



This week

Welcome back! We hope you had a fantastic summer break. It's been great seeing all the familiar faces and getting to know the children who are new to St Augustine's. The start of term has, as always, been busy and it's been great to welcome Ms Romano into our school. This week the children have become familiar with the routines in their new year group. The children have approached their learning with enthusiasm, and we have seen numerous examples of the children living out of Gospel Value of Compassion.

New parents

We would like to welcome you and your child to St Augustine's. We are proud of our school, and we are looking forward to working with you and your child.

Welcome from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

*It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the new Headteacher of St. Augustine's Primary School. My name is **Ms. Romano**, and I am delighted to be joining such a vibrant and caring school community. From my first days here, it has been clear that St. Augustine's is a place where children are nurtured, supported, and inspired to achieve their very best. I look forward to working in partnership with you to continue building on the school's many strengths and to ensure every child feels safe, valued, and excited about their learning journey*

Promoting Attendance

*At St Augustine's, we are placing a strong focus on promoting excellent attendance, as we know that children learn best when they are in school every day. Our goal is for each class to achieve **100% attendance**, and to make this fun, we will be rewarding classes who reach this target with a special breaktime treat – an ice pop for every child! Please support us by ensuring your child attends school regularly and arrives on time each day. We understand that medical appointments are sometimes unavoidable, so these will **not** be counted against the class's attendance figures. Together, we can build great attendance habits and give every child the best opportunity to thrive. Look forward to celebrating the winning class or classes next Friday!*

□ **Exciting News – St. Augustine's Choir is Coming!** □

*We are thrilled to announce the formation of the brand-new **St. Augustine's Choir!** Launching in the next two weeks, this joyous musical group is open to all children from **Year 2 upwards** who love to sing and share their voices with the school community. The choir will represent our school at a range of special events throughout the year – from magical **Christmas carol concerts** and **Easter celebrations** to **school Masses** and other exciting occasions. Whether your child is a seasoned singer or simply enjoys music, we welcome everyone to be part of this uplifting new adventure. Keep an eye out for sign-up details coming soon – we can't wait to make music together! □ ✨*

Catholic Life

It's been a great start to the year. Our Collective Worship last week and this week has focused on the importance of God's love in our lives.

We have celebrated our first Mass which was led by our Year 6 children with the theme of Welcome. It was a joyful mass and we took the time to pray for our new children and staff here at school. We thank everyone involved for making the mass so special.



Please be reminded that if your child is in Year 3 or above, we are starting a new First Holy Communion Programme in the parish. If your child would like to attend classes at St. Joseph's Church, forms are available from the school office. We ask that they are returned swiftly as we are finalising numbers as the course starts in October. For more information, please speak to Mrs Evans or Mrs Wilkins. Thank you.

For dates of Masses and other liturgical events during the year, please look at the timetable at the end of this letter. Thank you.

Read, Write Inc. Parent Information Session – Yr R, Y1, Y2

We would like to invite new Reception parents and carers to a meeting on Wednesday 17th September at 3.30pm where we will explain how we teach phonics (early reading) at St Augustine's. We will discuss what your child's reading journey with us will look like and what you can do at home to support them. There will also be time at the end to ask any questions. Please collect your child from school as normal at 3.15pm and then go to the office if you would like to attend.

If your child is in Year 1 or Year 2 doing Read, Write Inc. and you missed the previous meeting or you would like a refresher, then please feel free to join us.

Polite Reminder

Now that the Autumn Term is upon us please can we ask that your child always has a coat in school. Whenever we can we ensure that the children get outside for their playtimes and so we only have wet playtimes if it's absolutely necessary. Also a reminder that children's morning snack is to be a fruit snack. Many thanks in advance for your support with this.

Request

If anyone has any shoeboxes at home after buying new, back to school shoes, please could they be donated in preparation for our annual Shoebox Appeal.

