



Headteacher's Message

Attendance

*A huge congratulations to **Year 1**, our **100%** attendance winners this week! The children received a well-deserved ice pop at break time to celebrate.*

Term-Time Holidays

A polite reminder to all parents and carers: holidays during term time are not permitted. This is a national regulation, not a school policy, and applies to all schools across the country.

While we understand that holiday prices are often lower during term time, the long-term cost to your child's education is far greater. Missing even two weeks of school equates to approximately 50 lessons - an enormous gap that can be difficult, if not impossible, to fully recover. As children progress through school, these gaps can widen and have a lasting impact. To put it into perspective, replacing those missed lessons with private tuition could cost around £1,500. More importantly, no catch-up session can replicate the in-class experience, interaction, and learning.

We urge all families to avoid booking holidays during term time. These absences will always be recorded as unauthorised.

Parents' Evening

It was a pleasure to welcome so many of you to our recent Parents' Evening. We hope you found the meetings informative and that they provided an opportunity to discuss your child's progress and raise any concerns. Your support makes a significant difference to your child's educational journey—thank you.

All Saints Academy Taster Day

Our Year 6 pupils had a fantastic day visiting All Saints Academy. We received excellent feedback about their behaviour, enthusiasm, and curiosity—many asked thoughtful questions and represented our school beautifully. A big well done to them all, you made our school proud!

Mini Vinnies

A special thank you to our Mini Vinnies, who continue to be shining examples of our school values. From leading parts of our assemblies to their weekly lunchtime meetings, their dedication brings a sense of joy and community to our school. We are proud of the positive impact they make every day.

School Gate Safety

We are currently working closely with the Trust and the local Council to improve access to the school site. We understand the frustration this causes, and we share your concerns. Following a recent near miss in the car park, the school gates will be closed at all times until a safer alternative is provided.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we prioritise the safety of all our pupils and staff. We will continue to keep you informed of any updates.

Vacancies – Teaching Assistant & Cleaner

We currently have a vacancy for a Teaching Assistant (15 hours per week, Monday to Friday). For more details and to apply, please see the link below:

https://www.staugustines.dorset.sch.uk/job_vacancies-2

We are also still looking to fill a cleaning position, as mentioned in last week's newsletter. If you are able to offer between 1–3 hours per day, either before or after school, we'd love to hear from you. The role is paid at £12.21 per hour. If you or someone you know may be interested in supporting the school in this way, please contact the school office for more information.



Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to support a new initiative that we wish to start as soon as possible - morning toast for children during break time. We know that a warm snack can help children feel more focused and ready to learn. To make this happen, we are looking for volunteers to help prepare and serve toast in the mornings. This could be a great opportunity for anyone interested in gaining experience in a school setting — especially if you're considering a future role in education.

If you're interested in volunteering, please contact the school office for more information. We would be very grateful for your support!

Catholic Life



On Monday our new Year 5 Mini Vinnies took charge of our Celebration of the Word as our Year 6 class were out for the day. We thank the children for leading the readings and prayers and are so happy to welcome them to our group. This week our Mini Vinnies have been busy working on our Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee Pledge. We have been discussing what we have learned from Pope Francis's Jubilee Year and what we as a school can continue to do as a worshipping community moving forward into the future as 'Pilgrims of Hope.'

Facebook

We are excited to share that we have now launched a St Augustine's official Facebook page. This will be used to share exciting things that are happening in school, brilliant examples of children's work, achievements and those who are truly living out their gospel values. We're hoping this will also provide you, our families, with the opportunity to see inside the building and to see what you're children get up to during the day!

You can find the page on Facebook, or by following this link: <https://tinyurl.com/SAFB2025> please feel free to share this with anybody who may be interested.

Please note, this page will be used to share positives from across the school community and will not be used as an official communication channel. We would appreciate your support in keeping the page positive and encouraging for our young people. For all communication with school, please contact the school office, or your child's teacher, as usual.

