# St. Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy





LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE 🗽



Phone: 01780 762094

Website: <u>www.st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk</u> Address: Kesteven Road, Stamford, Lincs PE9 1SR

#### A MESSAGE FROM MRS WITHERS

Life is a rich mixture of good and bad days, of ups and downs, and of inevitable change. During good times it is human nature to take things for granted, but it is during the harder times that we truly discover what we are made of. We are all put through different tests, trials, and tribulations. However, together in Faith, we can overcome these challenges and provide strength for one another on the journey.

I share this message having had the absolute pleasure of meeting several families this week and beginning to really get to know you. This has been instrumental in helping us support one another and in learning how we can continue to work together for the good of all the children in our care.

I also really appreciate the communication you have shared regarding the entry point changes. Following the closure of the vote tomorrow, we will analyse the results and share them with you next week. Please note that the new system will not start until after half term. I know that change can bring uncertainty and, at times, inconvenience, but please be assured that all decisions are made with pupil safeguarding and welfare at their heart.

As you read this, I will also have attended my first Governors' Meeting of the year. I would like to thank all of our governors wholeheartedly for their commitment and time in supporting

the school. It is fantastic to see such strong parent governor representation on our board.

I hope you all have an amazing weekend. I am very much looking forward to the F1 and various other sports as background noise while I catch up on all the "Mum duties" at home.

Mrs Withers

#### LET US PRAY

Loving God,

Thank you for the gift of joy in our lives.

Help us to share kindness, hope, and encouragement with everyone we meet.

May our words and actions bring light to others and make our school a place of friendship and care.
Guide us to live with joy in our hearts and gratitude in our minds.

Amen.



#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to Kenzie in Olive Class who is 5 today!



Nevaeh in Acacia Class turns 9 on Monday, and Kiyan in Sycamore Class will be 7 on Wednesday!

We all wish you a super special day!

#### OPEN DAYS

Full details of our Open Day on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October are below on page 7 - please share with any friends and family who are looking for a school place for September 2026!

### GREEN TEAM AND SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council will take place after school on Tuesday 23rd September, and Green Team will take place after school on Tuesday 30th September.

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

## CELEBRATING EVANGELII GAUDIUM DAY 21ST SEPT: THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL

This week, our school joins communities around the world in celebrating Evangelii Gaudium Day, also known as Joy of the Gospel Sunday. It's a special time to reflect on the simple yet powerful message of hope, kindness, and joy that inspires us all to make a positive difference in the world.

The day encourages us to share joy in our daily lives, whether through small acts of kindness, helping others, or simply being a friendly presence in someone's day. It reminds us that everyone can be a source of light and encouragement in their community.

At St. Augustine's, we celebrate by fostering an environment where positivity, respect, and encouragement flourish, helping each of us live out the joyful spirit of this message.

Let's take this opportunity to spread a little extra joy, kindness, and hope wherever we go!.



# SHARE THE JOY

#### **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.

St. Augustine's News | Issue 127 | 19.09.25

#### 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 - Elsie - Love of Learning & Determination

Sycamore Class - Indie-Rae - Love of Learning & Determination

Acacia Class - Renzo - Hope & Confidence

Juniper Class - Mia - Love of Learning & Determination



#### E-SAFETY WITH ALAN **MACKENZIE**

For Parents - Location Sharing

We all know that location sharing can be a really good thing, but only when that sharing is managed appropriately and only with very specific known persons, not to everyone. Thankfully, gone are the days when you uploaded a post onto social media your location was automatically included, but there are still location sharing features in some apps. As a timely reminder for parents to check their child's device the Canadian Cyber Tip Line has put together a very informative article which is useful for everyone, regardless of

You can find the article **HERE**.

#### For Parents - Roblox Update

As the most popular game on the planet with children, Roblox gets a lot of coverage and

In April 2025 Revealing Reality carried out an investigation into Roblox due to serious concerns of what children were experiencing within the game (link <u>HERE</u>). In September they carried out a follow-up investigation to see what, if anything had changed.

- ID verification for certain games and experiences. Stricter moderation

These are good but, according to Revealing Reality, they don't go far enough. There are still workarounds and very significant concerns. It's worth having a read of the full report which you can find **HERE**.