News from across the school

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| Reception | Wow! What a wonderful first week and a half the children had in Reception! We are so proud of how well they have settled into school and their new routines. We have been very busy exploring and discovering the different areas of our classroom and outdoor area. The children have explored their emotions through our text for the week 'The Colour Monster'. We have looked at different feelings and when we may experience these as well as creating nature's faces. The children have focused on counting to 4 and learning terms like 'how many'. We have been impressed with how the children have worked hard to recognise and write their names. We can't wait to have all the children together from Monday and we look forward to another exciting week! |
| Year 1 | It's been a great start to Year 1. Our children have been approaching their learning with great enthusiasm and have settled into new routines. They have helped us come up with a new class charter and have thought very carefully about being ready, respectful and safe. They've had fun getting to know our class bear, Sidney and throughout the Summer sent him postcards which are now proudly displayed in our room. The children have made a super start on new learning in English and our story, 'Meesha Makes Friends' has helped the children develop their vocabulary as they've discussed words that describes, Meesha's character, their friend's characters and their own characters. We look forward to learning more about the story in the coming weeks. |
| Year 2 | As we shared at our, Meet the Teacher, we were very impressed with Year 2. In Maths then children have.....and in English we have been impressed with their ability to describe what they see when they, 'Look Up' at the night sky and what they see at the beach. In RE, we have focused on retelling the story of Noah. The children should have brought home their reading books, and the children are familiar with the routine of their RWI and Guided Reading sessions that take place after Early Bird each morning. |
| Year 3 | Reminders: Welcome back! We do hope you all had a lovely Summer break. These last few days have really helped the children to get used to their new classroom. We noticed that there are lots of things still the same and not |

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| | <p>too many things that are different. Now that we are in KS2, we were quick to notice that we no longer have the space for carpet time!</p> <p>We have said to the children that they do not need their book bags this year if they are using a backpack for their lunches, as their book can go in there. If you do still want to use one, that is fine but we were just thinking it was one less thing to carry!</p> <p>We managed to get everyone to complete a star reader test today to obtain a ZPD level and the children went into the library to get a book. We redo the test every half term. Please send the reading record in daily (even when it is not book change day) so that we can record any reading that we do with your child.</p> |
| Year 4 | <p>It's been a great first 7 days in Year 4 and it has been fab getting to know your children. Our learning this term (history, reading and art) all centres on Ancient Egypt. Our class novel, The Ancient Egypt Sleepover will introduce the children to the world of Tutankhamun, and we will be heading to Dorchester at the end of the learning to go and explore the Tutankhamun Exhibition.</p> <p>Our English learning has blasted straight off by learning about Katherine Johnson and the role she played in getting Apollo 13 off the ground. We've been looking at word classes, fronted adverbials and conjunctions to connect and articulate our thoughts.</p> <p>In Maths, we have been taking the time to learn the Year 4 multiplication tables so that we can practice them all year. We will be getting started on our Power Maths learning next week.</p> <p>I look forward to meeting you all on Thursday 16th for our Meet the Teacher session, straight after school.</p> |
| Year 5 | <p>Hello everyone! Welcome to year 5. We are both very much looking forward to teaching your child an exciting curriculum this year and getting to know them better. I am sure we will all have a great time! Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the 'Meet the teacher' event on Tuesday. For any of you that missed the meeting then the slides will be uploaded to the school website in due course. In addition, I am sure that we can answer any questions that you may have going forward, so feel free to catch us at the end of the day or via the school office.</p> |
| Year 6 | <p>We have had a great start to our school life in Year 6. This week, the children have had an early attempt at a set of past SATs papers. They applied themselves to this challenge magnificently, especially as it is so early in the year. We have also hit the ground running with our core subjects, King Kong is our book focus in English, and we have already produced some very strong writing. We are enjoying our class book, Darwin's Dragons, and the children have applied themselves well in their R.E lessons. We have focused on Moses and his story, along with his relationship with God. On Thursday, we led the mass and did so in a clam manner, setting the tone for the rest of the school, the children can be very proud of themselves for this and for the start that they have made in general.</p> |

