



St Augustine's Newsletter

Friday 6th March 2026
Newsletter No.22

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a fabulous week at school! On Wednesday we had the amazing science fair and as always the variety of the projects presented was phenomenal!! Many congratulations to the 14 pupils in KS2 who will be taking their entries to the Xavier Science Fair in the next few weeks. I would like to say a big thank you to Mrs. Moore for organising the Science Fair and motivating so many pupils to research different aspects of science.

On Thursday we had World Book Day Celebrations. The day started with a special assembly led by Mr. Castell and Mr. Girault. Staff across the school took turns to share favourite books with pupils. The children all looked fabulous, so many thanks for embracing the spirit of the day so well with your children. We hope to foster a love of books and reading!

Next Thursday 12th March pupils in KS2 will be having a workshop on internet safety from ChildNet throughout the day. ChildNet will also be running a parent workshop on internet safety from 2.20-3.20 next Thursday and we would love to see as many of you as possible.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED NEXT FRIDAY FOR AN INSET DAY

<u>Upcoming Events</u>	
Monday 9 th March	Parent workshops in the Arts Block 1.30-3.15p.m. (3 weeks) KS2 Music Festival at GLive
Tuesday mornings Spring 2	Year 3 Swimming lessons
Thursday 12 th March	Internet safety workshops for KS2 and parent information session
Friday 13 th March	INSET DAY – School Closed
Tuesday 17 th March	Y4 Easter Liturgy at 9.30a.m. – Parents welcome Sacrament of reconciliation for those pupils in Year 5 who wish to participate
Wednesday 18 th March	Y4 Easter Liturgy at 2p.m. – Parents welcome
Thursday 19 th March	Y4 Overnight residential trip Sacrament of reconciliation for those pupils in Year 6 who wish to participate Down Syndrome Assembly
Friday 20 th March	Y5 Mass at OLQH at 1.50p.m.
Tuesday 24 th March	Xavier Science Fair
Friday 27 th March	PTA Break the Rules event End of term – early finish at 1.30p.m.

Attendance

We have just given out 227 gold certificates for last half-term for those children with attendance at 98+%. This is great and slightly higher than last term. There were 198 pupils who had attendance of 100% which is brilliant. Well done to Class 2Y who managed to have the most gold certificates.

Number of Gold Certificates	Classes
22	Class 2Y
21	Class 3RW
19	Class 1A
17	Class 4C and Class 6B
16	Class 2H, 1W, 5G and Green Class
15	Class 5W and Class 6E
14	Class 3W
12	Class 4M
11	Blue Class

LENT

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have now entered the season of Lent, a special time in the Church when we prepare for Easter through prayer, reflection and giving to others. Our liturgical cloths have been changed to purple - time to prepare for the season of Easter.

You may find these resources helpful to explore Lent at home:

- **CAFOD Lent Calendar:** <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-calendar>
- **Children's Lent Calendar:** [available via our school shared resources.](#)

Reconciliation for Years 4, 5 and 6 .Children in these year groups will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the season of Lent.

SVP Heart to Heart Lent Campaign

This year's campaign focuses on supporting people who may feel lonely. A simple conversation with someone you don't usually talk to can make a meaningful difference. More information can be found here:

<https://act.svp.org.uk/page/184847/action/1?locale=en-GB> SVP Heart to Heart Lent Campaign: SVP1833

Many thanks, Mrs. Engelbrecht

Mid-Year Reports

Pupils will be sent home with mid-year reports for parents today. The reports cover progress in the core areas of reading, writing, maths and R.E. and teachers have shared targets for further improvement in each subject. The report will also give parents information about their child's behaviour and attitude at school. Parents will also receive information on their child's attendance. Please see the attendance ladder as a guide on how to interpret your child's attendance figure. Attendance above 95% is viewed as on target / good attendance. Any attendance less than 90% is considered a concern and is monitored by the local authority.



Research has shown that pupils with attendance of 95-100% are 30% more likely to meet expected standards.

How do I know if my child is on track with their learning?

Staff will have used the end of Autumn term scores when they wrote the mid-year reports. The children will be assessed at the end of this term so teachers will update parents if they anticipate any significant changes. Children on track will have a 'B' grade. Children performing beyond expectations will be a 'B+'. If any child is not yet meeting the expectations for their year group, I attach the grid below to give parents a sense of where their child is. Anyone not on track will be receiving additional help at school. Teachers will be able to discuss this with parents and share ways in which parents can also help at home.

	End of Autumn Term	End of Spring Term	End of Summer Term
Year 1	1B	1W	1S
Year 2	2B	2W	2S
Year 3	3B	3W	3S
Year 4	4B	4W	4S
Year 5	5B	5W	5S
Year 6	6B	6W	6S

Schools are only required to produce one full report a year which we do at the end of the summer term. We believe that it is really important to share key information with you mid-year which is why we produce this short mid-year report also.

