

JUBILEE 2025



PILGRIMS OF HOPE

St. Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy



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



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THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025; A MESSAGE FROM A ST. AUGUSTINE'S C.V.A GOVERNOR

The Jubilee Year 2025, the Year of Hope, will be a very special and significant year for all those involved with St Augustine's Catholic School Stamford. Pope Francis has asked us all to grow in our friendship, relationship and love of God. From 24th December 2024 until 6th January 2026, we are all asked to rebuild and re-establish our life of prayer, service to other and follow a life of virtue, especially *HOPE*. Mrs Cox and her team will create countless opportunities through: RE, Collective Worship, and the entire school ethos to embrace this very special year. We can start this week by discussing in our homes the symbols you see in the Jubilee logo; perhaps, as you pray together as a family, you can say the Jubilee prayer on the last page of this newsletter.

What is a Jubilee?

The Catholic Church Bishops' Conference of England and Wales explains the meaning and significance of the Jubilee: "The Jubilee Year is a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

"Jubilee" is the name given to a particular year; the name comes from the instrument used to mark its launch. In this case, the instrument in question is the yobel, the ram's horn, used to proclaim the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). This (Jewish) holiday occurs every year, but it takes on special significance when it marks the beginning of a Jubilee year.

We can find an early indication of it in the Bible: a Jubilee year was to be marked every 50 years, since this would be an "extra" year, one which would happen every seven weeks of seven years, i.e., every 49 years (cf. Leviticus 25:8-13). Even though it wasn't easy to organise, it was intended to be marked as a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation, and involved the forgiveness of debts, the return of misappropriated land, and a fallow period for the fields.

Quoting the prophet Isaiah, the Gospel of Luke describes Jesus' mission in this way:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord," (Luke 4:18-19; cf. Isaiah 61:1-2).

Jesus lives out these words in his daily life, in his encounters with others and in his relationships, all of which bring about liberation and conversion.

In 1300, Pope Boniface VIII called the first Jubilee, also known as a "Holy Year," since it is a time in which God's holiness transforms us. The frequency of Holy Years has changed over time: at first, they were celebrated every 100 years; later, in 1343 Pope Clement VI reduced the gap between Jubilees to every 50 years, and in 1470 Pope Paul II made it every 25 years.

There have also been "extraordinary" Holy Years: for example, in 1933 Pope Pius XI chose to commemorate the 1900th anniversary of the Redemption, and in 2015 Pope Francis proclaimed the Year of Mercy as an extraordinary jubilee. The way in which Jubilee Years are marked has also changed through the centuries: originally the Holy Year consisted of a pilgrimage to the Roman Basilicas of St. Peter and St. Paul, later other signs were added, such as the Holy Door. By participating in the Holy Year, one is granted a plenary indulgence."



LET US PRAY

Loving God,
Thank You for filling our
hearts with hope each day.
Help us to trust in Your
goodness, even when things
feel difficult.

Guide us to shine like bright
lights of hope for our friends,
family, and community.
May we always believe in
Your love and the wonderful
plans You have for us.
Amen.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to our St. Augustine's children who are celebrating their birthday during the next few days!

Eloise in Cedar Class turns 5 on Saturday, and Abel in Juniper Class will be 11 on Thursday!



We all wish you a very happy birthday!

SCHOOL COUNCIL AND GREEN TEAM

Green Team will meet after school on Monday 13th January, and School Council will meet after school on Monday 20th January.



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THE EPIPHANY

In last week's parish newsletter, Canon Peter wrote:

'An "epiphany" is an appearance. In this weekend's readings, with their rising stars, splendid lights, and mysteries revealed, the face of the child born on Christmas day appears.

Herod, in the Gospel, asks the chief priests and scribes where the Messiah is to be born. The answer Matthew puts on their lips says much more, combining two strands of Old Testament promise—one revealing the Messiah to be from the line of David (cf. 2 Samuel 2:5), the other predicting "a ruler of Israel" who will "shepherd his flock" and whose "greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth" (cf. Micah 5:1-3).

Those promises of Israel's king ruling the nations resound also in the Psalm. The psalm celebrates David's son, Solomon. His kingdom, we sing, will stretch "to the bounds of the earth," and the world's kings will pay him homage. That's the scene too in the First Reading, as nations stream from the East, bearing "gold and frankincense" for Israel's king.

