

St. Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy



LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE

in love
1 CORINTHIANS 16:14



Headteacher: Mrs J. Oliver

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A MESSAGE FROM MRS OLIVER

As the long month of January draws to a close, snowdrops are emerging and the evenings are growing lighter, reminding us that the promise of spring is just around the corner. Despite the rainy days this week, the children have remained positive and enthusiastic, showing great excitement for their learning and for life at school.

This week the school has been buzzing with our fundraising events in support of the school we partner with in Wajir. With a delicious assortment of cakes and some fantastic games afternoons, it has been wonderful to see how enthusiastically our families have got behind the event. So far, we have raised a fantastic amount – thank you all for your generosity and support.

For those of you who do not know, we support a mission station in Wajir, North East Kenya, which provides education alongside vital mother and baby clinics. The mission is run by the Daughters of St Anne, a Catholic order of nuns. Sister Cecilia has asked us to help raise funds for much-needed play equipment for the children at the school, and our contribution will make a real difference as the children currently have no play equipment at all. We are hoping to raise enough for a swing set and a slide. A huge thank you must also go to Mrs Donington and our chaplaincy team, The Future Saints, for organising these events.

In other news, our football team played their first match yesterday against Bluecoat. They battled valiantly throughout the game, showing great teamwork and determination, and the final score was an amazing 9-0 to us.

Rehearsals are also well under way for our Easter production of The Three Trees. As I wander down the corridor, I am greeted by the sound of wonderful singing from Years 3, 4 and 5. I cannot wait to watch your production.

I wish you a restful weekend and look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Mrs Oliver



LET US PRAY

God of love,
We pray for peace in our world, and an
end to war.
Instead of hatred, let there be love.
Shelter your children and protect us.
Guide us and keep us from harm,
so we can build a world of love and live
our lives in peace.

Amen.



- CAFOD

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Leo from our Juniper Class is 11 today - -
happy birthday, Leo!

Many happy returns to Frankie in
Sycamore Class who turns 7 on Thursday,
and to Molly-Rose in Juniper Class who
will be 11 on Thursday!



Many happy returns to you all, from
everyone at St. Augustine's!

SAVE THE DATE!

February

02.02.26 - Fundraising for the Wajir Mission;
Bring a Game to School
11.02.26 - Parents Evening
12.02.26 - Parents Evening



March

05.03.26 - World Book Day
09.03.26 - 13.03.26 - Science Week
23.03.26 - 27.03.26 - CAFOD Big Lent Walk
31.03.26 - Easter Production - 2.30pm

SUPERSTAR PEGGY!

We are delighted to share the news that Peggy
won first place in the schools trampolining
competition at the weekend! This means that
Peggy is now through to the English schools finals
in Derby. Well done, Peggy!



St. Augustine's News | Issue 143 | 30.01.26

BRING A GAME TO SCHOOL!

MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2026

**BRING IN A GAME AND A £1
DONATION TO HELP US TO RAISE
FUNDS FOR THE WAJIR MISSION!**

OUR PARISH CHURCH

The Children's Liturgy takes place at the 9:00am
Mass at our parish church, St. Mary and St. Augustine
on Broad Street, Stamford.

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 [click here](#) to read weekly newsletters from our Catholic Parish of Our
Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, by Rutland Water (formerly the Catholic
Parish of Stamford, Saint Mary and Saint Augustine).



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, OAKHAM - HOLY MASS LIVE STREAM

For those who are unable to get to Mass in person, for one reason or another, you can now watch all Holy
Masses and other services and liturgies online from St Joseph's from your home computer or mobile device.
View Mass schedules and connect to the live stream [here](#) while St. Joseph's church
is celebrating Holy Mass or other services are being held.

If you'd like to follow and respond in the Mass but are unsure of the words,
download this PDF '[Order of Mass](#)' document which contains all of the responses.



BOURNE & DEEPING R.C. PARISH

Please [click here](#) to read weekly newsletters from our friends at the Bourne
and Deeping Roman Catholic Parish.



VIRTUE CERTIFICATES!



Olive Class - Dilan - **Love of Learning & Determination**

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

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

Juniper Class Year 5 - Archie - **Love of Learning & Determination**

Juniper Class Year 6 - Jacob P - **Hope & Confidence**



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 Worrick

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Oliver

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Taylor

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

If you believe that a child or adult may be a victim of neglect, abuse or cruelty, you can also contact the Lincolnshire County Council Safeguarding Team:

- Children's safeguarding - 01522 782111 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm)
- Adults safeguarding - 01522 782155 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm) or 01522 782333 (outside office hours)



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

E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MACKENZIE

Social Media and the AI Shift

For many years we've been talking about the benefits and risks of social platforms, it sometimes feels we're stuck like a broken record continually talking about the same things. But unsurprisingly a shift is happening.

