

St. Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy



LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE *in love*
1 CORINTHIANS 16:14



Phone: 01780 762094

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Address: Kesteven Road, Stamford, Lincs PE9 1SR

A MESSAGE FROM MRS COX

This week our year 6 pupils went off to The Briars Diocesan Retreat Centre in Crich for their two night, three day residential in beautiful Derbyshire. Previously, pupils have always visited at the end of the academic year but this year, we decided to try something new. Our children always return from the Briars filled with the Holy Spirit and even those children who feel they have no faith or profess not to believe in God, are clearly moved by the spirituality of the place and experience there. The team at the Briars are fantastic at bringing the power and message of Jesus to life – songs and prayers have actions, activities are energetic and fun-filled as the children engage in a missions as 'Agents of Love', but there are also times of peace and quiet-reflection, where friendships new and old are built and strengthened and the resolve to be the best person they can be shines out of them as they leave. It truly is something very special to be part of, and every year I feel privileged to spend this time with our young people, watching them grow and flourish in God's love – or as the Briars team put it, as they are nourished by the 'vitamin J' of Jesus!

If you've been to the front of school, you may have noticed the beautiful Harvest Festival display that Mrs Kaczmarek created this week. If you are able to make a donation to our Harvest collection, please send them to class on Monday in preparation for our Harvest liturgy, which will be led by our school chaplain on Monday afternoon. All produce that we collect will be distributed to our community via the on-site Food Hub. Thank you in advance of any donations.

I have sent an important letter today regarding our Trust, Home and School agreement, which can be found on our website, which sends a clear message to all members of our community that we expect kind, caring and safe behaviour at all times on our school site. At St. Augustine's we work very hard to live out our school mission and create a nurturing environment for all; please be aware that we will take a zero tolerance approach to any inappropriate behaviour towards any member of our school community in order to protect the wellbeing of all. We would like to ensure that behaviours modelled to our pupils are exactly those which we teach them, and expect from them each day. Thank you for your support in ensuring our school remains the safe and happy community we have worked hard to build.

Whatever the weekend holds for you, I hope that you return on Monday feeling rested and recharged.

Mrs Cox

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LET US PRAY

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for this new day.

Help us to learn, to play, and to pray
with open hearts.

Guide us to be kind, gentle, and
forgiving,

Just as You are with us.

Bless our friends, teachers, and
families,

And keep us safe in Your loving care.

Amen.



ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL FEAST DAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

St Michael is a very special saint as he is also an angel. As a result, he is often referred to as St Michael the Archangel and his feast day is celebrated on the 29th September.

St Michael is the only angel to be called an Archangel and is regarded as the leader of all angels. He is seen as a protector and led God's army in the book of revelations to defeat evil. St Michael the Archangel is the patron saint of many things such as police officers, paramedics and the military which all require the qualities that Saint Michael possesses.

The name of the archangel Michael means, in Hebrew, who is like unto God? and he is also known as "the prince of the heavenly host." He is usually pictured as a strong warrior, dressed in armor and wearing sandals. His name appears in Scripture four times, twice in the Book of Daniel, and once each in the Epistle of St. Jude and the Book of Revelation. From Revelation we learn of the battle in heaven, with St. Michael and his angels combatting Lucifer and the other fallen angels (or devils). We invoke St. Michael to help us in our fight against Satan; to rescue souls from Satan, especially at the hour of death; to be the champion of the Jews in the Old Testament and now Christians; and to bring souls to judgment.

This day is referred to as "Michaelmas" in many countries and is also one of the harvest feast days. In England this is one of the "quarter days," which was marked by hiring servants, electing magistrates, and beginning of legal and university terms. This day also marks the opening of the deer and other large game hunting season.

In some parts of Europe, especially Germany, Denmark, and Austria, a special wine called "Saint Michael's Love" (Michelsminne) is drunk on this day.

When depicted in art St Michael the Archangel is often shown with a sword, scales and vanquishing evil.

*'Make'
Yourself
Proud.*

GREEN TEAM & SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next Green Team meeting will be on Monday 30th September, and our next School Council meeting will be on Monday 7th October.



PARISH CATHOLIC MOTHERS

For sharing ideas and experiences of Catholic motherhood, family life and liturgical living, and general friendly chat with like-minded mums! Please message Alix (mother of Daisy & Bertie) on 07809 411 190 if you would like to join the group.



"A MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA" FOR THE WAJIR MISSION

Parishioner and friend of our school, Mrs Pat Gallagher, has organised 'A Musical Extravaganza' in memory of Maggie MacLennan, and to raise funds for the Wajir Mission in North East Kenya. This very special event will take place in our school hall on Saturday 9th November at 2pm. Tickets are £10 and include refreshments, and children go free. Please see poster on page 5 for full details of the event and how to purchase your tickets!



CLASS-LED WORSHIP

We would like
to welcome our
school families
to join us for our
class-led worships:



Thursday 10th October - Juniper
Thursday 17th October - Sycamore

Please come to the front reception
for 9am.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Many thanks to Mrs Kaczmarek
for the beautiful Harvest Festival
display that she has created for
the front reception area.



PLAYGROUND SAFETY

A reminder to our families that parents
and carers are responsible for children
in the playground after
the teachers have
dismissed their classes,
and dogs are not permitted
on school grounds.



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VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

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

Sycamore Class - **Teddie** - **Hope & Confidence**

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

Willow Class - **Hollie C** - **Friendship & Kindness**



We are all very proud of you.