Save the Date

We will be welcoming Jemma Williams, our school link speech and language therapist into school on **Monday 17th November** for a Parent Drop In Session between 9:30am and 10:00am. Please pop into school if you would like to ask for any advice regarding your child and their speech and language. Your child does not need to have a speech and language programme to be able to access this support- Jemma would love to see you.

News from across the school and Home learning

Reception	WOW we cannot believe we have finished our penultimate week of the first term in reception! What another busy week it has been. It was also lovely to see so many of you during our parents' meetings on Wednesday. In English, the children did some excellent writing when drawing and labelling the emotions felt by Mr Bear. We are so proud of how their letter formation and phonic knowledge are developing. In Maths, we have continued our work on shapes looking at both 3D and 2D shapes. It is so lovely to see the confidence of the children growing and they are now using mathematical vocabulary in their interactions with peers. In RE this week, we were very fortunate to welcome Father Anthony into our class to teach the children all about baptism. He reenacted a baptism with the children and taught them all about the symbols within this and their meanings. The children thoroughly enjoyed this and it was lovely for them to experience this with Father. In RHE this week we learned about our unique self and celebrated similarities and differences and we created 'All about Me' posters. Next week in class, one of focuses is all about our community. The children will be making their own houses and thinking about family. If you can, we are asking for some small cardboard boxes to be brought in that children can use to help create their homes. Well done Reception for another wonderful week!	Home learning – see home learning sheet in your child's book bag or on the website.
Year 1	<u>RWI Clips to support your child at home</u> Our children have worked hard this week. Our gospel value has been compassion and we saw many examples of children living out this value in the classroom and on the playground. <i>For our History work, please could the children bring in toys that you played with as children, or toys that their grandparents played with for our lesson on <u>Thursday 23rd</u></i>	<u>Home Learning</u> Reading 5 times a week TTRS <u>Spellings this week</u>

	<u>October. The toys will be looked after and returned at the end of the day. We thank you in advance for your support.</u> In Maths we have been working on number bonds and the children are gaining confidence in recalling their number bonds to 10. Using the rekenrek equipment, we've been learning that 2 parts make a whole. In English, we've continued to work on the story, 'Meesha Makes Friends' and we've been trying to recall events and to write about these with developing independence. In Art we've added facial features to our self-portraits and it's been lovely to see the children work creatively with pencils, poster paints and watercolour paints through the course of this unit. In Computing, we've been working in small groups to plan a scene from The 3 Little Pigs which we will work on creating on the computers next week using the Sketchpad program. This will be a lovely way to conclude our work on this unit.	by my is his they
Year 2	We have had a wonderfully productive learning week in Year 2. In English, the children are working towards a piece of diary writing. The children have shown off their excellent mathematic skills and have been using the part part whole model. We have produced some really thoughtful learning in RE about Baptism and we have made the most of the sunny weather to keep fit and healthy in our PE sessions. We are so proud of how hard the children are trying with their handwriting and have seen real improvements already. Keep up the good work Year 2!	Reading TTRS Spellings could would should people when
Year 3	We have had another busy week in Year 3. In Maths, we have been learning a lot about adding and subtracting large numbers. We are beginning to understand the column method and how, when adding, units can make extra tens and tens can make extra hundreds. In subtraction, we have noticed that sometimes a ten or a hundred needs to be exchanged to help solve the calculations. In English, we have been letter writing. We pretended to be Floella Benjamin writing back to her teacher saying how tough it was living in England. In RE, we have been looking at Psalms 8 and how it links in with the Creation. We have also been thinking about creation and how it is important to look after what we have. We need to be good stewards and do our bit to look after the environment. In Science, we have been studying light and shadows. We recently did a little investigation into how shadows get larger and smaller due linked to the objects distance from the light source.	Reading TTRS Spellings doesn't can't won't isn't I'll there's hasn't circle caught early circle caught early
Year 4	As we come towards the end of the term, we are beginning to wrap up some of our foundation subject learning. In Science, the children have started making beautiful posters about the water cycle. In WCR, we have concluded reading 'The Ancient Egypt Sleepover' and we will be finishing our learning about Ancient Egypt by looking at their gods next week and visiting the Tutankhamun Exhibition after half term. In English, the children have been thinking about and planning factfiles about Katherine Johnson that they will be writing next week and I'm really looking forward to seeing how	<u>Home learning</u> Reading TTRS Spellings: main mane peace piece fare

