St. Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy









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A MESSAGE FROM MRS COX

At St. Augustine's, we are committed to ensuring that every child - regardless of gender - has access to the same enriching and inspiring opportunities. Our mission, "Let all that you do be done in love", guides us in creating an environment where all children feel empowered to pursue their interests, challenge stereotypes, and reach their full potential.

This month, we have been particularly focused on ensuring our girls enjoy the same educational diet as boys. Football has been a big theme nationally, with the FA placing a spotlight on girls' participation. Our Year 2 girls enthusiastically took part in a football activity last Friday, and this week, we joined a mixed-age event that used storytelling to encourage children, especially those who may not typically engage in competitive team sports, to enjoy football skills in a fun, inclusive way. We were proud to be one of only two schools to participate, and we are incredibly grateful to Inspire+ for making these experiences possible.

STEM has also been in the spotlight. A huge thank you to Mrs Donington, who not only organised an inspiring visit from a Science Boffin for World Book Day (surprising many who assumed the scientist would be a man...until she arrived!), but also arranged a teacher swap science activity and welcomed a STEM visitor to school on Wednesday. These experiences are so important in showing our children that science, like sport, is for everyone!

In today's society, gender is a protected characteristic, yet we still see ingrained perceptions that some activities, like football and science, are 'for boys.' This weekend, let's take a moment to reflect on how we can continue to challenge these outdated stereotypes. At St. Augustine's, we want every child to know that all activities, hobbies, aspirations, and careers are open to them - if they simply set their hearts on trying their best.

Our aim is always to help children discover their God-given potential and be the best they can be. If you'd like to learn more about how we support our pupils in this journey, including how we teach and reinforce positive behaviour, please take a moment to watch our new Behaviour Curriculum Video.

Thank you, as always, for your support. Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Cox



LET US PRAY

Loving Father.

the Bible tells us that you love those who give cheerfully.

Your Son, Jesus, showed us how to be generous.

Bless me with a generous and cheerful spirit, too,

so that I happily share what I have to help others.

Happy to share my faith,

to share my time,

to share my things,

to share my talents,

to share mercy and welcome

and kindness with everyone.

We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.

Mission Together



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to Hazel in Acacia Class who is 9 on Thursday, and to Teddie in Sycamore Class who is 7 on Thursday!



We hope that you both have a great time celebrating your special day!

SCHOOL COUNCIL AND GREEN TEAM

Green Team will meet after school on Monday 17th March and School Council will meet on Monday 24th March.





ST. PATRICK AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Patrick is one of the most well-known saints in the Catholic Church, celebrated every year on March 17th. Born in Britain in the late 4th century, he was kidnapped by pirates as a teenager and taken to Ireland as a slave. After several years, he escaped but later returned to Ireland as a missionary, bringing Christianity to the Irish people. St. Patrick is often credited with using the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - which is why the shamrock remains a symbol of his feast day, celebrated on the 17th March.

His work in spreading Christianity had a lasting impact, and today, Ireland has a strong Catholic tradition that traces back to his teachings. St. Patrick's Day is not only a time for parades and celebrations but also a reminder of faith, perseverance, and the importance of sharing God's love. His story inspires us to be courageous, kind, and dedicated to our faith, just as he was.



OUR PARISH CHURCH

The Children's Liturgy takes place at the

9:00am Mass. All children are welcome to share in this opportunity to participate in their own Liturgy of the Word at Mass at an appropriate level for them.

Please <u>click here</u> to read weekly newsletters from our Catholic Parish of Stamford, Saint Mary and Saint Augustine.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S CLASS LITURGIES

Our classes celebrate their liturgies every Wednesday afternoon from 3pm until 3.15pm. Classroom doors will be open at 3pm if you would like to join us.



BOURNE & DEEPING R.C. PARISH

Please <u>click here</u> to read weekly newsletters from our friends at the Bourne and Deeping Roman Catholic Parish.

VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

Cedar Class - Elsie - Love of Learning & Determination

Sycamore Class - Sophia-Rae - Hope & Confidence

Acacia Class - Storm - Love of Learning & Determination

Willow Class - Martin - Love of Learning & Determination

Juniper Class - Alex - Love of Learning & Determination



STORY TIME WITH FLOSSIE!

Congratulations to all of Flossie's Friends who earned virtue points this week...have a lovely storytime with Flossie!

Cedar Class - Ellie

Sycamore Class - Frankie

Acacia Class - Remy

Willow Class - Holly

Juniper Class - Tyler



INSPIRE+ ACTIVE STORYTIME FESTIVAL!

On Monday, some of our St. Augustine's children went to the Borderville Sports Centre to take part in the inspire+ FA Active Storytime Festival. Big thanks to all at <u>inspire+</u> for such super opportunities.

It was particularly lovely to see some of our older children supporting the youngest. Well done, everyone!