Historically, social media has predominantly been about consumption: endless scrolling through algorithmically driven content with companies using very simple but clever persuasive design techniques to get us in their platform, keep us in there for longer and keep us coming back over and over again.

But enter Generative AI, and I'm not talking about images and videos. In my talks with children and young people their use of AI to generate visuals is uncommon, but their use of AI to interact and engage with AI assistants (e.g. chatbots) is on the increase where, as my good friend Darren (aka The White Hatter) put it, quote users are turning to AI to help them think, decide, plan, connect and cope unquote - in other words an emotional connection, an attachment, a parasocial relationship where the bot becomes a trusted 'person'.

We've all seen the headlines where AI assistants have given the most appalling advice despite apparent safeguards. The biggest headlines at the moment are all about the Online Safety Act, banning social media from under 16's and banning phones in schools. None of these will have any meaningful impact in relation to the shift that is currently happening.

Darren has written a great, thought provoking article: From Social Media to Social AI; A Youth and Teen Paradigm Shift.

Online Safety Weekly Update

Alan Mackenzie
Online Safety Specialist



THE MARK 10 MISSION

Next Monday, the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord. We have chosen to focus our next celebration of the Word videos on the Presentation. I hope you and the children you pray with absolutely love them.

In the Presentation of the Lord Gospel, we hear how the Child Jesus is carried into the Temple in Jerusalem by Our Lady. There he is recognised by Simeon as the 'light for revelation' to all peoples. In both videos, we help children to know that Jesus is near, God keeps his promises and we can choose to welcome his light into our hearts.

- *The Mark 10 Mission*

Click on the images below to watch the videos.



EXTRA-ORDO-NARY 'WORD OF THE WEEK'

Next week's word is 'Inspiration'.

Inspiration is the feeling of being motivated or encouraged to do something. It literally means 'filled with the spirit' and we can find inspiration in many places, including Scripture, our relationships with others, and our own experiences. Inspiration can help us to do great things and in turn, help us to be an inspiration for others.

Make an effort this week to inspire those around you by loving and serving others.



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 92.34%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Olive - 90.64%

Sycamore - 93.33%

Acacia - 98.99%

Juniper - 88.59%

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](#),

*Based on a four day school week due to Inset Day

MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.

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



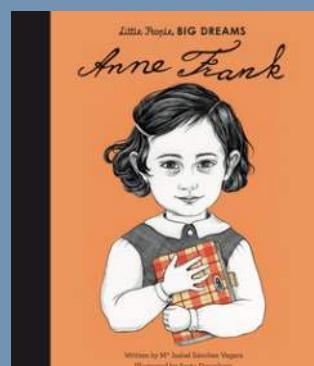
READING CORNER

Here's a lovely book recommendation from our friends at St. Norbert's!

This week, communities across the UK have joined together to remember the six million Jewish lives lost during the Holocaust. The 2026 theme, 'Bridging Generations', challenges us to learn from the past and build a better future.

This book tells the moving story of the young diarist, Anne Frank, chronicling her life from her childhood in Germany to hiding in Amsterdam during World War II.

The book highlights Anne's resilience, hope, and belief in humanity while in hiding. It features illustrations and a biographical timeline, making her legacy accessible to children.



