



Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



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A MESSAGE FROM MRS OLIVER, ACTING DEPUTY HEAD

Reading for pleasure is essential for primary school children due to its profound and wide-ranging benefits; a cornerstone of education that supports not only academic success but also personal growth and development. By fostering a love for reading early on, we can equip children with the tools they need for a lifetime of learning and emotional well-being.

When children read for pleasure, they develop a richer vocabulary and a better understanding of grammar and sentence structure. A child's ability to understand and interpret information is also enhanced, which is critical for *all* subjects in school. When children engage with stories, they are encouraged to think critically about plots, characters, and settings, which in turn develops analytical skills, fluency and stamina.

Studies show that children who read for pleasure perform better academically, often scoring higher in literacy and numeracy tests. Through reading, children gain knowledge about the world around them, which can increase their understanding of various subjects and boosts their overall academic performance. Reading stories about diverse characters and situations helps children develop empathy and a better understanding of different perspectives, and it can also be a soothing activity that helps children manage stress and emotions. It provides an escape and a way to explore feelings in a safe context. Books often depict social interactions and relationships, which can help children learn about social norms and develop better social skills.

Reading stimulates imagination, allowing children to explore new ideas and think creatively, whilst encountering different scenarios in books can help children learn problem-solving skills as they see characters navigate various challenges. Successfully finishing books and understanding complex narratives can boost children's confidence in their reading abilities and overall academic skills. Reading requires focus and attention, which can help improve children's concentration and discipline. Another brilliant thing about books is that you don't have to charge them up; they're always ready to go with you, wherever you are!

Here are some ways to encourage reading for pleasure at home:

1. Make books easily accessible
2. Offer a variety of genres and subjects so that your child can discover their interests
3. Adults who read regularly can inspire children to develop a similar habit
4. Engage children with activities related to the books that they are reading; discussions, drawing scenes and characters, or even acting out parts of the story

We are so proud of our St. Augustine's children; they really do have a genuine love of learning and reading – the library is a very popular place in school and it's always lovely to walk in and see someone lost in a book that they have chosen themselves.

We hope you all have a lovely half-term break and that we get some sunshine to enjoy!
We look forward to welcoming you all back to St. Augustine's on Monday 3rd June.

Mrs Oliver

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LET US PRAY

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit,
That my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit,
That my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit,
That I love but what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit,
To defend all that is holy.
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit,
That I always may be holy.

Amen



ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY - FEAST DAY 26 MAY

Once there was a boy called Augustine. He grew up living in a monastery in Rome, Italy. When he was old enough, he became a Benedictine monk and planned to live a life of prayer, church work and quiet contemplation.

But Pope Gregory had other plans for Augustine. In the year 595, Pope Gregory chose Augustine for a special role; to bring the Catholic Church to England. Now, Augustine had to leave his life of comfort and take on a dangerous mission to an unknown land.

He set off with a group of 40 other missionaries on horseback, along with books, relics and a few clothes. It was long and perilous journey of 844 miles. On the way, Augustine heard many stories of how terrible England was and how uncivilised the people were. The weary travellers were so afraid that when they reached France, they were too scared to go on. Augustine decided to turn back and return to Rome.

But Pope Gregory wrote letters to Augustine, encouraging him to be brave and carry on and reach England because the people needed him.

Eventually, in the Spring of 597, the group arrived on the shores of the isle of Thanet. They were greeted by Ethelbert of Kent and Queen Bertha, personally, who welcomed them. They invited Augustine to the capital city, Canterbury and said he could establish his church there. Ethelbert told Augustine he was free to convert as many people as he could persuade to the truth of the Gospel.

The king gave him a little church building called St. Martin's and so Augustine began preaching and teaching the local people. Augustine was successful and he sent news back to Pope Gregory in Rome about how well it was going.

One day, to his surprise, Augustine was overjoyed that Ethelbert asked him to baptise him in the Christian faith. And once the king converted, many of his people too wanted to become Christians. And so on

Christmas Day in 597, 10,000 people were baptised as followers of Jesus.

This news reached Rome and Pope Gregory made Augustine the first Archbishop of Canterbury, leader of the new Catholic church in England, in communion with the Bishop of Rome.

Augustine stayed in England and became a wise and clever Bishop.

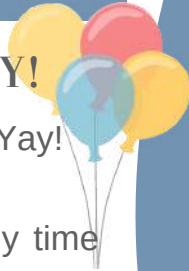
He never returned to Rome and died in 604.

He sowed the seeds of Christianity in the British Isles and became known as 'the Apostle of England.'

His bravery and commitment as a missionary disciple of Jesus is a shining example to us all to spread the good news wherever we go; we are extremely proud that he is the patron saint of our school.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Isobel is 9 on 6th June! Yay!



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



CUPCAKE BREATHING



Take a deep breath in and smell the icing, then blow out the candle!



GREEN TEAM & SCHOOL COUNCIL

Mon 3 June - Green Team

Mon 10 June - School Council

SPORTS DAY 2024!

Thursday 27th June – Sports Day

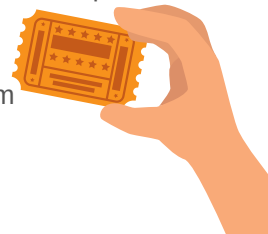
Wednesday 3rd July – Reserve Sports Day in case of inclement weather.

Parents to arrive from 12.45pm ready for a 1.00pm start! We look forward to seeing you all!

FOSA RAFFLE TICKETS!

