

# 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

What a beautiful start to the term and year it has been at St. Augustine's! Our open morning last Saturday was crisp and sunny, with sausages on the forest school fire and pots of tea and toast in the hall. I was so proud of how warm and inviting our school looked and felt to visitors and how happy everyone was to attend. Thank you to everyone who came along, in particular all of the staff that came in on Saturday to share our lovely school with the community.

The official launch of the Jubilee Year in school is next Friday 24th January and we are excitedly getting ready to open the door of HOPE to our pupils. There are live streams happening across our Trust and the Country for the children to gain a real sense of the Global importance of this year and how we can lead the way here at St. Augustine's in celebrating this momentous occasion. I myself will only ever experience a Jubilee year once as an education leader and I'm determined that we will make our mark as a school, showing commitment, faith and hope in all that we plan to do - from pledges to pilgrimages, individual actions to united celebrations, it will be a wonderful year to remember.

In school this week I have seen lots of wonderful and inspiring learning happening in classrooms, Flossie has visited each year group, Year 5 have started their full term of swimming lessons, and our Inspire+ Bronze Young Ambassadors have all been to St. Gilbert's Primary School for training. The Conversation Stamford have visited twice to work with groups of children on their opinions of smart phones, apps and the link to their wellbeing; the ladies from The Conversation were so impressed with our young people and said that their engagement and insight was outstanding. Today, Inspire+ came in to school to lead a First Aid training session in Year 6 - another way of helping our oldest year group on their way to independence.

Mrs Lucy Wright, our chaplain, has started to work with Willow class on their Faith in Action project for the term - as ever, our pupils continue to shine with Jesus' message of hope and service, choosing to plan an event for a local special school as they would like to engage with children with additional needs.

As we move into the weekend, I would recommend that you have a look on the CAFOD website at the excellent Jubilee Year resources, so that you can continue to promote and discuss the key themes and messages at home.

I wish you a very happy weekend; things don't feel quite as freezing cold at the moment, so I myself am looking forward to the promise of Spring with hope in my heart as I look for the first snowdrops poking through!

Mrs Cox

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## LET US PRAY

Dear Jesus, I am grateful for my friends and family, for my teachers and my helpers, and the joy they bring to me. Help me to appreciate the blessings of each day, like the love I'm shown by others and the care that comes my way. We know because you showed us, with a few small loaves and fishes, to give thanks and share the gifts God gives, and live the way he wishes. A smile, kind word, shared laughter; a hug and helping hand: for these things I am grateful as they help me understand to appreciate each other is the best way we can say 'thank you, God our Father, for loving us this way.' Amen.

Amen.



## REFLECTION

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

'The Liturgy last weekend revealed the mystery of God's plan—that in Jesus all peoples, symbolized by the Magi, have been made coheirs to the blessings promised to Israel. This weekend, we're shown how we claim our inheritance.

Jesus doesn't submit to John's baptism as a sinner in need of purification. He humbles Himself to pass through Jordan's waters in order to lead a new exodus—opening up the promised land of heaven so that all peoples can hear the words pronounced over Jesus in the Gospel, words once reserved only for Israel and its king: that each of us is a beloved son or daughter of God.

Jesus is the chosen servant Isaiah prophesies in this weekend's First Reading, anointed with the Spirit to make things right and just on earth. God puts His Spirit upon Jesus to make Him a covenant of the people, the liberator of captives, the light to the nations. Jesus is the One long expected in Israel, the Messiah, "anointed... with the Holy Spirit and power." The word 'Messiah' means "one anointed" with God's Spirit. King David was "the anointed of the God of Jacob" (cf. 2 Samuel 23:1–17; Psalm 18:51; 132:10, 17). The prophets taught Israel to await a royal offshoot of David, upon whom the Spirit would rest (cf. Isaiah 11:1–2; Daniel 9:25).

That's why the crowds are so anxious at the start of the Gospel this weekend. But it isn't John they're looking for. God confirms with His own voice what the angel earlier told Mary: Jesus is the Son of the Most High, come to claim the throne of David forever. In the Baptism that He brings, the voice of God will hover over the waters. He has sanctified the waters, made them a passageway to healing and freedom—a fountain of new birth and everlasting life for all.

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



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Olivia in Acacia Class is 9 today, and Alice in Juniper Class is 11 tomorrow! Leo in Willow Class turns 10 on Monday, and Delilah in Sycamore Class will be 7 on Thursday!



We all wish you a very happy birthday!

