



St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Hardy Avenue
Weymouth DT4 0RH
Tel: 01305 782600
E-mail: office@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs. Emma Berry



Spring 1 Newsletter 2020

Happy New Year!

I do hope that you all had a fantastic time with your family and friends over the Christmas period. It was lovely to see the children again on Monday, they had plenty of stories that they were very keen to share with the staff and their friends and they seemed refreshed and enthusiastic to learn.

Last half term was extremely busy with lots of Christmas Nativities, productions, Masses and concerts for you all to attend. The children all did so well learning and remembering their lines to songs and speaking parts. Carl Ashwin from Wessex FM was particularly impressed with the School Choir as he recorded them singing '5 Sleeps til Christmas' after only one take! This was aired on the radio and YouTube on Friday 20th December - thank you to all involved, but particularly to Mrs Ayles for practising with the School Choir to perfect them for a finely tuned performance. The School Choir also sang magnificently well down at St. Joseph's Church on Thursday 19th December at 6pm. Mrs Ayles conducted the children beautifully and they were well supported by a fabulous band and readers from the Parish. Again, thank you to Mrs Ayles for practising with the children and Sister Jacque (School Governor) for organising the Carol Concert so well. It was lovely to see Father Stephen singing and joining in with the children on this special occasion.

British Values

During British Values week, which was the first week after October half term, the children elected School Councillors from their class. The children voted after candidates had prepared a speech. Well done to the following children:

Year R- Julien Gburek and Roxanne Hicks
Year 1- Jesse Hoare and Grace Johnson
Year 2- Seth Draper and Tilly Dubois
Year 3- Xavier Berry and Emelia Quental
Year 4- Lukas Thorne and Isla Franks
Year 5- Harrison Moss and Kiera Mackenzie-Neels
Year 6- Luie Reed and Merridith Newington

These children meet once a week with Miss Taylor to discuss important school business and to have an input into school decisions. Later on this term, the Councillors will be asking for the children within their class to vote for a staff member who they believe has demonstrated a particular Gospel Value. This staff member will be awarded a certificate in a Celebration Assembly.

Curriculum

The Children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 really enjoyed their morning down at the Pavilion for the Michael Rosen Book Show. The feedback from the children was fantastic. Jack Cheeseman said, 'He performed very good poems, they were very funny and the audience burst out into laughter- every one of them! I really enjoyed it.' Ellen England said, 'It was amazing and hilarious because of his actions and his voices when he performed.' This experience helped to compliment the English curriculum and enabled the children to visualise the use of storytelling alongside expression, animation, wit and humour.

Year 2 visited Portland Museum to help support their topic of 'The Titanic' on Tuesday 19th November. The children produced some brilliant work on Avalanche Forest Shipwreck stories, recounts and maps involving smugglers. In addition to this and to compliment the topic even further, Mr Pullin brought a real-life inflatable life raft into school and inflated it on the school field. Mr Pullin also prepared a fantastic Powerpoint presentation with photographs of how the 'Life Raft' has changed through different periods of time, dives taken in British waters and dives taken in foreign seas, to enable children to make comparisons and contrasts. Alongside this, the children got to see/touch real-life crabs and lobsters that Mr Pullin had previously caught. A huge thank you to Mr Pullin in helping to bring this topic to life for the children.



Year 4 visited the Pavilion to gain insight into what it is like at the backstage of a theatre. Laura, the Wardrobe Mistress, spoke to the children about costumes that they were considering using for Cinderella and then the children were lucky enough to watch some of their rehearsal. This helped compliment their topic of 'Oh no it isn't!' Alongside this, the children performed magnificently with their brass instruments to the whole school and their parents on 4th December. This was orchestrated to demonstrate the significant amount of progress the children had made from the start of the term to the end of the term. Thank you to Mrs Harding and Mr Randall (Dorset Music Service).



Reception children were learning about 'Helping Heroes'. Mr Marshallsay came into school to talk to the children about the Marines and the Community Police team also came into school to discuss what their job involves, equipment they need and some children tried on some of their uniform. Again, thank you to all those involved.



To compliment all topics within every class and our Laudato Si curriculum focus, the Dorset Waste Partnership were invited into school to talk to the children about how to reduce waste and how to recycle properly. They led a whole school assembly on Friday 22nd November, which led to more focussed work in lessons.

RE

Last half term, the children worked closely on Sacraments, Advent and Christmas RE units. Year 4 led a beautiful Remembrance Class Mass in the Chapel on 14th November and Year 3 led a reverent and intimate Advent Class Mass on 12th December in the Chapel. Thank you to the parents and family members who attended during this busy period.