-Miss Leese



L-R front: Nevaeh, Indie, Ava, Wilbur, Romeo and Jake at the inspire+ Active Storytime festival in Stamford, with students from Stamford College!

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SCHOOL COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

We have had this cute bunny and sweet little chick donated to us! School Council will selling raffle tickets for just 20p per ticket; you can purchase your tickets before and after school, and at lunch times.

Enter as many times as you like to be in with a chance of winning the bunny or the chick! All monies raised will go to charity.

- Mrs T



E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MACKENZIE

For Parents - Wearable Tech

More and more children are being given technology that con be worn, e.g. smartwatches and whilst there can be benefits the risks aren't always apparent. This article from Internet Matters explores wearable technology for children and gives advice on:

- The different types of wearable tech, e.g. smart watches, glasses, VR headsets and fitness trackers.
- Whether wearable technology is safe and what some of the concerns are, e.g. privacy and data collection, impact on body image.
- · How wearable tech can support wellbeing.
- And more.

You can find the article HERE.

For Parents - Under 5's

As more and more younger children get access to their own or borrowed tablets it's important to make sure these devices are set up correctly and children are using age-appropriate apps/games. Internet Matters have a great set of resources for parents of these younger children which you can find HERE.

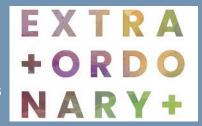


EXTRA-ORDO-NARY 'WORD OF THE WEEK'

Next week's word is 'Fasting'.

Fasting is a way of showing self-discipline and of focusing on our relationship with God. Fasting can also be a way of expressing solidarity with those who are less fortunate. Fasting is an important part of Lent, as it allows us to follow the example of Jesus in the desert, and to grow in our compassion for others.

What can you go without this Lent? Think of something that you can give up to leave more time and space for what's important.



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 91.73%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Cedar - 92.65%

Sycamore - 92.46%

Acacia - 84.89%

Willow - 95.68%

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 <u>here</u>,



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

#AttendanceCounts"



LENT - WORDS FROM POPE FRANCIS

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- · Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.



Writer of THE WEEK

Congratulations to all of the children in our Year 5 Willow Class...Mrs Dollin has chosen you all to receive the 'Writer of the Week' certificate this week!

Willow Class had the task of publishing written pieces in their books to practice with handwriting pens - everyone focused on their neatest handwriting, taking their time to ensure each word was beautifully presented.

Mrs Dollin is very proud of you all - well done on your brilliant work.











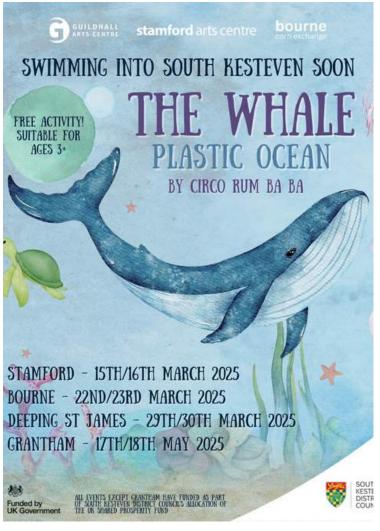






March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3	4	5	WORLD BOOK DAY! -COME TO SCHOOL IN YOUR PJ'S OR AS A BOOK CHARACTER! -BOOK IN A BOX COMPETITION	7 -COFFEE MORNING 8.45AM	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 -Fosa non-uniform day! -COFFEE MORNING 8.45AM	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 -FUNDRAISING COFFEE MORNING 8.45AM -SYCAMORE & JUNIPER CLASS TRIP TO TOWER OF LONDON!	22	23
24	25 CYBERWISE CAMPAIGN SESSION WITH THE CONVERSATION, STAMFORD: 8.45AM-10.45AM	26	27	28 COFFEE MORNING 8.45AM	29	30





























Last Friday, some pupils from Sycamore Class attended a girl's football skills event with inspire+. Lots of fun, giggles, and a great time had by all. They all showed our respect, confidence, love of learning and determination virtues whilst representing our school at this event.









THIS IS LENT! THE MARK 10 MISSION

We are now in the season of Lent and The Mark 10 Mission are inviting children to journey through this sacred season with them.

Click on the links below to view the videos, or scan the QR codes.



Little Liturgies

(ages 4-8)

Jesus Shines in Lent



The Mark 10 Mission (ages 8-12)

Enter God's Presence in Lent



This Lent, The Mark 10 Mission are delighted to be partnering with Mary's Meals, a wonderful charity who feed over two million of the world's hungriest children every school day. We are inviting children to make a simple promise this Lent: to fast and donate what they save to Mary's Meals.

For more information about the amazing work of Mary's Meals and ways to donate, click <u>here</u>.



Your Mission is to choose something to fast from that usually costs money to buy. This could be a particular food or another type of treat like a new game or something you collect. The money you save can be donated to Mary's Meals and help feed some of the