## SCHOOL COUNCIL AND GREEN TEAM

School Council will meet after school on Monday 20th January, and Green Team will meet after school on Monday 27th January.



## POLITE REMINDER

We kindly ask parents to arrange routine dental and medical appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. This helps to minimise disruptions to children's learning and ensures they can make the most of their time in school. Thank you for your support.



*We can never  
achieve greatness  
alone*

# VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

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

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

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

Willow Class - **Freddie** - **Love of Learning & Determination**

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



# TEA WITH MRS C!

Cedar Class - **Sam**

Sycamore Class - **Derry**

Acacia Class - **River**

Willow Class - **Jake**

Juniper Class - **Tommy**



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



I'M A TOP VIRTUE POINT WINNER!

# ACACIA SUPERSTARS!

Well done to Logan, Olivia, Talitha and Lucy for representing our school in the Maths Challenge at Laxton Junior School in Oundle last week! Mrs Worrick and Miss Smalley were so proud of your determination and love of learning.



We were invited to take along 4 year 4 pupils, along with 16 other schools to compete in a range of maths challenges in Oundle.



# LITTLE STARS!

We have all had so much fun in Little Stars Wraparound Care this week!

- Miss Fiona





# ONLINE SAFETY TIPS

## Guide - Outsmart Online Ads and Traps

[Better Internet for Kids](#) (BIK) have put together a really useful guide in relation to games, ads and scams.

This guide will give you some useful tips and hopefully some ideas on what to talk about with your child to keep them safe online.

Click on the image below to read the guide.



# ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 97.15%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

**Cedar** - 99.38%

**Sycamore** - 95.88%

**Acacia** - 96.89%

**Willow** - 96.3%

**Juniper** - 97.78%

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"

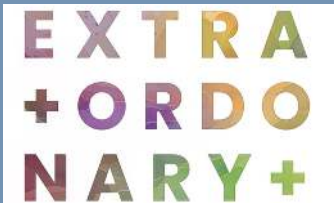


# EXTRA-ORDO-NARY 'WORD OF THE WEEK'

Next week's word is 'Discipleship'

Discipleship is about following Jesus and living your life according to his teachings. It is a lifelong journey of learning and growing in faith. As disciples, we are called to grow in our relationship with God, to live out our faith in the world, and to serve others.

Think of someone in need in your community who you can help and support this week.



# INSPIRE+ FIRST AID

Paige from Inspire+ spent time with our Year 6 Juniper Class today and did some First Aid training with them as part of their 'Personal Development' and wider skills. The children had a great time learning some new skills!