Our Year 6 Juniper Class have been on their residential trip this week.

TEA WITH MRS C!

Sycamore Class - **Layla**

Acacia Class - **Ada**

Willow Class - **Holly S**



I'M HAVING

TEA
WITH
MRS C!



I'M A TOP VIRTUE POINT WINNER!

Our EYFS Cedar class will join in with our tea later in the school year.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Information from our parish church, Saint Mary and Saint Augustine, regarding their First Holy Communion Programme:

Application forms are available now for our First Holy Communion Programme 2024/25, leading to the celebration of First Holy Communion next year.

If your child is in Year 3 at school or aged 7 or over and has not yet made their First Holy Communion, then please obtain an application form available at the back of Church.

The closing date for registering for the Programme is Sunday 27th October.

Those not attending weekly Mass, at least from the time of application, will not be eligible for the subsequent classes or to make their First Holy Communion, as this is a Diocesan expectation.



Little Stars Wraparound Care

We had so much fun last week in Little Stars!



E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MCKENZIE

Teen Brains, Technology and Social Media

We sometimes need to take a step back and reflect on why children and young people do what they do. Whilst the online disinhibition effect is an important factor to understand, we need to remember that young brains are very different from our own adult brains.

Darren Laur, otherwise known as The White Hatter on Twitter is someone I have known and respected for many years and he writes some inspiring, thought-provoking articles.

In the article I'm referring to he writes about a way in which we can explain, very simplistically, the way in which the young brain develops, specifically concentrating on the limbic system and the pre-frontal cortex. In other words, why and how decisions are sometimes made, especially when emotions play a part.

Darren's method of explaining this is to use the X-Men, Wolverine and Professor Xavier. Wolverine (the limbic system) is the strong, impulsive and emotional character driven by instincts. Prof. Xavier (the pre-frontal cortex) is calm, measured, thoughtful and wise.

We've all had those "Why did you do that, what were you thinking.....?" moments. But understanding why adolescents may do things is really important when we're talking to them, it allows us to understand behaviour and also to shape the educational talks we're giving. In other words, try to avoid being judgemental.

I've used something similar in talks to young secondary students in the past. I remember a couple of years ago when a group of students came up to me at the end of the assembly and explained quite a serious situation they had got into. They were found out, and they got into trouble for it. They were told they were stupid (their words) for getting into that situation, that they should have known better. After the explanation in the assembly they agreed they were stupid (again, their words) but they didn't realise that at the time. Nobody had ever explained to them how emotions can take over rational decision making.

It's a really good article and well worth a read, you can find Darren's article [HERE](#)



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 93.68%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

- Cedar** - 89.17%
- Sycamore** - 94.84%
- Acacia** - 92.83%
- Willow** - 98.33%
- Juniper** - 92.79%

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](#),

EXTRA-ORDO-NARY 'WORD OF THE WEEK'

Next week's word is 'Solidarity'.

Solidarity is the feeling of unity and support for others. It is essential for building a just and compassionate society. In the Catholic faith, we are called to be in solidarity with the poor and the marginalized and with those who are suffering, both physically and emotionally. Even if we have not met them, our faith creates an obligation in us to support our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Research the work of CAFOD this week and find a campaign action that will help you stand in solidarity with others.



YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP

Our Year 6 children had an amazing time on their residential trip to The Briars this week! Filled with fun and adventure with outdoor activities, visits to the Heights of Abraham and the Tramway Museum, every moment was packed with excitement. The children bonded with their classmates, discovered new skills, and enjoyed being surrounded by nature. The laughter, smiles, and shared memories made it a trip they'll never forget!





9TH NOV.
2PM

A MUSICAL

TICKETS

Extravaganza

£10*

IN FOND MEMORY OF MAGGIE MACLENNAN, AND CARRYING OUT HER
WISHES TO RAISE FUNDS TO PROTECT AND EDUCATE YOUNG GIRLS IN
THE WAJIR MISSION, NORTH EAST KENYA.

ARCHIE MACLENNAN - PIANO
STAMFORD U3A UKULELE GROUP
TINA COX - SINGING
THOMAS DAY - VIOLIN
NICHOLAS ARMITAGE - SINGING

ST.AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL HALL, KESTEVEN ROAD, STAMFORD PE9 1SR

*REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED, CHILDREN GO FREE

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE CONTACT PAT GALLAGHER ON 01780 754053

REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1184266



St Augustine's
Catholic Voluntary Academy

OPEN EVENTS



Wednesday 9th October 2024
5.30pm – 6.30pm

Tuesday 12th November 2024
11am – 12pm and 5pm – 6pm

Saturday 11th January 2025
10.30am – 12.30pm

at St Augustine's Catholic Voluntary
Academy, Kesteven Road,
Stamford, PE9 1SR

Come and see why our school is a
fantastic choice for your family

Find out more at: tab.so/staugustinesstamford-2425

Why visit St Augustine's?

During our open day tour with the headteacher, you will get an insight into the high standards our children achieve through our inspiring and creative learning environments.

You can talk with our teachers about our high-quality teaching and find out why our school is a fantastic choice for your family.

We welcome children from all cultural, religious and non-religious backgrounds whose families support our Catholic ethos and want their children to experience the caring environment of the school.

You'll also find out about:

- our child-centered early years provision
- our wraparound care
- our indoor/outdoor learning environments
- our Forest School



Find out more at: tab.so/staugustinesstamford-2425

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'Pupils like learning and spending time together at this warm and welcoming school.'

Ofsted 2022