deadline for the Lincolnshire County Council annual parental survey 2024 is now open until Tuesday 16th May. Lincs CC have asked us to share this with our families and communities so that they can get a widespread response. Please click on the image below to access the survey.



# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Sycamore and Olive Class have had some special visitors in school recently to teach them The Lord's Prayer in Spanish and Romanian!

Thank you so much to Ana and David's parents, Ionut and Iuliana, for coming to spend time with our Sycamore Class children, and to David and Emma's mum, Yiceth, for coming to spend time with our Olive Class children - we really appreciate you giving the gift of your time to come and teach us our special prayer in your beautiful languages.

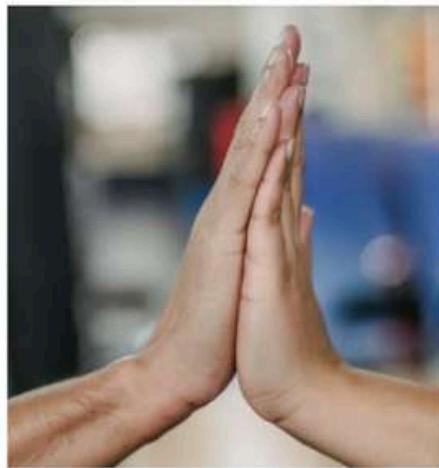
[Please click here to watch the Sycamore Class video,](#)  
[and click here to watch the Olive Class video.](#)



# Year 3/4 Tag Rugby

On Thursday our Tag Rugby team competed in the Stamford school's tournament. We played against St. George's, Bluecoat and Malcolm Sargent. Our team played brilliantly and with determination and resilience. We came out on top of both of our group games and the final overall tournament - well done to you all; we are so proud of you!

- Miss B



## Go, Team, Go!

*Let all that you do be done in love.*