



St. Augustine's School Newsletter

Friday 15 December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

A fantastic week has been enjoyed by all at St. Augustine's!

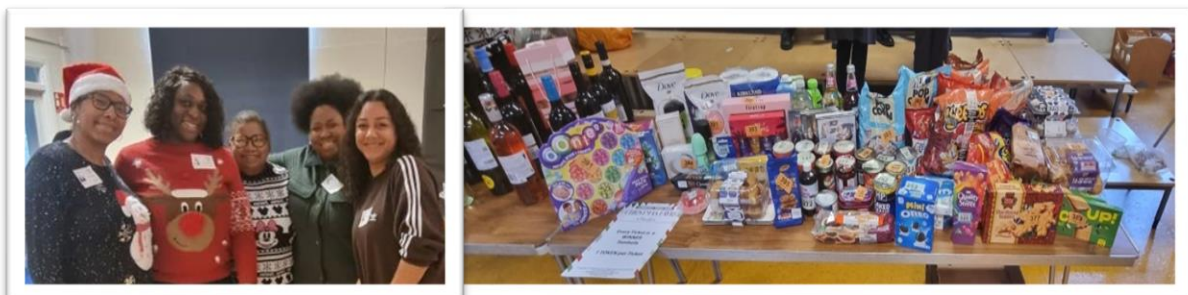
Christmas joy is oozing from every corner of the school. Classrooms have been decorated, Christmas story displays fill the corridors and there is a wonderful festive feeling everywhere.

We thoroughly enjoyed the EYFS Nativity on Thursday morning, it was a delightful retelling of the story of the birth of Jesus. It was fabulous to see how the youngest members of our School remembered all the words and actions to all the songs.

Thank you to all the EYFS team, Mrs Power, Mrs Caballero, Mrs Young, Miss Spencer and especially Mrs Baker who covered Reception Class when Mrs Power was poorly and did lots of rehearsals to have the children ready!

On Thursday evening it was the turn of our KS2 children to perform their Christmas Carol Concert. Their performance was splendid and delivered the message that Jesus is our greatest gift at Christmas. I am very proud of all our children who attended and gave us a wonderful evening and helped us to appreciate the warm and supportive community of the family of St. Augustine's. Thank you to all the staff and Governors who joined us and special thanks to KS2 staff, Mrs Iley and our pianist Mrs Ramsey for preparing the children so well.

This morning as part of our celebration assembly, our PSA joined us. Last week at the Christmas Fayre, they raised over £1000 for our School, that is a tremendous amount of money, that we can put to good use. Thank you to all members of the PSA for their effort and time. We also drew the Christmas Hamper Raffle and the winners were Serena in Year 3 and Kacper in Reception, congratulations to them both.



Next week, we have lots more fun planned:

- On Monday, years 1-6 are attending the Bromley Picture House to see Polar Express
- On Tuesday, it is Christmas Dinner Day, all children who have school meals will be served a Christmas Dinner, anyone who usually has a packed lunch can sign up for Christmas Dinner. Children should wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas themed clothes on that day.
- On Wednesday, Christmas parties will take place in the afternoon, lists of items children can bring will be up in classrooms and children can wear their own clothes on this day too.
- On Thursday, children will be back in school uniform for the last day which finishes at 2PM for the whole school except Nursery which closes at 12PM.

Also, thank you to Mrs Grapt who arranged for us to enjoy a trip to the Catford Broadway for free to see the Pantomime on Sunday. A link was sent out to all parents to use the code ASPIRE at the checkout to receive tickets at no charge.

Year 6

Year 6 visited The British Library to take part in an amazing workshop based on the novels of author Malorie Blackman. We were enthralled to meet Adisa The Verbalizer, an amazing performance poet, who not only had an amazing knowledge of Malorie Blackman but gave the most amazing performance. Thank you to the parents who accompanied us.

We are really proud to announce that Victoria, Ava, Yashmiga, Alicja, Edgar, Mary, Esther, Reuben, Neriah, Lucia, Omari and Gabriela have been awarded their Blue Peter Book Award. They each submitted a book review for consideration to The Blue Peter panel. We are really delighted to see the children wearing their badges with pride. This award gains them free entry into over 200 different exciting places. Well Done!



Nursery

The Nursery children were delighted to meet Fr Christmas when he came to visit last Friday.
Thank you Fr Christmas for all the lovely presents.



