

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

This week, I begin by thanking you all for your positivity, your support and your kindness to us as a school community. As we step into this Jubilee Year of Hope, we are reminded of the power of hope. Hope is a spark that keeps us moving forward together, even in the face of challenges. It encourages us to dream big, to persevere, and to believe in the possibilities that lie ahead. In our school community, hope is a force that binds us together, inspiring both our learning and our kindness. You, our pupils and families, embody that hope and we are so grateful.

Today, we've all been focusing on how we can recognise hope in our lives and our world, and how we share hope with others as pilgrims. Whether it's through a smile, offering a helping hand, or simply being there for a friend, small acts of hope can make a world of difference. We encourage all our students to continue to think positively and see the best in themselves and in others. We believe that with hope, every challenge becomes an opportunity for growth.

As a school, we are excited to see our students shine bright with the hope they carry in their hearts on the year ahead. Together, we will continue to support one another, lift each other up, and celebrate every small victory along the way. Thank you to everyone who has joined us to celebrate this exciting launch today; we hope that you will join us on our journey as Pilgrims of Hope, today and always.

Wishing you all a weekend and year full of hope, joy, and endless possibilities!

Mrs Cox

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JUBILEE PLEDGE

We are pilgrims of hope.

We walk in solidarity with our sisters and brothers worldwide, sharing challenges and celebrating joys.

We promise to be agents of change, working together for justice, love and peace, locally and globally.

We want to build a fairer world, where every person, and the earth, can flourish.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

In Sycamore Class, Harry is 7 tomorrow, and Indie is 6 on Sunday.

Ronnie in Cedar Class is 5 on Sunday, and after a mix up with Leo's birthday last week, we are celebrating with him again as he turns 10 on Thursday!



SCHOOL COUNCIL AND GREEN TEAM

Green Team will meet after school on Monday 27th January and School Council will meet after school on Monday 3rd February.



JUBILEE 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The Jubilee Year is a landmark moment in the life of the global church. We are invited to join together as pilgrims of hope, pledging to work together for God's kingdom of justice, peace and love.

In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation

A Jubilee Year is celebrated by the Church every 25 years. This has been the case since 1470, when Pope Paul II changed it from every 50 years. A Pope can also proclaim an Extraordinary Jubilee, like the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which Pope Francis inaugurated in 2015.

"By our actions, our words, the decisions we make each day, our patient efforts to sow seeds of beauty and kindness wherever we find ourselves, we want to sing of hope...and reawaken in every heart the joy and the courage to embrace life to the full."

- Pope Francis



OUR PARISH CHURCH

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

LITTLE STARS WRAPAROUND CARE

Please note that Little Stars Wraparound Care requires bookings to be made at least 48 hours in advance via the Arbor app.

For any bookings within the 48-hour period, please contact Little Stars directly. While we cannot guarantee availability due to limited spaces, we will do our best to accommodate your request where possible.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to all of the recipients of this week's Virtue Certificates - we are all very proud of you.

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

Sycamore Class - **Frankie** - **Love & Respect**

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

Willow Class - **Bella** - **Hope & Confidence**

Juniper Class - **Margarita** - **Love & Respect**



TEA WITH MRS C!

Cedar Class - **Maisy**

Sycamore Class - **Delilah**

Acacia Class - **Storm**

Willow Class - **Jacob G**

Juniper Class - **Charlie**



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



ACACIA COOKERY CLUB

Our Acacia Cookery Club is up and running and our children have been looking at Health and Safety in the kitchen, the different grips used when handling knives, and have expertly produced a mixed salad and a fruit salad.

Next week, the children are making a healthy vegetable soup.



SCHOOL COUNCIL LUNCHBOX PROJECT

Our School Council children are currently looking at the children's packed lunches, and will be analysing and comparing their findings against the government's nutritional guidelines. We are looking at little steps that we can all make to become a healthier school.



RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring.

Click on the image to find out how you can take part this weekend!



ONLINE SAFETY TIPS

Age Assurance

In the UK the Online Safety Act became legislation some time ago, but 2025 sees the Act being enforced in phases primarily due to the fact that it is huge. The first phase (end of March 2025) is in relation to illegal harms of which there are over 130. July sees a really important one, particularly when it comes to children and young people - age assurance. This is a really difficult part of the Act, where content isn't illegal, but could be harmful to younger users. For years we've all been shouting for better age assurance methods than we've currently got (press this button to confirm you're over 18) and now it's here. It isn't perfect, there's some pretty big gaps, there's problems and there are workarounds, but it's a step in the right direction and better than we've had previously.

Essentially tech companies must conform to requirements:

1. They must assess their platforms to see if children can access them and implement measures to protect those children.
2. They must introduce effective age checks, particularly platforms which host adult or other harmful content.
3. And ensure that harmful material cannot be accessed or viewed during the age-checking process.

As I mentioned earlier, these are interesting times, how effective the Act is going to be is anybody's guess. I'll keep you updated during the year.

WhatsApp Account Takeover Scam

Another month, another WhatsApp scam. This time criminal gangs are managing to get into chat groups, particularly groups where there are large numbers of people, meaning that no-one knows everyone. From there they will target individuals in the group by telling them that a code is on its way to them which they need to share. For example, a student chat group was infiltrated by someone pretending to be their university lecturer and he asked them all to share their code so that they could join a group call. At that point, the criminal gang now has control of your personal WhatsApp account and will be able to message others asking for money.

Whilst it can be difficult to get your head around some of these scams the message is simple. Regardless of how old you are, regardless of how much you trust that person, never ever share passwords or passcodes.

- Alan Mackenzie, <http://www.esafety-adviser.com/>



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 94.59%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Cedar - 96.91%

Sycamore - 88.89%

Acacia - 97.77%

Willow - 97.53%

Juniper - 93.78%

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"

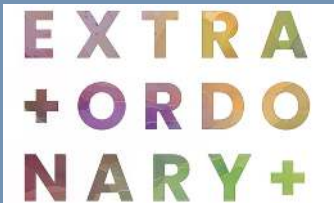


EXTRA-ORDO-NARY 'WORD OF THE WEEK'

Next week's word is 'Scripture'

Scripture is the Word of God. It is a collection of sacred writings that tell the story of God's love for humanity. As we read scripture, we learn about God's plan for our lives, and we are inspired to live a life of faith. Scripture can also be a source of comfort and guidance in difficult times and speaks to us throughout our lives.

Find a passage from the Gospels that you've not read before - reflect on what it might mean to you.



OUR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS!

Meet our newly appointed school librarians! Some of our Acacia children have volunteered their time to keep the library organised, ensuring books are returned to their proper places and maintaining a welcoming space for everyone to enjoy. They'll be working together to create a rota and will spend lunchtimes with Mrs. Ellis in the library, already making great progress with their responsibilities. Well done, girls—fantastic work!



L-R: Olivia, River, Ada, Bow-Blue, Saoirse and Talitha



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	



2025 February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 -SAFER INTERNET DAY -PARENTS EVENING CONSULTATIONS	12 -PARENTS EVENING CONSULTATIONS	13 LAST DAY OF LENT 1 TERM	14 INSET DAY	15
16	17 HALF TERM	18 HALF TERM	19 HALF TERM	20 HALF TERM	21 HALF TERM	22
23	24 FIRST DAY OF LENT 2 TERM	25	26	27	28	



'Hope'
by Margarita, Year 6 Juniper Class