The Magi's pilgrimage in the Gospel then marks the fulfilment of God's promises. The Magi, probably Persian astrologers, are following the star that Balaam predicted would rise along with the ruler's staff over the house of Jacob (cf. Numbers 24:17). Laden with gold and spices, their journey evokes those made to Solomon by the Queen of Sheba and the kings of the earth". Interestingly, the only other places where frankincense and myrrh are mentioned together are in songs about Solomon (cf. Song of Songs 3:6; 4:6, 14). One greater than Solomon is here though: He has come to reveal that all peoples are "coheirs" of the royal family of Israel, as St Paul in his Epistle teaches.

His manifestation forces us to choose: will we follow the signs that lead to Him as the wise Magi did? Or will we be like those priests and scribes who let God's words of promise become dead letters on an ancient page?

Please [click here](#) to read more newsletters from our Catholic Parish of Stamford, Saint Mary and Saint Augustine

MINDSPACE & ART POP-UP EVENTS

Brush off those January blues with some cosy creativity with our friends at Mindspace and Art Pop-Up!

MAKE SPACE *Cheer Club*

Crafternoon

The Cheer Club does Make Space! Brush off your January Blues with an afternoon of making crafty characters with Artist Ann Bellamy

plus a variety of other crafty activities & light refreshments!

Sunday 19th January - 2.00pm - 4.00pm
@ Stamford URC Hall, 29 Broad street, PE9 1PJ

*Please book your FREE tickets via [eventbrite](#)

Art Pop-Up

community@artpopup.co.uk'. At the bottom, it says 'Art Pop-Up'."/>

Art Pop-Up

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Join the Cheer Club to tackle the January Blues as we brighten Stamford this Blue Monday!

We're inviting you to help us distribute some cheerful paper pop-up characters created by artist Ann Bellamy. These delightful creations are designed to bring a smile to everyone who finds them!

Help us spread some Cheer!

WHEN: MONDAY 20TH JAN WHEN: 10.30AM
MEET AT: RED LION SQUARE, STAMFORD, PE9 2AH

For info about the Cheer Club or to register for the free programme please email community@artpopup.co.uk

Art Pop-Up

VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

Cedar Class - **Millie-Mae** - **Hope & Confidence**

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

Acacia Class - **Talitha, Lucy, Olivia and Logan B** - **Hope & Confidence**

Willow Class - **Holly** - **Friendship & Kindness, Martin** - **Hope & Confidence**

Juniper Class - **Aurora & Tyler** - **Love of Learning & Determination**



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

TEA WITH MRS DOLLIN!

Cedar Class - **Ronnie**

Sycamore Class - **Ash**

Acacia Class - **Zachary**

Willow Class - **Molly-Rose**

Juniper Class - **Nazim**



Fully Funded School Support Course

Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

6 Week Course
Mon - Fri
Daily sessions
1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

*Please go to our website for more detailed information.

www.studysmartuk.online

Available in the following levels:

Level 1:	CACHE Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools CACHE Level 1 Award in Safeguarding in a Learning Environment CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Wellbeing
Level 2:	Level 1 Occupational Studies for the Workplace CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours
Level 3:	Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Special Educational Needs

Please go to our website address above, for more information.

*Please take note of the online live webinar sessions that **MUST** be attended to complete this full time 6 week course, and the ESFA's (Education Skills Funding Agency) eligibility criteria.

Coffee mornings at St. Augustine's C.V.A

We would like to invite you to join us in the Shiloh room on Fridays after the morning drop off!

Come and chat to other school parents and enjoy a warm drink with new friends.