Useful Dates

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| Autumn Term 1 | |
| Friday, 12 th September | Y1 'Meet the Teacher' at 3.30pm |
| Tuesday, 16 th September | Y4 'Meet the Teacher' at 3.30pm |
| Wednesday, 17 th September | YR Phonics Session at 3.30pm |
| Wednesday, 17 th September | Y3 'Meet the Teacher' at 3.30pm |
| Thursday 2 nd October | Jules Arscott – Early Help Parent Drop-in 8.30-10am |
| Monday, 27 th to Friday, 31 st October | Half Term Break |
| Autumn Term 2 | |
| Monday, 3 rd November | INSET Day – No Children in School |
| Tuesday, 4 th November | Children Back to School |
| Thursday 6 th November | Jules Arscott – Early Help Parent Drop-in 8.30-10am |
| Friday, 14 th November | Children in Need Day |
| Wednesday, 19 th November | Fraser Portraits (Individual Photos) |
| Tuesday, 2 nd December | Scholastic Book Fair |
| Thursday, 4 th December | Jules Arscott, Early Help, Parent Drop-in from 8.30am |
| Tuesday, 9 th December | KS1 Nativity Performances |
| Friday, 19 th December | Carol Service & Readings at 2pm – Mini Vinnies Leading |
| Monday, 20 th December to Friday, 3 rd January | Christmas Holidays |
| Spring Term 1 | |
| Monday, 5 th January | Children Back to School |
| Thursday, 8 th January | Jules Arscott, Early Help, Parent Drop-in from 8.30am |
| Monday, 16 th to Friday, 20 th February | Half Term Holidays |
| Spring Term 2 | |
| Monday, 23 rd February | INSET Day – No Children in School |
| Tuesday, 24 th February | Children Back in School |
| Thursday, 5 th March | World Book Day |
| Thursday, 5 th March | Jules Arscott, Early Help, Parent Drop-in from 8.30am |
| Monday, 30 th March to Friday, 10 th April | Easter Holidays |
| Summer Term 1 | |
| Monday, 13 th April | INSET Day – No Children in School |
| Tuesday, 14 th April | Children back in School |

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| Monday, 4 th May | Bank Holiday – No children in School |
| Thursday, 7 th May | Jules Arscott, Early Help, Parent Drop-in from 8.30am |
| Tuesday, 5 th to Friday, 22 nd May | Y2 SATs |
| Monday, 11 th to Friday, 15 th May | Y6 SATs |
| Monday, 25 th to Friday, 29 th May | Half Term Holidays |
| Summer Term 2 | |
| Monday, 1 st June | INSET Day – No Children in School |
| Tuesday, 2 nd June | Children back in School |
| Tuesday, 2 nd to Friday, 12 th June | Y4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) |
| Wednesday, 25 th -Friday, 26 th June | Y6 PGL Barton Hall Residential Trip |
| Tuesday, 30 th June | Fraser Portraits Class/Leavers' Photos |
| Thursday, 2 nd Friday, 3 rd July | Y6 Primary College |
| Tuesday, 7 th July | Transition Day |
| Wednesday, 8 th July | Transition Day |
| Wednesday, 8 th to Friday, 10 th July | Y4 Minstead Residential Trip |
| Thursday, 23 rd July | Summer Holidays |

Masses and Liturgical Events 2025-26

All masses to take place at 9.30am in the hall at school

Please be aware when your child's class is leading Mass, you are very welcome to attend. Please come to the office 5 minutes before the Mass is due to start to sign in.

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| Thursday, 9 th October | Whole School Harvest Mass – Mini Vinnies Leading |
| Thursday, 13 th November | Whole School Remembrance Mass – Y5 Leading |
| Thursday, 4 th December | Whole School Advent Mass – Y4 Leading |
| Thursday, 8 th January | Whole School Epiphany Mass – Y3 Leading |
| Thursday, 5 th February | Whole School Candlemas Mass– Y6 Leading |
| Thursday, 12 th March | Whole School Lent Mass – Y5 to Lead |
| Thursday, 16 th April | Whole School Easter Mass – Y4 to Lead |
| Thursday, 11 th June | Whole School Corpus Christi Mass – Y3 to Lead |

Thursday, 16th July

Whole School Leavers' Mass – Y6 to Lead