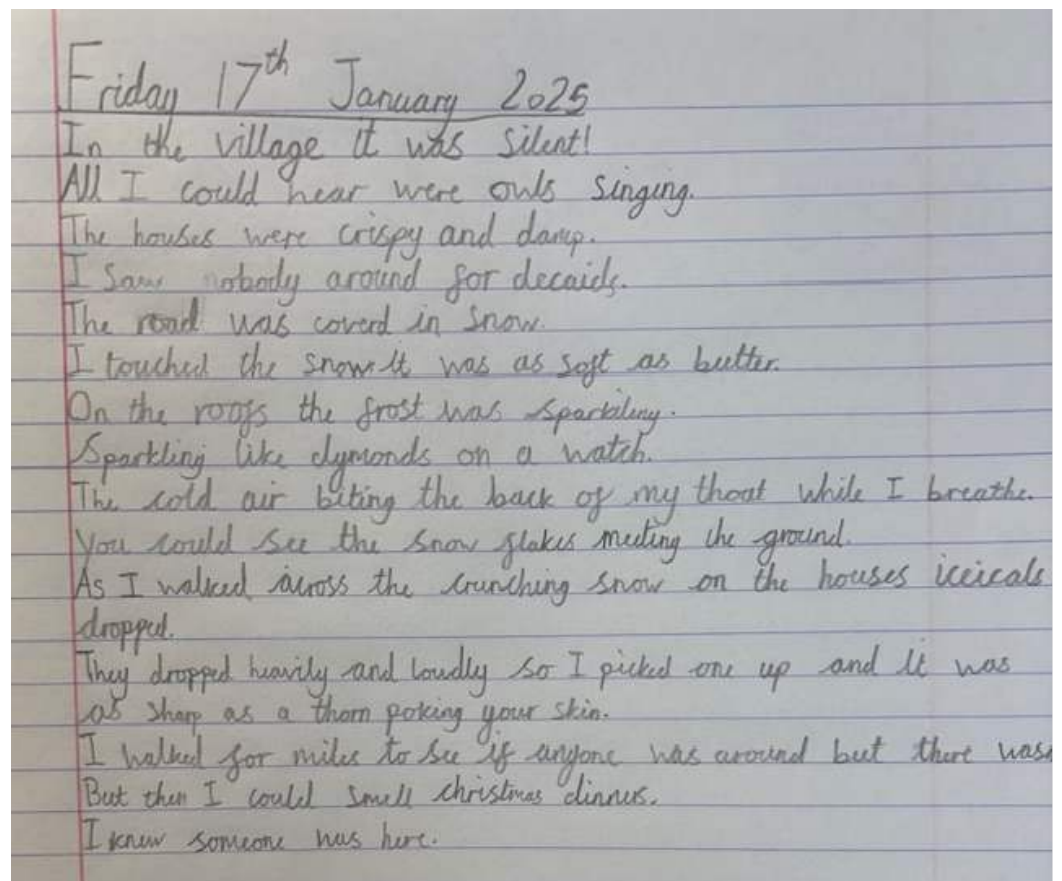
# Writer of THE WEEK

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**Congratulations to Lucy in Year 4 Acacia Class... you are our Writer of the Week!**

**Lucy wrote a winter poem, using the Ice Palace book as stimulus. Mrs Worrick is so proud of you, Lucy, and your handwriting is beautiful!**

**Well done, Lucy, on your brilliant work.**



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**L U C Y   M I L O J E V I C**



# MINDSPACE AND ART POP-UP EVENTS






**FREE\***

## Crafternoon

The Cheer Club does Make Space! Brush off your January Blues with an afternoon of making Create some cheerful 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**

ALTHOUGH THE CHEER CLUB WELCOMES OVER 185, FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 4+ ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS EVENT FUNDED THROUGH THE MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND REGISTER HERE FOR THE PROGRAMME & EMAIL US TO TELL US YOU'RE COMING! COMMUNITY@ARTPOPUP.CO.UK



## 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 popup 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](mailto:community@artpopup.co.uk)**



SUPPORTED BY THE MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND THROUGH SHINE LINCOLNSHIRE



## 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	



# Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum

**January 2025**

**LPCF State of SEND Survey 2025 - VERY IMPORTANT!**

*("The state of SEND in Lincolnshire from Parent Carers and SENCoS")*

**No View** 😐 **Very Bad** 😡 😞 😊 😄 **Excellent**

LPCF are conducting two IMPORTANT bi-annual County wide surveys entitled "The State of SEND in Lincolnshire" in 2025." The findings will evidence if/how SEND development is progressing in the County.

It will also give parents of children with SEND an opportunity to give our independent forum your experiences and views.

When last undertaken in 2023, 150+ SENCoS and 650+ parents participated – let's make 2025 more powerful by adding even more voices and capturing more views / experiences



We would be grateful if you could please complete the survey online at the link below:- [www.lincspcf.org.uk/Survey2025/Survey\\_Home.php](http://www.lincspcf.org.uk/Survey2025/Survey_Home.php)

*Our Test team have found that the average completion time is around 6-8 minutes unless individuals wish to write long comments etc.*

Schools and settings have been notified of the release of the survey and will have been sent details to circulate to any parents of children with SEND on their SEND register.

If you don't hear about the survey from your school or setting please feel free to let us know so we can chase up.

If you would prefer a paper copy for completion please reply to this email and we will send one out to you.

PDF copies of both surveys can be found using the above link.

**The closing date for completion is 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**



# STAMFORD CYBERWISE CAMPAIGN: THE CONVERSATION, STAMFORD

"I'm worried about my child's screentime and smartphone use"

"What apps should they be allowed on?"

"When should they get a phone?"

"How should I limit their time?"

**It's one thing to be worried about it and another to know what to do**

We want to support the local parenting community in navigating digital choices for their children - come to one of our parent webinars:

**Zoom Webinar: Tuesday 4th February 7.30** [Click here to join](#)

**Zoom Webinar: Wednesday 12th February 7.30** [Click here to join](#)

Link available on social media channels, our website or via your school



*In-person parent workshops coming to schools in March*

theconversation...

## STAMFORD CYBERWISE CAMPAIGN

### THE PARENT PLEDGE

1. No smartphones for primary aged children
2. No social media until (at least) 13
3. Parental controls until 16



Scan to sign the pledge, or visit  
**theconversation**  
**stamford.co.uk**



Supporting you to make informed decisions  
regarding children and smartphones