

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

I trust everyone had a restful and blessed Easter break. It was a joy to gather once again as a school family on Tuesday morning and to share in the spirit of the Easter season together.

This term is a relatively short one, with only five weeks and a bank holiday in the middle. Nevertheless, we are committed to making the most of every opportunity God gives us in school. In a few weeks' time, our Year 6 pupils will be sitting their SATs tests, and our Year 4 pupils will be preparing for their multiplication checks. Our younger children will also take part in the National Phonics Screening.

Whilst we strive to prepare our children well for these important assessments here at St Augustine's, our deeper mission is to prepare them for life beyond school. As a Catholic school, we seek to nurture the whole child—helping each pupil to grow not only academically, but also spiritually, morally, and socially, so that they may become compassionate, thoughtful individuals ready to serve others and take their place in God's world.

During our staff training on Monday, we reflected on how we can further develop children's oracy skills. For those who may not be familiar with the term, oracy is about learning to speak with clarity, confidence, and purpose. It is a combination of learning to talk and learning through talk. In doing so, we recognise the importance of each child's voice—valued, respected, and heard—as part of our community. We will be teaching specific speaking and listening skills, while also placing meaningful dialogue at the heart of learning across the curriculum.

Why is this so important? The world your child is entering will be ever-changing and, at times, uncertain. Many of our children will go on to work in fields that do not yet exist. When I first began teaching, I proudly used a blackboard and chalk—I could never have imagined how digital our classrooms would become. While we cannot predict the future, we can help shape our children into people of faith, resilience, and integrity—young people who will stand with confidence, guided by strong values and a sense of purpose.

Throughout our lessons, we are encouraging pupils to communicate with confidence, kindness, and respect. We hope to introduce more opportunities for discussion, debate, and presentation, allowing children to express their ideas thoughtfully and listen to others with care. Each week, we will also share a "Question of the Week"—look out for this in the newsletter, as it may offer a valuable opportunity for reflection and conversation at home.

As we continue through this Easter season, may we be reminded of the hope and new life that Christ brings, and may this inspire all that we do in our school community.

Mrs Oliver



LET US PRAY

Gentle Jesus, compassionate and caring Good Shepherd, help me to follow You faithfully. Strengthen me daily with Your love, and guide me along life's paths.

Keep me free from every evil, protect me from sickness and danger, and lead me to serve You with all my mind and heart and soul. Hear my needs and grant me petitions, especially these intentions important to me at this time.

Bless me each day with peace of mind and heart. May I experience Your saving power in my daily life, as I await the fullness of life and joy with You forever.



Amen.

- catholiccrusade.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday to Austin S. who celebrates his 6th birthday on Tuesday, and to Remy who celebrates his 10th birthday on Thursday - double figures!



Many happy returns to you both from everyone at St. Augustine's! We hope that you have a super time celebrating!



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GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

This Sunday is often called Good Shepherd Sunday - and you don't need to know much about sheep to understand the idea behind it!

Jesus is known as the Good Shepherd - someone who looks after others, makes sure no one is left behind, and helps everyone feel safe and cared for. And the great news is...you don't even need your own field or flock of sheep to be one!

In school, being a 'good shepherd' could be inviting someone to play if they're on their own, helping a classmate who's stuck, or using kind words when it matters most. At home, it might be lending a hand, being patient, or cheering someone up after a tricky day.

Every small act of kindness is a way of saying, "You matter." And those little moments can make a big difference.

So this week, we have a fun challenge for everyone - children and grown-ups - can you spot one chance each day to be a 'good shepherd' to someone else?

You might just be surprised how far a little kindness can go!

- 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 - Evie - **Love of Learning & Determination**

Sycamore Class - Maisie - **Love & Respect**

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

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

Juniper Class Year 6 - Ella - **Hope & Confidence**



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

For Parents - Switched On to Privacy

Privacy of information online is an area which is growing and growing, but it can also feel overwhelming. The UK Information Commissioner has created a great new portal for parents and caregivers giving support and advice around online privacy with sections on explaining privacy to children, choosing privacy settings, advice on how to start a conversation, case studies and more.

Link: [Kids vs grown-ups: what we really share online](#). (this is the introduction blog post including a few short videos).

Link: [Information Commissioner's Office - Switched On to Privacy](#). (this is the portal).

For Parents - Roblox Kids and Roblox Select

Roblox have been making some big changes recently, and that now includes 'age-gating' so that children and young people get the experience according to their age. This means that there are now 3 types of Roblox accounts:

- Roblox Kids - for children 5-8 years.
- Roblox Select - for children 9-15 years.
- Roblox - for anyone 16+.

For any users that have not completed an age check, they will be put into the youngest users category and parents can update or correct a child's age through a linked account. The link below will take you to a simplified breakdown of the different accounts.