#### **Online Safety Weekly Update**

Alan Mackenzie Online Safety Specialist



### STAMFORD FAIRTRADE'S ONE WORLD WEEK

St. Augustine's art work! Puzzle pieces that we worked on before the summer holidays will be displayed for all to see!



"EXPLORING WHAT 'ONE WORLD?' MEANS TO YOU"

A WEEK OF INSPIRATION FOR TAKING ACTION FOR A MORE JUST, EQUAL AND INCLUSIVE WORLD

#### TUESDAY 21ST OCTOBER 6:30PM - FREE

#### **EXHIBITION PREVIEW**

- LIVE MUSIC, BAR AND FAIRTRADE SNACKS -

#### ALL WEEK

- INTERACTIVE DISPLAYS AND ACTIVITIES -- ARTWORK AND PROJECTS BY LOCAL STUDENTS -

#### FRIDAY + SATURDAY - ALL DAY

#### FAIRTRADE STALLS

- BUY FAIRLY TRADED GIFTS AND FOOD -- FIND OUT ABOUT GROUPS THAT ARE TAKING ACTION LOCALLY -

20TH - 25TH OCTOBER THE GALLERY, STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE

WITH THANKS FOR SUPPORT FROM CENTRAL CO-OP

#### ICON WEEK 2025 (22-26 SEPTEMBER) - SUPPORTING PARENTS, PROTECTING BABIES "BABIES CRY, YOU CAN COPE!"

This September, NHS services, local authorities, charities, and healthcare organisations across the country will join together once again to share important messages with parents and carers during ICON Week 2025 (22-26 September).

Now in its fourth year, ICON Week will focus on mental health and staying calm. The campaign reminds parents that infant crying is normal, provides practical coping strategies, and raises awareness of the dangers of shaking a baby - an action that can cause Abusive Head Trauma (AHT), leading to devastating brain injuries, disability, or even death.

The ICON programme is built around a simple, evidence-based message:

- I Infant crying is normal and will stop
- C Comfort methods can sometimes soothe the baby
- O It's OK to walk away for a few minutes if the baby is safe and the crying feels overwhelming

#### N - Never shake or hurt a baby

This year, ICON Week is also highlighting that coping with crying is an issue for both men and women. For some men, finding someone to talk to and calming down before handling a baby can be an even bigger challenge. ICON encourages all parents to recognise the importance of asking for help and planning ahead for those difficult moments.

Please support us by sharing the ICON message during ICON week within your organisation and with your families. Further information and resources can be found here: <a href="www.iconcope.org/iconweek2025">www.iconcope.org/iconweek2025</a> and an information video can be accessed here: https://vimeo.com/1073919083.

#### FREE PARENT WEBINAR

Help, my child has shared a nude? Next steps as a parent by LCC Stay Safe Team Wednesday 24th September 6-7pm

Internet Matters research into image based abuse found that 13- to 17-yearolds were most likely to turn to a parent if they received an unwanted nude image or video. This shows that parents are the first port of call for most children when dealing with online safety issues. As such, it's important for you to have the right tools to support your child.

Join Lincolnshire County Council Stay Safe Team as they discuss what you might experience as a parent if your child has shared a nude, how to guide your child and the support services that can help.

Click on the link to book your place:

https://www.tickettailor.com/events/staysafepartnership/1816396

#### ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 94.69%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Olive- 98.21%

**Svcamore** - 94.22%

Acacia - 98.94%

Juniper - 90.91%

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"

#### CAN YOU BE TRUSTED WITH TRUE RICHES? - THE MARK 10 MISSION

In next Sunday's Gospel, Jesus shares a teaching about trust and honesty. He says...'One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also faithful in much.'

Our new celebration of the Word videos invite children to listen to Jesus' invitation to always be honest and trustworthy. Together, we also wonder what the true riches he speaks of



**Little Liturgies** 

(ages 4-8)

Jesus Loves Honesty

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





The Mark 10 Mission (ages 8-12)

Can You Be Trusted With

Riches?

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

Next week's word is 'Work'.

Work teaches us responsibility and discipline and can be a source of satisfaction and fulfillment. We should respect the dignity of labour and the value of all those who work around the world in service of others.

Make an effort to do your work this week to the best of your ability and to help others with their work too.



#### GREEN TEAM WITH MRS T

What a great first Green Team of the new term! The children tidied the allotment and each took home a freshly picked apple from our very own apple tree!

