



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Issue 7

March 2018

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"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song."

— Pope John Paul II

"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us." - St. Augustine

Our Value for March is Service and Sacrifice

World Book Day helped to celebrate our love of reading at St Augustine's. One of the highlights was the children and staff wearing costumes they had designed and made based on their favourite book character. Staff and children made a big effort – the range of books and genres covered was amazing. Well done to the winners who received books and certificates. There was a very popular Book Character Hunt to find characters who had escaped from their books and 'Shelfies' where you had to guess which book shelf belonged to which member of staff. World Book Day was an excellent chance to celebrate reading in our school. Remember to use your World Book Day token to claim your free book or to get £1 off any book.



The Silver Cross Day brought us together as a school community to pray for all children throughout the world and to remember the importance of Christ in our lives, especially during Lent. Children placed coins on the silver cross to raise money for our charity. We raised £155.80 for Aid to the Church in Need.



The collection boxes raised £533.70 so we will be sending a cheque to the Catholic Children's Society.

Our Lenten breakfasts for the past four Tuesdays raised over £95 for Mary's Meals. Thank you to all the parents, children and staff for supporting our fundraising during Lent.

Year 5 had a great day out at Horton Kirby on Wednesday 14th. After a long (and slightly noisy) coach journey, the children had a lesson all about how to find their way around. We discussed things like SatNav, following directions and even using the stars to find our way.



During an activity when the children had to direct the teacher around the room, they eventually realised that they had to be really specific with their instructions. Using phrases like 'take a step' is not always helpful because everyone's steps are different sizes. It was a lot like writing a computer program (which pleased Mr M a lot!). Later on the children had to use maps and a compass to get through a trail in the playground. When the children were in the woods, among other things they realised were 'mud is surprisingly slippery' and 'puddles make you wet if you fall into them'. They also learned a lot about teamwork and the importance of having a positive mindset!

Lewisham Live Dance Showcase 2018 On Monday 12th March, Year 4 dazzled and amazed a live audience of around 800 people at the Catford Broadway Theatre with their amazing performance of 'Folk Dance with a Modern Twist', set to the tune of 'Don't Be So Hard On Yourself' by Jess Glynne. The children outshone their peers even during the first stage of the rehearsal process, where they captivated the audience without missing a beat. Year 4 proved themselves as confident performers as they wowed the crowd without even a hint of nerves. Thanks to Suri, who shared a brief prayer shortly before they opened up the show. Also many thanks to Harriet Tucker for choreographing the dance routine and coming in to help out with extra rehearsals and Miss Walcott who organised and ensured the success of the day and to Mrs Clark for her support with costumes and on the day. Well done Year 4! You have made us all very proud!



Year 3 and Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed their fun and informative Bikeability sessions. Bikeability is based on the government approved National Standards for Cycle Training, which teaches trainees the necessary skills to ride confidently on today's roads. The children learnt about many aspects of road safety, from how to put on their cycling equipment correctly to ensuring their tyres had the correct amount of air. They navigated their bikes through cones to practise control and understand when to speed up or slow down. The children were particularly interested in learning about how the gears of a bicycle work. It was wonderful for them to have such fun while learning essential safety skills.

This week, some children from Year 5 had some very special visitors. Some computer engineers from the Science Museum came along to ask us to help develop a game that will not only be part of the Science Museum in the near future, but also become an app that you can play on your phone! The children had to play-test the game and then feedback to the developers with constructive improvements. It was all very exciting and we learned a lot about how the games we like to play are made. It was great to welcome the Science Museum into the school and we hope they come back soon!

"I liked that playing this game helped me with the poster I have to make in my science lesson next week!" ~ Esther

"I think I could make one myself using the coding I learned at school." ~John-Richard

A big thank you to the parents who attended the Speech & Language workshop Wednesday 7th March. Parents learned about what is "typical talk" at Key Stage 1 level; listening, understanding, speaking and interacting. They were given lots of examples of games and tips to promote and develop language further at home. Please see Mrs Bayouni if you would like handouts.

Year 4 will be swimming at Downham Leisure Centre in the summer term.



Don't forget the Easter Card competition

To encourage **musical appreciation** & awareness, our focus for March is music & songs from Mali



Diary dates to note: more dates to follow

27 March	Infant Palm Liturgy 9:10am - all welcome
28 March	Yr 6 Liturgical Dance 2:15pm in the Church
17 April	Children return to school
24 April	Yr 1 to the Albany theatre
4 May	Year 2 Assembly
14 May	Year 1 to Eltham Environmental Centre
14-17 May	Year 6 SATs
18 May	Year 6 to The Dumps

Easter Holiday-30 March-16 April

Summer Term 17 April -19 July Half-term 28 May-1 June

Some gentle reminders - Please go through these reminders with your children:

Check what your child is doing on-line - see our website for tips

Plain earrings; studs not hoops

Remember no extreme haircuts during the holidays. Any hair touching the collar must be tied back

Encourage your child to read over the holidays - visit the library

This newsletter and other links are available on our website