Link: [What are Roblox Kids and Roblox Select?](#)

Online Safety Weekly Update

Alan Mackenzie
Online Safety Specialist



THE MARK 10 MISSION - PALM SUNDAY

As you probably know, the Fourth Sunday of Easter is called Good Shepherd Sunday. That's because we hear a Gospel reading from John chapter 10. That's the passage where Jesus refers to himself as the Good Shepherd.

I absolutely love the parable of the Good Shepherd because I see children, especially the youngest, respond so well to it. There's something about the quiet guiding love of the Shepherd, the one who knows our name and is always close, that really resonates with children. Put simply, they easily understand the love of God through the person of the Good Shepherd. See if you notice that too.

THE MARK 10 Mission

Click on the images below to watch the videos.



LISTEN TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD



JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 90.06%*

Our attendance by class is as follows:

Olive- 92.48%

Sycamore - 92%

Acacia - 93.2%

Juniper - 85.71%

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

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"



EXTRA-ORDO-NARY 'WORD OF THE WEEK'

Next week's word is 'Vocation'.

A vocation is God's call to each of us. It is the unique way that God has designed us to serve him and others. Finding our vocation can take time and discernment but our vocation is a reminder that we all have a special purpose in this world, and we are all called to do something significant with our lives.

Spend some time talking to people about what you feel called to do with your life this week.

EXTRA
+ORDO
NARY+

LCH SHINE BRIGHT

Wear your brightest clothes to school on Friday 1st May!

LCH Charity
Lifting Children's Hopes

LCH SHINE BRIGHT

Get Sponsored and wear your brightest coloured clothes!

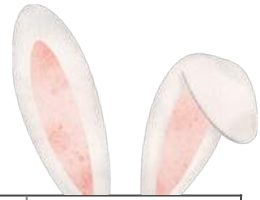
Receive LCH Colour Dash Branded Prizes:
Sticker, Rainbow Pencil, LCH Wristband


- Bronze = [Sticker]
- Silver = [Sticker] + [Pencil]
- Gold = [Sticker] + [Pencil] + [Wristband]

Extra Prizes available for higher sponsorship levels... be one of our 2026 Epic Fundraisers!



2026 April



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30 Mar	31 Mar	1	2 -Holy Thursday -FOSA Egg Hunt! -Last day of term!	3 -Good Friday -Easter Holiday	4	5 -Easter Sunday
6 -Easter Monday -Easter Holiday	7 -Easter Holiday	8 -Easter Holiday	9 -Easter Holiday	10 -Easter Holiday	11	12
13 -Easter Holiday	14 -Easter Holiday	15 -Easter Holiday	16 -Easter Holiday	17 -Easter Holiday	18	19
20 -Inset Day	21 -Back to school!	22 -Earth Day 	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

2026 May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 -Acacia Class PGL -Shine Bright Fundraising Day!	2	3
4 -Bank Holiday Monday	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 -Year 6 SATS	12 -Year 6 SATS	13 -Year 6 SATS	14 -Year 6 SATS	15 -Year 6 SATS -History Day	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 -St. Augustine's Mass 2pm	23	24
25 -Bank Holiday Monday	26 -Half Term	27 -Half Term	28 -Half Term	29 -Half Term	30	31

How to Navigate Group Chats Safely

Helping children stay safe, kind & confident online.



Group chats have become a big part of how children stay connected with classmates, friends, extended family and wider social groups. Whilst they can be fun and positive, they can also become overwhelming, unkind or unsafe without your guidance.

Why group chats can be challenging for children:

Group chats can move quickly and create pressure for children to keep up.

Common issues include:

- Too many notifications.
- Misunderstandings.
- Exclusion and arguments.
- Sharing unkind gossip or images.
- Pressure to respond late at night.
- Added to chats without permission.

Talking openly with your child about these challenges can help them feel more confident and capable.

Where to go for support



www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/social-media/whatsapp/

What you can do at home:

Set healthy boundaries

- Agree on device-free times (eg. meals).
- Encourage children to mute group chats.
- Remind them its ok to leave a group.

Teach them "THINK before you send"

Before posting, ask them to check if the message is: true, helpful, & kind.

Encourage children to speak up about anything:

- Unkind, unsafe or aggressive.
- Not to join in or share it further.
- Save a screenshot if worried.
- Talk to a trusted adult.

Remind children not to share private information in group chats and model healthy digital behaviours yourself.

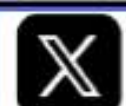
Social
Media



Safer
Lincolnshire



Stay Safe
Partnership



@StaySafe
Partner

Contact for info: SSP@lincolnshire.gov.uk <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/staysafepartnership>