St. Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy









Phone: 01780 762094

Website: www.st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk

Address: Kesteven Road, Stamford, Lincs PE9 1SR

A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

Well, it seems like we have had all seasons in one week - sun, showers, and even a rainbow! Like the varied weather, my week has been full of different activities and tasks. On Wednesday, we welcomed our Trust Deputy CEO, Mrs Dales, and Director for Performance and Standards, Mrs Tibble, to the school. Like me, they were impressed with the wonderful start the whole St. Augustine's family has made to the new term. The learning atmosphere was fantastic, and this is thanks to your children. I was personally so proud that, so early in the new school year, our children were able to give such deep, thoughtful reflections when spoken to about the Catholic life and Mission of our school. They have all worked so hard this week, and I hope they enjoy some well-earned rest and family time over the weekend.

As you will have seen from communication earlier in the week, Mrs Garland will be leaving the St. Augustine's family after half term. I want to thank her sincerely for her dedication and service to the community she serves. I have also been fortunate to work closely with Mrs Garland prior to joining this school, as we are both SENCOs and have attended many Trust meetings together. As SENCO at St. Norbert's and pastoral lead, I will be taking on Mrs Garland's role and look forward to fulfilling it across both settings. If you haven't already, please do introduce yourselves if you have any questions at all.

This Sunday is 'Education Sunday' and all are welcome at church. I shall be speaking at Mass in Spalding, and Mr Gallagher, school governor, will be speaking in Stamford. This year, we are reflecting on the role of our lead lay chaplain, Mrs Wright, and how she promotes the prayer

life of both schools.

I shall hold you all in my thoughts and prayers at Mass this weekend and give thanks for all those involved in working within education.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Withers

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LET US PRAY

Loving God,

You gave us Saint Carlo Acutis to show us how to love You with joy.

He found You in the Eucharist, and he used his gifts to share Your love with others.

Help us to follow his example: to be kind, to pray each day, and to use our talents for good. Saint Carlo Acutis,

pray for us and guide us closer to Jesus.

Amen.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to Freddie in Juniper Class who is 11 today.



We all wish you a super special day!

GREEN TEAM AND SCHOOL COUNCIL

We're pleased to let you know that our after-school Laudato Si' groups are starting up again soon: Green Team on Tuesday 16th September, and School Council on Tuesday 23rd September. These will then continue on alternate weeks (Green Team one week, School Council the next).

Please collect your child promptly from the KS1 playground at 4pm.

OUR NEW RESPONSIBLE PREMISES OFFICER -MISS KATIE BUSH

Miss Katie Bush has been appointed as our new Responsible Premises Officer. A familiar face to many, Miss Bush has been a Teaching Assistant here for many years; we wish her luck in her exciting new role with us!



SAINT CARLO ACUTIS - A MODERN SAINT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Saint Carlo Acutis was an ordinary boy who loved football, computer games, and spending time with friends. What made him extraordinary was the way he loved Jesus. From a young age, Carlo had a deep devotion to the Eucharist and said that "the Eucharist is my highway to heaven."

Carlo was very talented with computers. Instead of just using his skills for fun, he used them to share his faith. He <u>created a website</u> that showed miracles of the Eucharist from around the world, helping people to see how amazing God's love truly is.

Even though Carlo became sick with leukaemia at only fifteen, he never lost his trust in God. He offered his suffering for the Church and for the Pope, showing great courage and faith, even in difficult times.

Pope Francis called Carlo "a role model for young people" because he showed that holiness is possible for everyone, even children and teenagers. Carlo reminds us that being a saint doesn't mean doing extraordinary things it means living each day with love for God and others.

As we remember Saint Carlo Acutis, may we learn from his example to pray often, to use our talents for good, and to keep Jesus at the centre of our lives.



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.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about a child, or if you need help and support, please don't hesitate to contact our Safeguarding team:

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Garland

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Withers

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Oliver

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Reeves

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Taylor

The Safeguarding team can be contacted on 01780 762094 or by email: enquiries@st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk



VIRTUES CERTIFICATES

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

Olive Class - Michael - Love of Learning & Determination

Sycamore Class - Keira - Love of Neighbour & Self-Control

Acacia Class - Krystal - Hope & Confidence

Juniper Class - Jacob G - Friendship & Kindness



Winner of the most ClassDojo virtue points this week:

Ben in Acacia Class - well done, Ben!

