

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 OLIVER

Another busy week draws to a close here at St Augustine's. The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in activities to raise funds for CAFOD—though it was certainly a strange (and lovely!) sight to see so many of them in their pyjamas today! On Wednesday, they welcomed a visit from CAFOD and were able to learn more about the important work they do to support communities around the world. They also enjoyed a scavenger hunt organised by the chaplaincy team- thank you for all your hard work.

In more news, rehearsals are well underway for our Easter production of Three Trees. We have now reached the stage of working on scenery and costumes, so everything is starting to feel very real and exciting.

Year 6 students have been busy preparing for their upcoming SATs and have had a mock SATs week. They have also been coming into school early for extra maths lessons—I commend them for their dedication; not long to go now.

I know many of you have enjoyed the Lent Fair this week—the children have been chattering away about the exciting rides they have been on! Olive Class have really entered into the spirit of the fair by making their own fairground rides and exploring some “fairground maths.”

In the midst of all the hustle and bustle that this term brings, both inside and outside of school, it is easy to forget the true meaning of Lent. This season offers us a special time to pause, reflect, and think of others, particularly those less fortunate than ourselves. Through prayer, kindness, and generosity, we can all take small steps to make a difference.

Today, we also hold in our prayers those members of our school community who are suffering physically or mentally. During this sacred season of Lent, we are reminded that Jesus walked the path of suffering and understands our pain. We ask that His love may surround and comfort you, and that you may feel the strength of God's presence alongside the care and support of your families and our school community.

Wishing you all a peaceful and restful weekend

Mrs Oliver



LET US PRAY

May the Strength of God pilot us.
 May the Power of God preserve us.
 May the Wisdom of God instruct us.
 May the Hand of God protect us.
 May the Way of God direct us.
 May the Shield of God defend us.
 May the Host of God guard us.
 Against the snares of the evil ones.
 Against temptations of the world
 May Christ be with us!
 May Christ be before us!
 May Christ be in us,
 Christ be over all!
 May Thy Salvation, Lord,
 Always be ours,
 This day, O Lord, and evermore.
 Amen.



- St. Patrick's Prayer for the Faithful

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to Teddie from Acacia Class, who is 8 today!

Cobey from Olive Class is 5 on Wednesday, and he shares his birthday with Michael from Olive Class who is 6 on Wednesday!



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

SAVE THE DATE!

March

31.03.26 - National Child Measurement Programme for EYFS & Y6

31.03.26 - Easter Production - 2.30pm

BBC/ FIVE MILE FILMS CASTING CALL

Does your child shine at home, but struggle socially around other kids? The team behind The Dog House is making a brand new BBC series about childhood friendship and are looking for kids aged 5 to 8 who are finding it hard to make friends.

If this sounds like your child – or someone you know – filming is in July/August 2026, and Five Mile Films would love to hear from you.

Apply at: <https://bemyfriend.tv/>

BBC

Is your child finding it hard to make friends?

The award-winning makers of *The Dog House* are casting for a brand-new BBC series about friendship.

We are looking for children aged 5 to 8 from all over the UK who need a little help navigating the world of friendship. Over three days, a team of child psychologists will help them build the social skills and confidence to make real, lasting connections with other kids.

If you'd like to help your child make a new friend (with no pressure to take part), please apply at:

bemyfriend.tv

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ST. PATRICK AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

St. Patrick is one of the most important saints in the Catholic Church, and his feast day is celebrated each year on 17th March. He was born in Britain many years ago, and as a young boy, was taken to Ireland by pirates who forced him to work as a shepherd. After several years, he managed to escape and return home. However, he later chose to go back to Ireland as a missionary, where he dedicated his life to sharing the message of Christianity with the Irish people..

St. Patrick's teachings helped shape Ireland's strong Catholic faith, which continues to this day. He is often associated with the shamrock, which he is said to have used to explain the idea of the Holy Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Today, St. Patrick's Day is a joyful celebration, but it is also a time to reflect on his example of courage, faith and commitment. In our school community, we can be inspired by his story to live out our values with kindness and trust in God.

- Miss Griffin



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 - Finn - **Love of Learning & Determination**

Sycamore Class - Austin - **Friendship & Kindness**

Acacia Class - Renzo - **Hope & Confidence**

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

Juniper Class Year 6 - Toby - **Love & Respect**



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



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)



E-SAFETY WITH ALAN MACKENZIE

WhatsApp Now Allows Under 13's

WhatsApp has been a significant concern for many schools, particularly chat groups where predominantly low level issues suddenly escalate. Last week, in another completely unexpected move, WhatsApp announced that children under 13 can now use WhatsApp via 'Parent-Managed Accounts'.

