



St Augustine's Newsletter

Friday 25th April 2025
Newsletter No.28

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all enjoyed a restful Easter break with your families. We came back to the very sad news about the death of Pope Francis. Pope Francis was a passionate advocate of children and young people, calling them the 'joy and hope of the Church and the world!'. Pope Francis has inspired us all to work for a better world. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen. We pray for all those tasked with electing his successor also.



Upcoming Events – Summer Term	
Tuesday 29 th April	Y2 Trip to the FAST Museum
Wednesday 30 th April	Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum Information Session -7pm
Thursday 1 st May	Y4 watching 'Matilda' performance Farnborough Hill
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Wednesday 7 th May	YR trip to Bocketts Farm
Thursday 8 th May	PTA meeting online at 8p.m.
Friday 9 th May	PTA KS1 Disco (6-7.30p.m.)
Monday 12 th May	Year 6 SATs (M-Th) Swimming lessons for the week YR Living Eggs
Friday 16 th May	PTA KS2 Disco (6-8p.m.)
Monday 19 th May	Swimming lessons for the week
Tuesday 20 th May	Y3 trip to Camberley
Thursday 22 nd May	Young Musician of the Year (Xavier Trust event)
Friday 22 nd May	Year 4 Mass at OLQH at 2p.m.
Mon 26 th – Friday 30 th May	May Half-term (school closed)

RSE – Relationships and Sex Education

All schools are required to teach a relationships curriculum. We are expected to teach pupils what healthy, positive, respectful relationships look like. Whilst it is not compulsory to teach sex education at primary we have been teaching this predominantly in Year 6 in the second half of the summer term for many years as we believe that it's important that our pupils learn about this from trusted staff (rather than peers or from information online) and within a Catholic context. In Year 5 we usually teach pupils about puberty and how their bodies are likely to change in the next few years. We have always shared the curriculum with parents, as we know that parents are the most important teachers for their children, to ensure that they are happy with the content but also to prepare them in case the children have some questions at home.

We have previously been using a Catholic approved scheme for relationship and sex education called 'Journey in Love' but Bishop Richard has asked all Catholic schools in the Diocese to introduce a new programme called 'Life to the Full'. Next Wednesday evening (30th April at 7p.m.) we will be giving a presentation on this in the school hall. We will send parents a quick survey to check how many to expect (for printing out handouts).

Animal Workshops

On Wednesday pupils in Year R, 2 and 5 had an animal workshop linked to an aspect of science that they are currently studying. Children in Reception learnt about life cycles and met a rainforest frog. They were amazed by the Giant African Snail which has 10,000 teeth and can hatch 1000 eggs in a year. Some of the children enjoyed holding a cockroach and large stick insect. They particularly enjoyed meeting and holding the snake. It was a really enjoyable and educational session.



Reception Easter Bonnet Parade

Over the Easter Holidays the children in Reception were asked to make an Easter Bonnet. This Thursday they enjoyed taking part in an Easter Bonnet parade around the school. They are learning that Easter doesn't end on Easter Sunday. Wearing the bonnets after the Easter holidays helps them to develop their understanding of this. There were so many amazing designs. Well done to all of the children and a big thank you to the parents for their help and support with this project.



Swimming

Swimming is part of the National Curriculum for KS2. This year we have decided to try something new and will be having a swimming pool at school for two weeks. The week of the 5th May is set up week, the water will be heated and the pool will be undercover. The week of the 12th May pupils in Year 3 will be given swimming lessons each day and the following week pupils in Year 6 will be given 4 or 5 swimming lessons (depending on a survey earlier in the year). Pupils in Year 4 and 5 will be given a couple of lessons. We will have a lifeguard and swimming coach and pupils will swim in groups of 12 or less. School staff will also be assisting. Parents in KS2 will receive a letter about this shortly as we will be asking for parent contributions towards the cost of this.

We have always thoroughly enjoyed using the swimming pool in Camberley which is an excellent facility but we are aware that this option will enable more pupils the chance to swim, will hopefully be good value and will save more learning time for other subjects. We will gather feedback afterwards.

Dance Workshops

Pupils have also enjoyed some dance workshops this week on both street dance and modern dance.



Year 4 house tournament- 2025:

On Thursday 24th April, children from year 4 played in a football tournament, playing against their school houses. All the children played brilliantly and fairly in healthy competition, all winning house points for their school house.

Well done to all who participated and thank you to the parents for your support!

1st place- **St. Theresa**- 200 house points.

2nd place- **St. Paul**- 100 house points.

3rd place- **St. Francis**- 50 house points

4th place- **St. Bernadette**- 25 house points.

Music lessons in school

I have some spaces for individual Piano and Keyboard lessons next term.

My group music classes for Reception, Year 1 and 2 are proving to be very popular. I'm Kodaly trained so we focus on the general principles of music, singing and lots of instruments with a particular focus on the Piano. We have great fun!

Next term I will be running Group or Individual lessons for Keyboard, Recorder and Ukelele.

I hold Theory classes online out of school hours.

Please message me for details. Miss Hobday 07770 375719

Have a lovely weekend,

Alison Walsh (Head teacher)