Just a reminder that there are extra tickets in the front office if you would like to buy more for the FoSA raffle at the Summer Fair! This amazing event is taking place on Sunday 7th July from 12-3pm and the raffle is always a crowd favourite!

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.



Faith

GARDENING EQUIPMENT APPEAL!

Do you have any old/ spare garden trowels, small gardening gloves or garden canes? If you do, please would you consider donating them to us?! We are short on these items and would really appreciate any donations that you're able to make. Thank you!

- Mrs T

VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

Cedar Class - **Indie** - **Friendship & Kindness**

Sycamore Class - **Ripley** - **Hope & Confidence**

Olive Class - **Althea** - **Love of Learning & Determination**

Acacia Class - **Romeo** - **Hope & Confidence**

Willow Class - **Tommy** - **Friendship & Kindness**

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



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

~~TEA WITH MRS C!~~

LOLLIES WITH MISS C!

Cedar Class - **Wilbur**

Sycamore Class - **Ava-Lilly**

Olive Class - **Olivia**

Acacia Class - **Ellie-Mae**

Willow Class - **Arlo**

Juniper Class - **Ava**



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



I'M A TOP VIRTUE POINT WINNER!

CONGRATULATIONS, MIA!

Huge congratulations to Mia from Willow Class, who submitted this beautiful poem to Young Writers during the Easter holiday. Mia's poem is going to be published!

Congratulations on your achievement, Mia, and for representing St. Augustine's school and our virtues so beautifully.



Wintertime

It's the beautiful time of winter
It gets really cold, dark nights are so long
There's amazing snow covering the ground
People are so bold to go out and have fun
Make a snowman, throw a snowball

Winter is the time when Santa visits
Run to bed so that he can come
Elves help him to deliver the presents
Jingle! go the bells of the sleigh
"Ho, ho, ho!" bellows Santa so cheerfully.

Mia Sinclair (9)

St Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Stamford

STAMFORD LIBRARY

Half Term Activities at Stamford Library

All activities free, no need to book,
just drop in for some fun

Birds, Bats and Bees - Kids Craft Club
Thursday 30th May 10.00am-11.30am

Join us for a morning of creativity and discover some fun facts about the wonderful creatures that fly and buzz around us!

Half Term Lego Club,
Tuesday 28th May to Friday 31st May 2.00pm-4.00 pm
Let your imagination run riot and see what you can build with our Lego.

Puzzles and Games
Tuesday 28th May to Friday 31st May 10.00am-12.00noon
A week of Puzzles and Games for all the family.
Have a go at some traditional games

<https://www.better.org.uk/library/lincolnshire/stamford-library>

For more information, please speak to a team member or email stamford.library@gll.org

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E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MCKENZIE

For Parents - Nintendo Switch Parental Controls

All tech devices come with parental controls, but they're not always easy to find or understand and they can differ quite significantly from device to device.

The Nintendo Switch, which is a very popular device, has a range of parental controls such as browser access, restricting games based on age, chat settings and more and more.

Internet Matters have a great guide for parents which can be downloaded and sent out or added to your school website. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

For Parents - Talking About Online Harassment and Abuse

Sadly, many children and young people believe that online harassment and abuse are just a part of being online, in other words - normalised. This should never be the case, but it can be difficult to strike up a conversation. Internet Matters have a really good guide for parents which they can use for conversation starters.

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

For Parents - Managing Screen Time

With half-term almost upon us some parents will be looking for guidance about helping their children to develop a healthy relationship with technology.

Internet Matters have a series of tips and guides to help with this including setting up parental controls, finding other activities to do, agreeing on boundaries and more. You can view the guidance [HERE](#).



Courtesy of Alan Mackenzie www.esafety-adviser.com

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 93.2%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Cedar - 92.41%

Sycamore - 95.43%

Olive - 89.51%

Acacia - 98.83%

Willow - 89.78%

Juniper - 94.44%

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](#),

Wellbeing Activities

If you need something to do during a quiet moment over half-term, why not choose one of the following wellbeing activities to complete?

Yoga 	Listen to the Sounds Go outside and sit or lie down. What sounds can you hear?	Get Up and Move Get up and do 5-10 minutes of exercise.	Read a Book
Look at the Sky Go outside and look up at the sky. What can you see?	Journal Writing 	Get Creative 	What is your Favourite Colour? Find 10 things around your house that are your favourite colour.
Cuddle your Pet (or favourite stuffed animal) 	What is your Favourite Song? Sing and dance to your favourite song.	Pilates 	Tidy Your Space

Everyone at St. Augustine's C.V.A wishes you a wonderful half-term break!

Willow Class - "A Walk Through Time"

On Wednesday, Willow Class invited families in to our school hall for a nostalgic 'walk through time'. Willow Class have been learning about life during different decades, and displayed lots of interesting learning, along with memorabilia from the 1950's to the 1990's!





PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING MAY HALF TERM 2024

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



LAS IGUANAS

Join 'My Las Iguanas' via the App & Niños eat free with every adult main

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase an adult's main meal (App needed)

PUREZZA

Children under the age of 10 get free pizza at Purezza with every adult meal purchased

TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

YO! SUSHI

From Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024, kids eat free all day at YO! Sushi (minimum adult spend £10).

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

BILLS

Two kids can eat free ALL DAY (Weekdays) from Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024, with one adult main dish.

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

At Dobbies, for every adult breakfast or lunch purchase, kids eat for FREE. Every Day!

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

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