E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MACKENZIE

For Parents - Talking to your Child about Online Safety

It's the area that a lot of parents struggle with yet it is the single most important aspec for any child of any age - continuing conversations with children to mitigate risk, including topics that can be very difficult to approach.

The NSPCC has some wonderful resources for parents including age-appropriate conversations and topics, top tips, quizzes and more. There's a lot of information and my tip would be to send out snippets of information, perhaps in your newsletter. For example you could say that in lessons with the children you've been having some lessons around how to stay safe online (with specific topics), then send out information just related to that topic. Parents are much more likely to read that, which in turn means they're more likely to talk to their children about it.

You can find all the resources listed **HERE**.

For Parents - Misleading App and Game Age Ratings

I covered this topic within my very last weekly email in July but thought it worth mentioning again as it was so close to the end of term - it's a topic that continually comes up when I talk with parents.

For some time it has been well known that age ratings within stores (e.g. Apple Store, Google Play) have been very misleading and don't reflect that actual age requirements of the app or, occasionally, the game. For example in the Google Play store WhatsApp is rated at PEGI 3 - it isn't even a game! Not only is this confusing for parents, it can also be very confusing for younger children who may think they can download and use the app.

It's worth having a look at this.press release; if you're unsure of any age requirements, simply Google it or do a search and find on 'age' within the terms and conditions document

Online Safety Weekly Update

Alan Mackenzie Online Safety Specialist



A MESSAGE FROM THE NOTTINGHAM ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE (NRCDES)

St Carlo Acutis

We are delighted that Carlo Acutis has now been canonized by Pope Leo XIV. Addressing over 80,000 faithful in St Peter's Square on Sunday for the Mass of canonization of Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati, Pope Leo said that the examples of these two young saints invite all of us, especially young people, to direct our lives upwards to God and make them masterpieces of holiness, service and joy.

God of our past, our present and our future,

God of our dreams, our designs and our decisions,

be love in us as we journey through this new school year.

Be our inner vision, that we may see life through your eyes,

be our inner hearing, that we may listen well for your call,

be our inner judgement, so we may discern clearly that which gives life, promotes growth, and nurtures love.

As we begin this school year,

fill us with hope and abiding trust that you dwell in us, so that, in both joy and sorrow, we radiate hope.

Amen.

Our Lady Immaculate, pray for us. Saint Carlo Acutis, pray for us.

Education Sunday

This coming Sunday, (14 September) is Education Sunday, and this year, also the Jubilee of Schools and Young People.



LOOKING AFTER OUR BOOKS

We know how much our families value reading and the joy it brings, and we want every child to be able to enjoy our school books for many years to come. Sometimes accidents happen, and that's absolutely understandable. To help us look after our collection, we kindly ask that any lost books are replaced. For Read Write Inc. phonics books, this means a replacement cost of £5 each.

You can really support us by encouraging your child to take care of their books at home - keeping them safe, treating them gently, and sharing the joy of reading together. Thank you for helping us nurture a love of books across our school community.

COATS

As we change seasons, please ensure that your child brings a coat to school every day for break times and lunch times.



HEAD GIRL AND HEAD BOY!

We are delighted to announce that Holly and Leo from Juniper Class have been chosen by their peers as our new Head Girl and Head Boy!

Both Holly and Leo embody our school mission to 'Let all that you do be done in love', and we are so proud that they will be representing our school.



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 94.48%

Our attendance by class is as follows: MOMENTS

Olive- 95.83% **Sycamore** - 96.89% **Acacia** - 95.77%

Juniper - 91.52%



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

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 extracurricular opportunities and pastoral care.

For more information, please visit the gov.uk





Recycling Appeal in aid of



18th -26th October 2025

We are collecting

Jewellery Watches Stamps Electronics

gold silver fashion cufflinks costume broken any condition

banknotes coins Foreign British British Foreign albums first day covers mobile phones cameras satnavs ipods MP3 players

Collection points during above dates

Sacred Heart and St Gilbert Church Bourne - after Mass
Our Lady of Lincoln and St Guthlac Deeping St James - after Mass
St Augustine's School Stamford.*
"School closed on 24" October due to half term.