For RE the grade – WT means working towards the expected standard, EXS – expected standard and GDS means the greater depth standard

SEND CONSULTATION

One of our parents wishes to highlight to all those who have children with additional needs that the government are undertaking reforms within SEND (special educational needs). Please see the paper below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/every-child-achieving-and-thriving>

SUMMARY:

The UK government's Feb 2026 SEND reform white paper, Every Child Achieving and Thriving, initiates a decade-long overhaul to address a system in crisis, focusing on greater mainstream inclusion, earlier intervention, and a new three-tiered support system. Key changes include digital EHCPs, mandatory Individual Support Plans, and reforms implemented in phases through 2028-29, backed by £4 billion investment.

Key Aspects of the 2026 SEND Reform Proposal

Core Objective: Create a more inclusive, sustainable system to reduce reliance on adversarial tribunals and better support the 1.7 million children with SEND in England.

Three-Tiered Support Model: Moving away from a heavily centralized EHCP system, the new framework introduces:

Universal: Support available to all.

Targeted & Targeted Plus: Early intervention to address needs without a statutory plan.

Specialist: Reserved for the most complex needs, retaining EHCPs.

Mainstream Inclusion: A major focus is on strengthening mainstream schools to meet needs, aiming to reduce the need for special school placements.

Mandatory Individual Support Plans (ISPs): Every school, nursery, and college will be required to create and regularly review an ISP for children with SEND.

Digital EHCPs: Introduction of digital plans to improve efficiency and record-keeping.

Implementation Timeline: Reforms will be phased, aligning with best practices (2025-26), preparing for structural changes (2026-27), and full implementation by 2028-29.

Funding: The reforms are supported by a £4 billion investment to enhance mainstream inclusion and school resources.

Contention and Considerations

EHCP Thresholds: There are concerns that reserving EHCPs for only the most severe needs could reduce overall access to formal support.

Implementation Risk: Success relies on whether mainstream settings have enough resources and expertise to provide effective support, a key concern raised by the Local Government Association.

Current Law: The legal framework for SEND has not immediately changed; existing duties apply during the transition period

As part of the consultation parents can share their views :

SENDreform.CONSULTATION@education.gov.uk

al.pinkerton.mp@parliament.uk (Surrey Heath M.P.)

Year 3/4 football vs Mychett

On Wednesday 4th March, children from year 3 and 4 played in matches against Mychett in friendly fixtures.

There wasn't a winner or a loser, but there were plenty of opportunities to learn and develop their game.

We also mixed the teams, allowing for players to play with a different school. It was lovely to see everyone play in a fair but competitive manner.



Well done to all who participated.

Y3&4 St. Augustine's footballers:

George S, Alexander M, Matteo M, Ernest Z, Sinaia L, Sofia M, Luke C, Michael S, Zane MD

Royal Marsden Cancer March

Along with other family members, I am walking in The Banham Marsden March on Sunday 10th May for The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity - a cause close to my heart. It's to honour our beautiful, brave 7-year-old granddaughter Isabella. It would mean a lot to me if you could sponsor my walk. Every donation will help to transform the lives of cancer patients everywhere. The Royal Marsden in Sutton have been amazing with everything. Isabella's treatment is going to last two years. She will with good days and bad days beat her cancer and so will many other people but like most charities they rely heavily on donations to help. Any amount will help. Please click on the link below to donate.

If she is strong enough Isabella wants to take part even if it's sitting in a buggy as well as some other younger family members.

Thank you in advance.

Mrs. Sharp (Year 2)

<https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fmarch.royalmarsden.org%2fs%2f14016%2f19036%2fw&c=E.1.lQs7bEhFFKpKFjg3w0-IoZVAPXnPGwGQilkVYAAxksbaEgpFvimYa87ayLKQ4e2MQKTj0etQQSKfvucBEzLgwnmLtEHn3zhDEiDARKzs&typo=1>

ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ideas for a waste free lunch:



Snacks and lunches in a reusable container



Drinks in a reusable bottle



Using beeswax wraps or silicone sandwich bags – no single-use plastic



**Saving God's precious creation
One Wednesday at a time!**

What to avoid:



Lunches in plastic bags, cling film or foil



Disposable bottles and juice boxes



Snacks packed in soft plastics, e.g. crisps, bars...

Waste Free Wednesday – Caring for Creation Together

A message from the R.E. Council and Faith in Action Pupils

We are excited to hold our first ever Waste Free Wednesday! On this day, we encourage all children to bring a lunch that avoids single-use plastics—using reusable containers, refillable bottles and eco-friendly wraps wherever possible. The class with the highest percentage of waste-free lunches will receive a special certificate.