Essentially these are accounts set up by the parent on the child's device, but managed from the parents device. As well as no access to AI within WhatsApp and no ads there are parent management features which include:

- Contact management - parents can choose who can contact their child and which chat groups they can join. Children cannot join groups without parents approval. Messages from unknown contacts are sent to the parent first for approval.
- Activity notifications - parents can view their child's activity such as when a child adds a new contact or if disappearing messages are turned on. Parents will also be notified if their child blocks or reports a contact.

Link - [Introducing parent-managed accounts on WhatsApp.](#)

Link - [How to set up a parent-managed account.](#)

Online Safety Weekly Update

Alan Mackenzie
Online Safety Specialist



THE MARK 10 MISSION

Sunday is the fifth Sunday of Lent and the beginning of Passiontide.

We'll hear in the Gospel at Mass, how Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. This passage shows that, with Jesus, death is not the end.

It also illustrates beautifully how Jesus feels deep sorrow and compassion whenever he sees those he loves in pain.

THE MARK 10 Mission

- The Mark 10 Mission

Click on the images below to watch the videos.

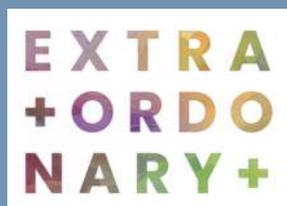


EXTRA-ORDO-NARY 'WORD OF THE WEEK'

Next week's word is 'Journey'.

Lent is a time of journeying with Jesus Christ. It is a time of reflecting on our lives, repenting our sins, and growing in our faith. The journey of Lent is a challenging one, but it is also a rewarding one. It is a journey that can help us to grow closer to God so that we are ready to truly celebrate Jesus Christ's resurrection at Easter.

Spend some time in prayer thinking about your lenten journey so far and what you want to do with the journey ahead.



ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 91.08%

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Olive- 90.59%

Sycamore - 92.92%

Acacia - 94.55%

Juniper - 88.08%

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](#),

**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"



TERM TIMES MAGAZINE

The Easter edition of Term Times magazine has arrived; it's full of Easter event information and 5 competitions to enter!

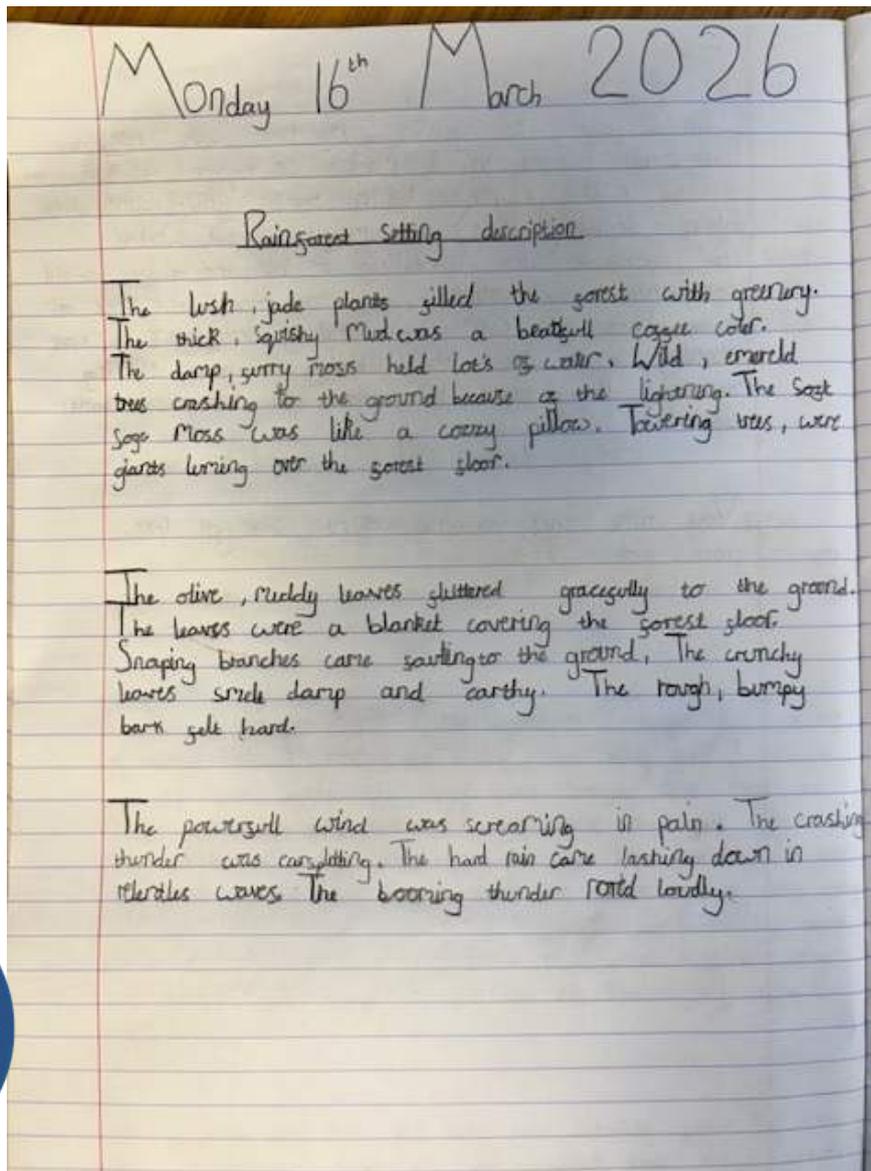
Click on the image below to see the online version.



