



St Augustine's Academy Newsletter

24th November 2017



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another very busy school week at St. Augustine's Academy.

On Tuesday, we held our Parents Forum and would like to thank all the parents who came along. As a group, we looked at the policy and curriculum documents for Sex and Relationships education, and headlines from the Headteacher's Report to Governors were also shared.

In addition, there was an opportunity for parents and carers to ask any questions they had, to talk about the things are going well at the school and share ideas and suggestions for moving the school forward.

Another meeting held this week was our KS2 Assessment Evening. We were delighted that 32 people, in total, were in attendance. This highlighted the commitment that we all share in helping our children to do their very best and achieve their potential.

Also this week we received a very positive visit from a lead member of the Central Beds School Improvement Team. The progress that the school is making towards raising standards of attainment and progress for our pupils was recognised, and pupils' good behaviour around the school was also complemented.

Due to historic data, it would be almost impossible, at this point in time, to maintain an overall 'Good' grading if Ofsted were to call, as outcomes for pupils since becoming a primary school have been unsatisfactory. We do believe, however, that we are 'Good' in many areas and that, this year, our outcomes will improve.

We hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Amanda Howes
Headteacher

School Gate



At home time, school gates open at 3:15pm and the end of school is 3:20pm.

Please wait for your child in the school playground near their designated exit. Remember to stand back from the doors to allow teachers and pupils to see who is waiting. Thank you for your cooperation.

Santa Challenge

SANTA CHALLENGE
CYCLE, SCOOT OR STRIDE TO SANTA
MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER
TO FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER
WALK, SCOOT OR
CYCLE TO SCHOOL
COMPLETE YOUR RECORD CARD FOR A
CHANCE TO WIN A FANTASTIC FROG BIKE
great We're the charity that's making it easier for people to walk and cycle sustrans

How would you like to win a brand new bike?

Next week sees the launch of the Santa Challenge - an exciting initiative led by Sustrans and supported by St Augustine's Academy.

For two weeks, starting on Monday 27th November, any child who walks, scoots or cycles to school (even once) is in with a chance of winning a brand new bike. There will also be additional, smaller prizes to win, such as teddies, slapbands and badges throughout the fortnight.

Each time your child walks, scoots or cycles to (and from) school they will mark this on their individual card. We will count up each non-car use, convert these into miles and see if we, as a school, can 'travel' to Lapland.

We are sure that you will want to help us make this 'journey' and will see the benefits in reducing car usage - healthier children and a cleaner world to live in.

Oakwood Avenue, Dunstable, Bedfordshire. LU5 4AS

Telephone: 01582 661778, Fax: 01582 607047

Email: office@staugustine'sacademy.co.uk

Website: www.staugustinesacademy.co.uk

Christmas at St. Augustine's

Christmas will soon be upon us and children and staff are beginning to prepare for our Christmas performances and parties.



Please look out for additional paper copies of letters in children's book bags as these will contain important information about tickets, costumes and party food.



Christmas Post Box



From Monday 27th November, the school Christmas Post Box is available for pupils to post their Christmas cards.

Please ensure that children write the first name, surname and class of the person they are sending the card to. This will help to ensure that the right cards end up with the right children.

Christmas Bauble Competition

This year, as in previous years, we would like to decorate our school Christmas tree with decorations made by the children.



We would love the children to make a decoration at home that they can bring into school to hang from the tree. Decorations could be made from any medium and use any decorating technique; they could make, for example, a paper decoration; a decoration made from salt dough or a decoration made from fir cones that they have collected from outside.

A prize will be awarded for the best bauble from each class.

Please make sure that all baubles are clearly marked with your child's name and class and brought into school by Monday 11th December.

We look forward to seeing our tree covered with delightful decorations.

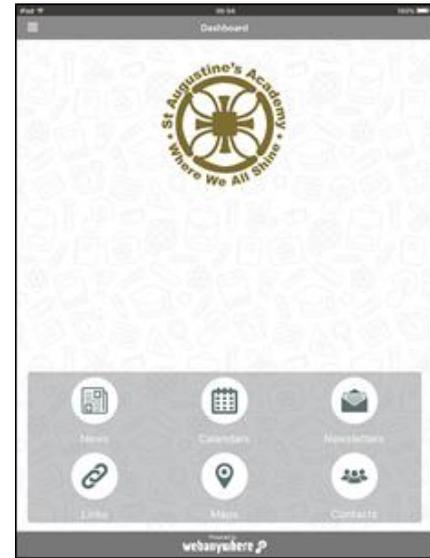
Shoes

Please can we remind all parents and carers that children must wear black, school shoes in school.