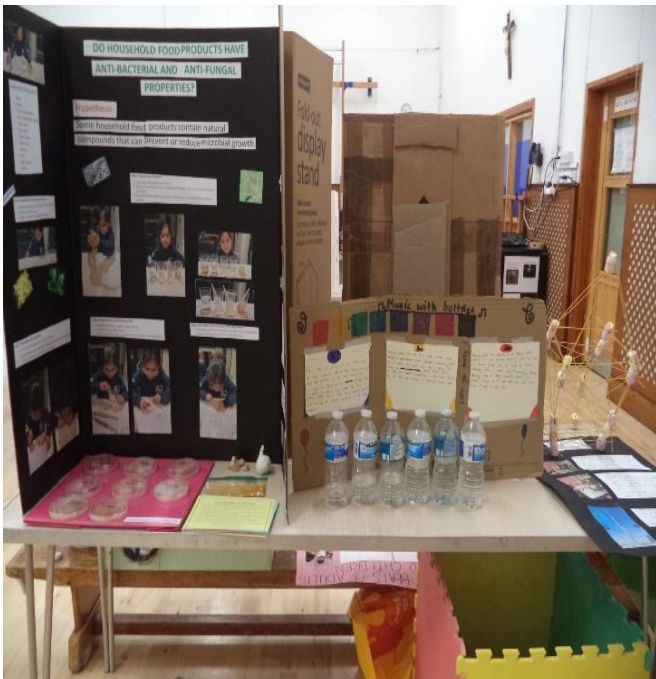
This initiative links directly to our Catholic Social Teaching on Stewardship of God's Creation. As followers of Christ, we are called to care for the earth and protect the precious gifts God has entrusted to us. By reducing waste—even in small, everyday ways—we teach our children to be thoughtful stewards who make choices that protect our common home.

Saving God's precious creation, one Wednesday at a time!

The children also wanted to share the following 10 eco tips for at home:

1. Turn Off the Tap -Don't let water run while brushing teeth or washing hands—save every drop!
2. Recycle Right- Learn what goes in the recycling bin and help sort items correctly at home.
3. Turn Off the Lights- When you leave a room, flip the switch—saving energy is super easy!
4. Use Both Sides of Paper- Draw or write on both sides of paper before recycling or reusing it.
5. Pack Waste-Free Lunches-Use reusable lunch boxes, bottles, and containers—say goodbye to plastic wrap and disposable bags.
6. Pick Up Litter-If you see litter on the ground (and it's safe to pick up), put it in the proper bin.
7. Take Care of Nature- Respect trees, plants, animals, and insects—nature is your playground and responsibility.
8. Donate Old Toys and Clothes- Give gently-used items a second life by donating instead of throwing them away.
9. Walk or Bike When You Can- If school or a friend's house is nearby, walk, bike or scooter instead of asking for a lift.
10. Learn and Share- Read books or watch videos about the environment, then teach friends and family what you know

Science Fair



On Wednesday 4th March, St Augustine's held its fourth science fair and what a fantastic response we had. We were delighted by the number, quality and diversity of the children's projects. We had seventy-seven projects displayed in the main school hall from across every year group in the school. Many of the projects were group collaborations between friends. The children took turns during the day to share their projects with their year group and friends. The children were all able to talk about their projects with such enthusiasm and understanding of the scientific concepts on display.

The quality of the projects made judging extremely difficult, and I spent all day changing my mind. I wish to thank the other teachers, staff and Mrs Walsh for their assistance during the day.

The winning children in each year group were;

Reception - Adaline-Rose Funnell, William George and Leonardo Quaglio Villa

Year 1 - Jaxon Kelly and Grace Edwards

Year 2 - Cora Moore , Alessandro Quaglio Villa, Cici Phillips and Lorenzo Blake

Year 3 - Sofia Martinez, Noah Reddy and Edward Savage

Year 4 - Dia Mittal, Robert Ciesluk, Adrian Ciesluk and Elise Smyth

Year 5 - Seve Bertolone, William Toffa and Isla Edwards

Year 6 - Leonardo Blake, Lucy Welling, Charlotte Sheppard and Peter Quinn

Congratulations to these children and our highly commended projects. The children from Years 3 to 6 will join me at the Xavier Science Grand Final on Tuesday 24th March, where they will present their projects to other schools within the trust and see demonstrations from STEM companies and charities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children and families who took part in the science fair. Thank you for your hard work and the time taken to create the amazing presentations. I hope you enjoyed the experience as much as I enjoyed the day in the hall sharing the projects with the children. I am already looking forward to next year's science fair.

Mrs Sarah Moore (Science Lead)

Have a lovely weekend,

Alison Walsh