Writer of THE WEEK

Our Writer of the Week is Saoirse from Acacia Class who has used her wonderful imagination to describe a rainforest setting in this superb piece of writing.

Mrs Dollin and Mrs Mason are very proud of you, Saoirse - well done!



SAOIRSE
O'HALLORAN-WHYLES

THE RORA PROJECT - APPEAL FOR DONATIONS

The Rora Project UK are on the look out for donations of old cushions! The cushions will add to the floor seating area used for group sessions at their workshop.

The cushions don't need to be waterproof as they will be in dry storage.

Using donations and upcycling will help the Rora Project to save funds to reach their goal of charity status, and to implement therapy for children in crisis suspected of having underlying neurodivergent needs.

Thank you in advance for any help you can give this amazing project - your help will be greatly appreciated.



SUE RYDER - WINSTON'S WISH

Teaching children about grief

In every classroom, 1 child in 29 will experience the loss of a parent or sibling and by the age of 16 almost every schoolchild will have confronted the reality of death. Yet children are not taught about grief in schools, and it is rarely discussed. We want to ensure that no one faces death or grief alone.

Below are some of the things you can do to help young people through their grief and help them understand why they feel the way they do

- Reassure them that it's not their fault
- Show them it is OK to be upset
- Let them share their feeling and fears
- Watch for signs of depression

Winston's wish is the UK's first children and young people's bereavement charity, offering accessible grief support. Winston's wish hosts online support groups for young people aged 13 to 18 who have lost a parent, sibling, or relative.

The partnership means when someone with young people in their lives receives support from Sue Ryder, help will also be offered to the children through Winston's Wish. Sue Ryder will take over the care once they are over 18 years old.

Winston's Wish - Call 08088 020 021, chat online or email ask@winstonswish.org. Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

We have lots of additional resources for grief support on our [Sue Ryder Website](http://www.sue-ryder.org.uk)

JUNIPER CLASS - PEGGY!

Peggy took part in the UK Trampoline Finals 2026 at the weekend...and she placed first in the competition, winning a super shiny trophy for her amazing efforts.

Well done, Peggy - we are so proud of you.



ACACIA CLASS - ART POP-UP TEA DANCE!

On Monday, our Year 3 &4 children from Acacia Class went to Stamford Arts Centre for a lovely tea dance afternoon, organised by Art Pop-Up!

What a wonderful afternoon it was - in fact, a lady that attended the tea dance telephoned the office on Tuesday to pass on her thanks and appreciation to all of the children for such a special afternoon, and said that the children's enthusiasm and eagerness to help the other participants was lovely to witness. She also said that the children had 'brought life to a lot of old people'.

Thank you to Mrs Dollin, Mrs Mason and Miss Fiona for making the afternoon possible and such a success!



CAFOD - SCAVENGER HUNT

Mrs Donington organised a super scavenger hunt this week to raise money for CAFOD as part of our special CAFOD fundraising week.

Everyone had so much fun taking part, and here are our winners from each class, who each won a delicious Cadbury Mini Eggs Easter egg:

Olive Class - Sam

Sycamore Class - Elsie

Acacia Class - Anastasia

Juniper Year 5 - Talitha

Juniper Year 6 - Bella

We also had a 'Guess how many Lego pieces in the jar' competition - Jacob P was the winner and he won a lovely Lego prize!

Well done to you all, and thank you to the children and parent of our school community; your generous support for this worthy cause is very much appreciated and makes a real difference to the people supported by CAFOD.

Thank you, Mrs Donington, for organising a great week of events.



Back row, left to right: Jacob P, Anastasia and Bella. Front row, left to right: Elsie and Sam.