This term, the children will continue to work on The Gospel Values focusing on a particular value every 2 weeks and will be thinking about Laudato Si-Care for our Common Home, through their topic work. This half term we have continued to work with our children on the topic of Christmas and have focused on

their understanding of the significance of Epiphany. During the coming weeks, we will be starting to learn about our relationship with God and how he is revealed to us through the theme of Revelation. Each class will be learning different aspects of the theme.

Reception	God shows himself to us in Jesus. God shows himself in the Church.
Year 1	God shows himself to us in Jesus. Jesus gave us signs and stories to show that God's kingdom was in him.
Year 2	
Year 3	The Holy Spirit helps us understand the Word of God, which is lived out in the Church.
Year 4	The apostles and Anna and Simeon saw the glory of Jesus as the only Son of the Father.
Year 5	God reveals Himself in Jesus.
Year 6	God in His goodness and wisdom reveals Himself. In His plan of loving goodness all people by the grace of the Holy Spirit are to share in the divine life of Jesus.

Catholic Life

We would like to thank all the families that contributed to our reverse advent calendars last term. The donations you gave were gratefully received by The Weymouth Foodbank to help support local families over the Christmas period.

We have continued to work hard to support different charities throughout last half term. Thank you for your kind generosity and support. The monies raised are:

Child-in-Need: £91.25

Diabetes Awareness: £91.25

We were particularly pleased with our grand total of 140 shoeboxes that were gifted to support Operation Christmas Child. A huge thank you to Mrs Wilkins for organising this at school and within the Parish.

This half term, the Mini Vinnies will be reintroducing (for the third year running), our Indian Child Sponsorship Scheme with all our children. The Sponsorship Scheme helps to continue to support 7 children with their school expenses, so please look out for more information on how you can help in the next few weeks.

Deacon Geoffrey will continue to come into school twice a week to support the teaching of the RE units and to help answer some tricky theological questions that the children may have. He will also continue to support the 'Winston' friendship group on the playground during lunchtime.

Sport

Well done to our school Netball team as they fought so hard against Conifers on 19th November. Despite the team losing 3-2, the children conducted themselves beautifully and demonstrated great sportsmanship. Miss Lane was very pleased with their performance as this was the first match that they had played as a team against a large local primary school. Both the Football and Netball team have been entered into local competitions this term, so please look out for invitation letters nearer the time.

We are continuing to promote a healthy and active lifestyle by encouraging our KS2 children to participate in organised lunchtime clubs. The lunchtime clubs on offer this term are: basketball, tri-golf, tennis, fitness and rugby skills. We have external coaches coming into teach the children on 4 out of the 5 days. On the 5th day the Leadership Ambassadors, who participated in training at Redlands Community Hub, will be leading a lunchtime club alongside Mrs Me-in.

The Code Show

Mr Trevett and Mr Tuson have organised for the Code Show to come to St. Augustine's on Thursday 16th January. The Code Show is a travelling roadshow containing historical hardware from the home computer boom from the late 70's, 80's and 90's. They will demonstrate to the children the rich history of pioneering inventors and inventions of Sir Alan Sinclair, Sir Alan Sugar (Amstrad) and Chris Curry (Acorn). The roadshow reinforces our heritage as a pioneering nation creating an industry from the bedrooms of children who were often self-taught. The children will be able to see and experience computers of the past and make comparisons with the computers of today. The aim is for the children to understand the history of computing alongside the usage of today. You will be more informed about this via your child's weekly PIP letter.

Safeguarding Week

The week commencing Monday 10th February is the start of St. Augustine's Safeguarding Week. During this week, the children will be taught the importance of keeping themselves safe during their PSHE lessons alongside the importance of staying safe online. On Tuesday 11th February is National 'Safer Internet Day' and this year the theme is 'Together for a better Internet.' Please read your child's class PIP letter for more information nearer the time. In the meantime, for parental guidance and support please refer to: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

Medical Advice

Jodi Tonkin our School Nurse is available on 29th January for any concerns over your child's health. Alternatively, for more information about what the school nursing team can offer please refer to: <https://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services-hospitals/physical-health/school-nursing>

Chesil Family Partnership Zone

On the second Thursday of every month, Charlotte Kinghorn, our Family Partnership Zone Link Worker, is running a parent/carers drop-in session for advice and guidance for any family member between the ages of 0-19 years old. Support is offered for behaviour, housing, finance, relationships, emotional

health and anything else that may be concerning you or a member of your family. The up and coming dates this term are: 13th February and 12th March. There are more dates available in the summer term.

Important Information

The dates for this term will be sent out to you via ParentMail on Monday 13th January. Please look closely at these dates as they will include class assemblies, class Masses and parent-teacher consultation dates and any other important dates regarding your child's class. Also, please read your child's class PIP letters to help you further understand what your child is learning and how you can support them with their learning at home. Together we can make a difference.

The next newsletter will be written the first week back after February half term.

I thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Emma Berry
(Headteacher)