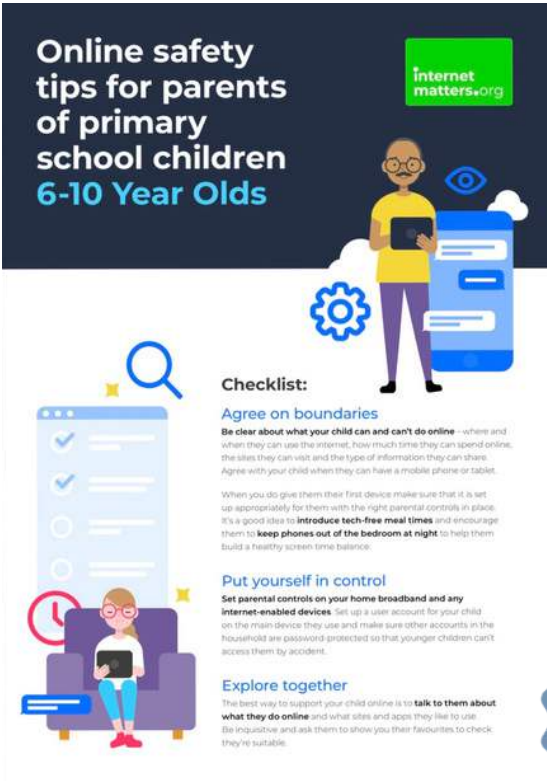
Mrs Garland and Mrs Reeves will be available to support and give advice on SEND, emotions, mental health and wellbeing, finances and any other questions that you might have.

Every Friday from 8.45am to 9.30am in the Shiloh room - no need to book!

ONLINE SAFETY TIPS

Guidance for parents and carers

Early use of digital technology can boost language skills, social development, and creativity in children. However, it also carries risks like exposure to inappropriate content, sharing personal information, or imitating older kids online. Here's a useful guide from internet matters.org on how to ensure a safe and positive online experience for children aged 6-10; please click on the image below to view the information.



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 94.31%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Cedar - 97.62%

Sycamore - 96.3%

Acacia - 86.86%

Willow - 96.3%

Juniper - 96%

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](#),



"From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child.
#AttendanceCounts"



EXTRA-ORDO-NARY 'WORD OF THE WEEK'

Next week's word is 'Baptism'

Baptism is a sign of God's love and forgiveness, it marks a fresh start and a new beginning. When we are baptised are welcomed into the Church community of believers who love us, support us and help us grow. During baptism we are anointed as priest, prophet and king and called to live like Jesus did.

Think of one way you can be more like Jesus this week.



OUR DOG MENTOR, FLOSSIE!

Hello! I'm Flossie - your new Dog Mentor! I'm here to help make learning fun, reduce stress, and support everyone in school. I have passed my assessments with the Dog Mentor UK with flying colours, and they said I am really happy and well-mannered...and super-smart!

The boys and girls have had lessons about how to behave around me, things to watch out for, how to look after me in school and how we can all be 'Flossie Ready'. I look forward to shaking paws with you soon!



Writer of THE WEEK

Congratulations to Aurora in Year 6 Juniper Class... you are our Writer of the Week!

Aurora completed this writing task so well and really impressed Mrs Mason with her storytelling and detail.

Well done, Aurora – this is excellent work!

LI: To know how to rewrite a story in own words		
To know to use nouns, adjectives and our 5 senses for a jungle setting	To know to use nouns and adjectives to describe how a character looks	I know to write up a narrative from my devised plan
In the deep dark woods a scared lonely monkey was all alone but a mumsket blue butterfly said I will help you find your mummy so they both set off and a few shes and the little monkey said my mum is bigger than me so the butterfly said I've seen your mum come come	hohohoho that's not my mum that is a giraffe rinky, gray elephant my mum isn't isn't a great gray hunk she has not got buskes or curly brunk and she does not have great baky knees and an wax her tail coils around trees it coils around trees well she is over here	End hohohoho that's a shake my mum does not look a bit like this she does not slither about and hiss she does not curl round a nest of eggs and amway my mums got more legs has more less well she is over here. hohohoho that is a spider my mum is not black and hair and fat she does not have that many legs as that and she lives on the
twinkl the top's she lives on the tree top's you should of seen your mum is hiding over your head hohohoho that's my dad come come come i will take you to your mum. twinkl.co.uk		



AURORA PENFOLD



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



2025

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 INSET DAY	7 FIRST DAY OF LENT TERM!	8	9	10	11 COMMUNITY OPEN DAY EVENT AT SCHOOL 10.30AM-12.30PM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE OPENS FOR SCHOOLS	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

The Jubilee Prayer: the official prayer of His Holiness Pope Francis for the Holy Year

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the
whole cosmos in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