EYFS Nativity

More pictures are on our Website Gallery



KS2 Christmas Carol Concert



Gymnastic Performance

More pictures are on our [Website Gallery](#)



Samaritan's Purse - Shoebox

Dear Parents and Carers,

This year we are excited to take part in Operation Christmas Child in partnership with Samaritan's Purse. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, by sponsoring them with a shoe box filled with essential items such as: toys, school supplies and hygiene items. Every single shoebox gift represents one child who is waiting to hear the Good News.

You can find more information about the Shoebox operation if you go onto the following link:

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>



The shoeboxes spread joy all around the world helping children that are less fortunate than us, it also changes the lives of many children. You can rest easy knowing your shoebox gift will be delivered through community leaders who've been trained to lead safe, well-organised celebrations.

As a school we are aiming to send at least five shoeboxes to children across the world. We would like to ask you to follow the link and go on the Goal page to make a donation to help St Augustine's completing their mission and spread God's love globally.

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Basketball Tickets

We have again secured tickets for the British Basketball League 2024 Playoff Finals which will be held on Sunday 19th May 2024 at The O2 in London. The tickets are usually £32 per adult or £25 per child but we have been offered them for £10 each.

This double bill finale sees the two top teams from the men's and women's British Basketball League end their season with a battle for the title along with other entertainment including dancers, MCs and music.

Doors open at 12.30pm, the women's final is at 1:15pm and the men's final is at 4:15pm.

If you would like to buy tickets they are available to purchase on ParentPay.





Times Tables Rock Stars

Patricia and Rehoboth for the biggest increase in correct answers over the last 7 days.

★ Head of School Award ★
Adele in Year for a beautiful Prayer of Peace

Certificates of Achievement

Each week we recognise those children who have been impressive for a whole range of reasons. This week they are:

Reception: Reception for a wonderful Nativity performance

Year 1: Adesuma for a lovely poem about Christmas
Sebastian for being focused and ready for learning

Year 2: Olivia for her excellent thank you letter in English.
Anujithan for using creative vocabulary during our English writing.

Year 3: Year 3 for a great performance at the Christmas Concert

Year 4: Isabella for your work in English this week on our Christmas story, 'Coming Home' by Michael Morpurgo.
Ike for your fantastic singing during rehearsals and the Carol Concert. Mrs Ley was very impressed with you.

Year 5: Antoni for bringing History alive from the perspective of a gunner on an Elizabethan galleon
Angelo for working hard on understanding equivalent fractions

Year 6: Jordan for always being helpful, respectful and polite.
Neriah for always being ready, respectful and polite.

Unicef Convention on the Rights of the Child



Article 4 (implementation of the Convention)

Governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights by creating systems and passing laws that promote and protect children's rights.



Article 41 (respect for higher national standards)

If a country has laws and standards that go further than the present Convention, then the country must keep these laws.

Race Equality Survey

As a Lewisham school we have signed up to the Lewisham pledge against racism. In order to measure the impact of this work please completed the following survey:

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7424754/Lewisham-Race-Equality-Parent-Baseline-Survey>

Reminder

School Admission

Admission for Reception Class for September 2024 are now open. They must be submitted on line at: www.eadmissions.org.uk The closing date for Reception places 15th January 2024

Nursery Places

We have a small number of part-time places available in our Nursery from January, please share this with friends and family in need of a place for their child.

Ten Ten

Please click on the link below to access the monthly RE parent's newsletter provided by Ten: Ten Resources. This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it.

<http://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

Enjoy a fantastic festive weekend

Mrs Duffus

Dates for your Diary

18 December – Year 1 -6 Trip to Bromley Picture House – The Polar Express

19 December – Christmas Dinner Day

20 December – Christmas Parties

21 December – End of Term Early Finish at 2PM

9 January – Children return to School 8.55am prompt



A message from Miss Collins:

It has been a wonderfully celebratory week in School with all the Christmas activities and the sense of joy and fun filling the classrooms. The EYFS nativity and the KS2 nativity were both lovely and we were extremely proud of all those children who took part in these lovely celebrations of the festive season. The staff are working so hard to ensure that our children really do build memories and traditions for years to come.

We have just four days left before we finish for the Christmas break, remember that we finish at **2PM** on Thursday – I think everyone is ready for a rest and to spend time with their loved ones.