	their English skills have developed already this year. Certainly, I've seen a huge improvement in handwriting and presentation this week following our handwriting focus last week. In our Maths learning, we have been thinking about adding two 4-digit numbers with exchanging. In RE, we have left Abraham's story behind after we have looked at it step by step throughout this term. Next week, we will be thinking about a living person who lives out their faith in God before we move onto our next branch after the break. It was great to meet and chat to most of you on Tuesday/previously this term. If we haven't had the opportunity to chat yet, I will be in contact over the next week.	fair blue blew definitely destination
Year 5	Another busy week has come to an end and with only one more week until the Half-Term break there is still plenty of ground we need to cover across the curriculum. Firstly, thank you to all those who were able to attend Parent's Evening this week and we hope that the conversations held gave you a useful insight into the day to day education of your child. With that in mind, this week in Maths we have started to consolidate our knowledge of multiples, building upon our previous knowledge and linking this to times tables. In English we have been looking at the development of character in our writing and how dialogue can enhance this process. In RE the virtue of fortitude has been the focus of our study and we have carefully considered what makes someone brave. We are all really working hard now to ensure that the children's work is of the best quality and really showcases their learning. Thankyou for your continued support.	Please read at least 5 times a week and complete a minimum of 15 minutes on TTRS. Spellings for test on 24th October: Thumb aisle gnome kneel design knuckle knew determined government thorough
Year 6	Another busy week in Year 6 as we come to the end of this Half Term. Next week, alongside some Year 6 assessments, we will be coming to the end of our foundation subjects. In Music, we will complete our final piece and perform it, while in Art we are looking forward to using clay to make our Greek Pantheons. In R.E, we have finished looking at the different virtues and how these are applicable in our everyday lives; we look forward to reflecting on these next week. In Maths, we have looked at simplifying fractions to their simplest form, while we have also compared them. In our grammar sessions, we have recapped how a sentence is constructed, with a focus on co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions. Our class reading book, The Wild Folk, is starting to gather pace. The theories are starting to be shared as the action is really beginning. It was great to catch up with those of you who were able on Tuesday. If you ever have any questions, then please do ask.	Reading Maths Worksheets <u>Spellings</u> Referred Reference Preferred Preference Transferred Transferring Referral Bargain Category Committee

Useful Dates

Autumn Term 1	
Thursday 23 rd October at 2:40pm	Year 5 Class Assembly
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
Monday 17 th November at 9:30am	Jemma Williams – Speech and Language Drop In
Wednesday, 19 th November	Fraser Portraits (Individual and class Photos)
Thursday 20 th November at 2:40pm	Year 4 Class Assembly
Thursday 27 th November at 2:40pm	Year 6 Class Assembly
Friday 28 th November	FOSA Christmas movie night
Tuesday, 2 nd December	Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday, 4 th December	Jules Arscott, Early Help, Parent Drop-in from 8.30am
Friday 5 th December at 15:30	FOSA Christmas Fayre
Tuesday, 9 th December	KS1 Nativity Performances
Thursday 11 th December at 2:40pm	Year 3 Class Assembly
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
Thursday 29 th January at 2:40pm	Year 2 Class Assembly
Thursday 12 th February at 2:40pm	Reception Class Assembly
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 at 2:40pm	Year 1 Class Assembly
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
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.

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, 16 th July	Whole School Leavers' Mass – Y6 to Lead