Boots may be worn to and from school, at break and lunchtimes; however, in lessons, pupils must change back into school shoes. Thank you for your support in ensuring correct uniform

School App



Many of you have already downloaded our new school app and are using it successfully to access calendar dates and school newsletters.

If you have not already done so, please visit the app store, on either Android or Apple devices, and search for St. Augustine's Academy. You will then be able to download the app and also allow notifications to keep you up-to-date with newly added content.

The app is a really exciting initiative which will help to make our communication with parents, carers and the wider community even better.

Outdoor PE Kit

The weather is now getting colder and outdoor games lessons continue throughout the winter. Therefore, please ensure that your child has suitable outdoor PE kit in school; this should include jogging bottoms and a jumper or tracksuit top.



Football

After school training on Wednesday has now finished for Years 2, 3 & 4. Year 5 & 6 will continue for a couple more weeks while they complete their winter fixtures.



It has been great to see so many children out playing football this term and football club will return for them all in the New Year.

Good luck to our Year 4 team who take on Watling Year 4 this weekend; it's their first league fixture and a chance to test their improving skills against another school in full length match.

Achievements and Awards

😊 SELF Award 😊

Reception – Betty Newport
 Year 1 – Jacob Brodie
 Year 2 – Kayden King
 Year 3 – Evie Philpott
 Year 4 – Lidia Suchar
 Year 5 – Cienna Daly
 Year 6 – Nicola Jakubas

The SELF question for next week is:

*****How can I help others to have a better self-esteem?*****

Our value of the half term is:

Compassion

📖 Reader of the Week 📖

Reception – Alayah Hinds
 Year 1 – Vanessa Teaca
 Year 2 – Kyle Ireson
 Year 3 – Melisa Duduianu
 Year 4 – Lola Mae Evans
 Year 5 – Cristina Barbu
 Year 6 – Logan Wheeler

★ Star of the Week ★

Reception – Lena Kowalska
 Year 1 – Zuzanna Sliczniuk
 Year 2 – Soraya Strachen
 Year 3 – Lillie-Mai West
 Year 4 – Lewis Kudzibatira
 Year 5 – Andile Masola
 Year 6 – Nakita Lawrence

🏠 Housepoints 🏠

Neptune (Blue) – 97
 Mars (Red) – 89
 Earth (Green) – 84
 Venus (Yellow) - 80

✓ Attendance ✓

Year 1 – 94.3%
 Year 2 – 97.2%
 Year 3 – 97.3%
 Year 4 – 89.7%
 Year 5 – 95.4%
 Year 6 – 98.8%

Attendance

Our whole school attendance so far this year is 94.51% which is a good rise from last week but still below the school's target and National average of 96%



To help ensure good attendance, evening events involving pupils will not take place on days when there is school the following morning to ensure pupils are not overtired for the following day's learning. Exceptions may be made for our older pupils.

PTFA News

Christmas Fayre – The Christmas Fayre will take place at 3:30pm on Friday 8th December in the school hall.

Each class will be running a stall at the event so please come along. Your support is much appreciated.



PTFA Meeting – PTFA committee elections will be held on Monday 11th December at 3:30pm. Please refer to the letter that has come home in children's book bags this afternoon.

Diary Dates

Mon. 27 th Nov.	Christmas Post Box opens
Fri. 1 st Dec.	Year 3 Visit to St. Alban's Abbey
Week Beg. 4 th Dec	YEAR 6 MOCK SATS WEEK INCLUDING BREAKFAST CLUB
Mon. 4 th Dec.	Visiting Pantomime - Aladdin
Fri. 8 th Dec.	Years 3, 5 and 6 visit St. Augustine's Church for Christmas Activities 3:30pm – CHRISTMAS FAYRE in the school hall
Mon. 11 th Dec	3:30pm PTFA Meeting – Committee Elections
Tue. 12 th Dec.	9:15am Years 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Performance 2:00pm Years 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Performance
Wed. 13 th Dec.	9:15am Years 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Performance 2:00pm Years 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Performance
Fri. 15 th Dec.	9:15am Reception Christmas Performance (In Reception classroom) Years 2 and 4 visit St. Augustine's Church for Christmas Activities 2:00pm Christmas Service at School – Parents and carers are invited to attend
Mon. 18 th Dec.	Christmas Dinner
Tue. 19 th Dec.	Christmas Mufti Day and afternoon parties Last day of term

**Year 6, you were our highest attenders this week.
Well Done!**

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