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS - THE MARK 10 MISSION

On Sunday 14th September, we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, which marks the discovery of the true Cross in the fourth century. From that time, the Cross quickly became the symbol of Christianity.

MISSION

Click on the images below to learn more about the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.



Little Liturgies

(ages 4-8)

The Exaltation of the Cross

The Little Liturgies help our younger viewers experience the awe and wonder of the Gospel.



(ages 8-12)

What's the Exaltation of the

Cross?

Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum

The Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum is an invaluable resource for parents of children with disabilities and additional needs, and represent and support parents in helping to improve services in Lincolnshire. Please click <u>here</u> to visit their website and sign up for their services and monthly newsletters, and click <u>here</u> to book in to an event.

Here's some of their upcoming events:

SEPTEMBER

- Mon 8 Sept | Volunteering Info Drop-In (12:00–21:00, Online)
- Curious about volunteering with LPCF? Drop by anytime to chat, ask questions, and find out more!
- Wed 10 Sept | Volunteering Session (13:00–14:30, The Vine Hotel, Skegness)
- Meet the team in person and explore how you could get involved.
- Thu 18 Sept | Volunteering Info Session (13:00–14:30, Horncastle)
- Another in-person opportunity—great for local residents.
- Thu 25 Sept | Wellbeing: Hypnotherapy "Looking After Yourself" (19:30–21:00, Online) (parents only)
- Take some time just for you! * Friendly sessions with Nicole share simple tools to reduce stress, relax, and recharge .

OCTOBER

- Wed 1 Oct | Volunteering Session (13:00–14:30, Kenwick Park Hotel, Louth)
- A chance to connect and learn more about volunteering roles.
- If the second of the second of
- Friendly online workshops to help balance parenting demands 💡 . Learn simple strategies for stress, emotions, and family life 🌟.
- Thu 16 Oct | Promoting Positive Behaviour Workshop (19:00–21:00, Online)
- Online workshop with practical tips to support positive behaviour at home 💡 . Gain strategies, tools, and confidence 🌟 .
- ? Thu 30 Oct | Discover LPCF (13:00–14:00, Online)
- Curious about LPCF? * Learn how we support SEND families, influence services, and how you can get involved .
- Thu 30 Oct | Wellbeing: Hypnotherapy "Navigating Change" (19:30–21:00, Online) (parents only)
- A gentle session to support emotional resilience through change.

How to Book

- Go to our Events Page on the LPCF website and click the event you'd like to join.
- Mark Check your booking you'll get a confirmation by email, and you can re-check anytime using your email address on the booking page.
- Need help? Email admin@lincspcf.org.uk.

Whatsapp



What is Whatsapp

WhatsApp is a messaging app owned by Meta that allows users (13+) to send text, voice, and video messages, make calls, and share media, documents, and locations, all using an internet connection

Privacy Settings

Whatsapp has the following privacy settings -

Last seen online
Profile photo
About
Status
Read receipts
Silence unknown callers

You can set these features to Everyone, My contacts, My contacts except... and Nobody

Location Sharing

WhatsApp gives you the ability to share your device's location with other users

This can be turned off in settings

Sharing Personal Information

Ensure you remind your children that they shouldn't share private information including -

- names, phone numbers, links to other social media accounts or their school
- locations
- other people's personal information
- links to join private group chats
- photos of themselves including indecent images

Further information



Reporting and Blocking

You can report problematic content to WhatsApp. You can also block a user to stop all contact.

Group chats

Whatsapp has the ability for users to be added or create group chats, if you're child is added into a group chat with people they don't know that will give that person the ability to chat with them.

You can't always control if you're added to a group chat; but remind children that they can always leave whenever they want to or block unwanted contact

You can mute the group chat without leaving the group, this stops notifications but still allows you to check in when you want.



Do you SING?

Come & join our JUNIOR CHOIR!



Free to children aged 7 yrs & older (Y3+) **Choir practice** Fridays 4-5pm

Arrivals from 3:30pm (refreshments provided) **Optional** late collection & 'Voice for Life'
training 5-5:30pm

Details from the **Director of Music** dom@stamfordallsaints.org.uk www.stamfordallsaints.org.uk







