



# St Augustine's Newsletter

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025**  
**Newsletter No.38**

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday morning I had a lovely reminder about the very best of human nature. One of our grandparents stopped me in the carpark to give me an envelope with some cash inside for the charity Mary's Meals which we are supporting as a school as part of our Jubilee pledge this year. Mary's Meals is an incredible Catholic Charity that gives children in the poorest countries a school dinner every day. She explained that her husband Kevin O'Neil had recently celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and at his birthday party he asked people to bring a donation for Mary's Meals rather than a bottle of wine. Kevin managed to raise enough money to feed 9 children for a whole year. We know that this may be the only meal that some of these children have each day and this initiative has improved school attendance by 40% in many countries. It's not just feeding children but helping them to get an education. A very Happy Birthday to you Kevin and many thanks for your very generous act!

I've mentioned this charity a few times this year. We have had an assembly from Mary's Meals and one of their volunteers is coming back to school next week to collect our donations. If anyone else would like to send anything you can either give to us at the start of next week or make a donation online at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/>. If you want to read an incredibly uplifting story over the summer, read 'The Shed that Fed 2 million children' by the charity's founder Magnus Macfarlane-Barrow. Alternatively if you do one important thing this weekend watch this humbling film ( Child 31) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aFU8cU-clCs>

## Mary's Meals – Foreign Currency Collection Reminder

As part of our school's Jubilee Year of Hope pledge to be pilgrims of hope for those less fortunate than ourselves, we are supporting Mary's Meals through a foreign currency collection.

If you have any foreign coins or notes you wish to donate, please ensure they are handed in by the end of next week. Donations should be placed in a named envelope and given to your child's class teacher. Thank you for your continued generosity and support in helping us make a difference!

Well done to Year 6 this and their beautiful concert to pupils and parents where they showcased their beautiful singing skills. The Choral Director for the Diocese, Fraser Ellson, has been working with them all year. I initially thought we would not be able to afford this next year but we have discovered a source of funding which means that next year we can continue this musical initiative with pupils in Years 3, 5 and 6. Year 4 access specialist music tuition already through their instrument tuition.

Upcoming Events – Summer Term	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Y2 trip to Wisley/ JOLF workshops
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	JOLF workshops

Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year reports home / Rocksteady concert
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	PTA Camping event
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leaver's Mass ( pm) / Year 6 Disco ( eve)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term – Early closure

### **Term Dates Academic Year 2025 – 2026**

**Please note school finishes at 1.30pm at the end of term. Half term break -finish normal time**

#### **Autumn Term 2025**

**Tuesday 2nd September INSET day – school closed**

**Wednesday 3rd September INSET day – school closed**

**Thursday 4th September First day of school**

**Friday 3rd October MAT INSET day – school closed**

**Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October HALF –TERM BREAK**

**Monday 1st December MAT school closure**

**Friday 19th December End of Term**

#### **Spring Term 2026**

**Monday 5th January First day of term**

**Monday 16th- Friday 20th February HALF-TERM BREAK**

**Friday 13th March MAT INSET day – school closed**

**Friday 27th March End of Term**

#### **Summer Term 2026**

**Monday 13th April First day of term**

**Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May HALF-TERM BREAK**

**Friday 19th June INSET day – school closed**

**Friday 17th July End of the school year**

### **Plea for resources for the Reception Playground**

Dear Parents,

We are in the process of planning and redesigning the Reception Playground. We have some great ideas but need some help with resources to make this become a reality. We need:

5 really good quality palettes

12 heavy duty acrylic clear clipboards

4 broom handles

Crates like the black and green ones in this picture.

Many thanks,

Mrs. Caramba-Coker



### **Faith in Action Awards**

On Saturday, 28th June, a special award ceremony was held at Worth Abbey to celebrate the achievements of our Year 6 pupils who participated in the Faith in Action programme. Each child was recognised for their dedication and service, receiving a pin level award to mark their accomplishments.



Bishop Richard presented the awards and commended the children for their inspiring efforts in building the Kingdom of God here on Earth. It was a joyful and proud moment for all involved.

We hope many of our pupils continue their journey by working towards the Bronze Award in the next academic year. It was also heartwarming to witness former St Augustine's pupils receiving their Bronze,

Silver and Gold Awards—a true testament to the values and spirit of the St Augustine's family!

We also hope that some of our current Year 5 children who are thinking about joining the programme will speak to Mrs Engelbrecht to find out more. It's a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith and service.

Have a lovely weekend, Alison Walsh ( Head teacher)