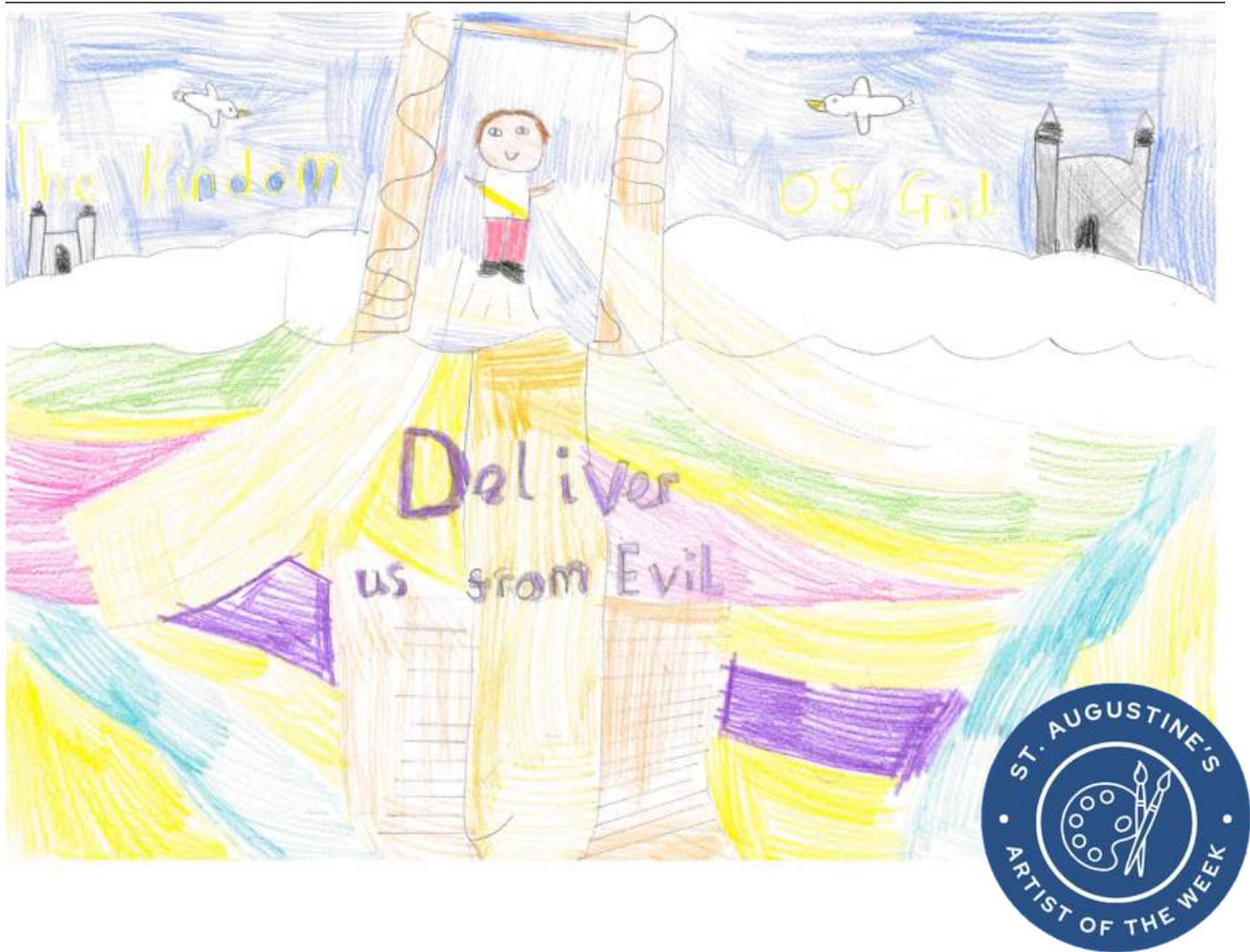
Click on the image on the left to read along with the book.

Artist of THE WEEK

Our Artist of the Week is Molly from Acacia Class!

Acacia Class were exploring the meaning of The Lord's Prayer. They then created a piece of art to represent their own interpretation of the prayer.

Beautiful work, Molly - well done!



MOLLY PARSONS

Writer of THE WEEK

Our Writer of the Week is Elspeth from Juniper Class! Elspeth has written a wonderful poem, 'I AM', based on class learning around the theme of Jesus being 'The Bread of Life'.

Wonderful, thoughtful work, Elspeth.

I AM

I am the bread of life,
I'll ensure you have your share.
I am the light of the world,
I will light the way with care.
I am the gate to heaven,
I will show you the way.
I am the good shepherd,
I am here for you everyday.
I am the resurrection and life,
I'll never leave you behind.
I am the way, the truth and life.
I will show you my path that winds.
I am the true vine,
Who will stay with you over time.
I am the one which true faith in God,
who kindles you with endless love.



ELSPETH DORAN

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE... THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY - PARENT WEBINAR



Safer Internet Day Parent Event
Tuesday 10th February
6pm-7pm
Microsoft Teams event



Stay Safe Team



★ Curious about AI and your child's world?

Artificial Intelligence is part of everyday life—from homework helpers to fun creative tools. But how can parents make sure it's used safely and wisely?

Join our free webinar "AI: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly" to learn:

- ✓ How AI can support learning and creativity
- ⚠ What to watch out for, like chatbots and misinformation
- 💡 Simple tips for family conversations and using parental controls

Empower yourself to guide your family confidently in the age of AI!

<https://www.tickttaillor.com/events/staysafepartnership/2024139>

Churchish

A welcoming space for families to explore faith through worship, creativity and cake

Come for the cake
Stay for the community



All ages welcome at
the Unity Centre, Scotgate
3rd Sunday of the month,
from 3.00 - 4.30pm



Move & Food CAMP: THE BLUECOAT SCHOOL

Dates: 16th - 19th February
9.30 - 15.30
For children aged 5-16

Our camps are the best place to entertain your children during the holidays. The children will participate in lots of fun games, sports, cooking sessions, arts and crafts, and much more!

Funded places available for children who receive benefits-related free school meals

Get booked in
Camp Address:
The Bluecoat School,
Green Lane, Stamford,
PE9 1HE
inspire+

SCAN HERE

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Worried about your energy bills?

We can help.

We're here to support you with making savings on your gas and electricity, dealing with energy debt, and giving information about switching suppliers. We also offer dedicated advice to households on pre-payment meters.

Call Adviseline
on 0808 278 7996
to speak to an
adviser.