-Mrs T



#### What is Instagram?

Instagram is an image and video sharing app.
Users (13+) can create a public or private
profile where they choose to share their own
content with their followers.

#### Reporting and Blocking

On Instagram, you can report content, messages or users that violate the platform's guidelines, and you can block users to prevent them from interacting with you

#### Teen Accounts

It is important to make sure your child selects the correct age when setting up their account

Teen accounts (13-17) automatically have the following

- Private accounts
- Only followers can message you
- Ability to filter harmful content
- Set to hide potentially offensive comments and messages
- Sleep mode
- Daily time limits
- Pre chosen topics to explore

### **Instagram**



#### Further information





#### Supervision

Instagram supervision, a feature within Meta's Family Center, allows parents and guardians to support their teens (ages 13-17) on Instagram

Parents can see-

- the amount of time their teen spends on Instagram
- which accounts their teen is following.
- which accounts are following their teen.
- which accounts their teen is currently blocking.
- their teen's account privacy setting.
- their teen's message request setting
- their teen's sensitive content setting.

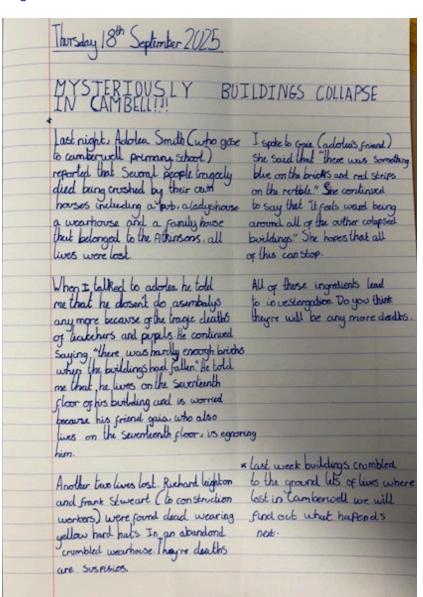
#### Parents can also -

- Set a time limit for how long their teen can use Instagram and/or Threads each day.
- Set up sleep mode to limit their teen's use of Instagram during selected days and hours.

# Writer of THE WEEK

Our Writer of the Week is Olivia from Juniper Class! Olivia wrote a newspaper article based on the class hook book, The Boy in the Tower.

Mrs Worrick is so proud of Olivia's beautiful handwriting, and her use of direct speech and parenthesis. Well done, Olivia!





OLIVIA ATKINSON



Come and see why our school is a fantastic choice for your family

Find out more: tinyurl.com/staugstamford



St. Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy

#### **OPEN EVENTS**



#### Tuesday 14th October 2025

9:15am - 10:15am

3:15pm - 4:15pm

5:15pm - 6:15pm

at St. Augustine's Catholic Academy Kesteven Road, Stamford, PE9 1SR

#### Why visit St. Augustine's?

During our open day tour with the headteacher, you will get an insight into the high standards our children achieve through our inspiring and creative learning environments.

You can talk with our teachers about our high-quality teaching and find out why our school is a fantastic choice for your family.

We welcome children from all cultural, religious and non-religious backgrounds whose families support our Catholic ethos and want their children to experience the caring environment of the school.

You'll also find out about:

- · our child-centered early years provision
- our wraparound care
- · our indoor/outdoor learning environments.
- · our Forest School area

If you're unable to attend one of our scheduled open events, we'd be delighted to welcome you for a personal visit to see the school in action. To arrange an appointment, please contact the school office on 01780 762094 or email enquiries@st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk.

To find out more, scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/staugstamford





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#### www.studysmartuk.online

We are looking to fill 150+ School Support vacancies in local schools (e.g. SEN Support, Behaviour Mentors, 1-1 Classroom Support, Cover Supervisors etc). These roles are available in both full time and part time positions.

Please go to our website address given above, or scan the QR code for more information.

This is a 6 week course, full time, intensive course, with online guided learning sessions within school hours.

If you are earning less than £23,500 per annum or are in receipt of any benefits, you will be eligible for a fully funded place with us.





- PYO Pumpkins this October, free entry
- Children's activities incl pedal tractors
- Hot drinks, sweet treats & stone baked pizza
- Stonepit Lodge Farm, Fotheringhay, Oundle, PE8 5HX





