



# St. Augustine's School Newsletter

Friday 8 December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another wonderful week at St. Augustine's. We began lighting our Advent wreath and our beautiful Christmas tree is twinkling brightly in the hall. It really is beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

On Monday, forty members of our choir went along to Bellingham Green to participate with other members of our local community. The choir sang so superbly as part of Carols on the Green, conducted perfectly by our amazing Mrs. Ley. Thank you to all the staff and parents who accompanied us. Community is important to us here at St. Augustine's, it is one of our school drivers, upon which our curriculum is based.

Tuesday was the Advent Mass at St. Georges Cathedral, our faith leaders attended this special service accompanied by Mrs Caballero and Mrs Zefi our staff faith leaders.

Our KS1 Nativity followed on Thursday. Our fabulous children performed twice and they were just amazing, for parents these are special moments to make memories that will last forever, well done to all those who took time out of busy lives to attend. Huge thanks to all the staff involved in ensuring the performance was brilliant, including singing, speaking and acting, costumes, backdrop, lighting and staging. Miss Walker, Mrs Coutinho, Mrs Cooper, Miss Bailey, Mrs Barnett, Mrs Stevens, Mrs Zefi, Mrs Ley and Mr Ballabani, we appreciate all that you have done in school over the last few weeks to create such successful performances.

## KS2 Carol Concert

It will soon be the turn of the KS2 children to celebrate the story of the Birth of Christ. They will perform at 6.30PM on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, in church. It is expected that all children in KS2 will participate in the Carol Concert. The children will need to be back in school at 6PM where you can make your way to St. Augustine's Church to take your seat.

## EYFS Nativity

This will take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December in the School hall at 10AM, all are welcome to come and support your children.

## Reminder

### School Admission

Admission for Reception Class for September 2024 are now open. They must be submitted on line at: [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk). The closing date for Reception places 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## KSI Nativity



## Carols on the Green



### Faith Leaders at St. George's

The Faith Leaders, together with our Head Boy and Head Girl were excellent ambassadors for our school when we attended the Advent Service at St George's. It was a wet day but it didn't dampen the spirits at all.



### 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!



### Times Tables Rock Stars

David and Aniyah for the highest number of minutes played over the last seven days out of the whole school



### Head of School Award

Naheim for his wonderful Winter writing

Max for showing kindness to his peers in school

### Certificates of Achievement

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

Reception: **Emeelah** for being a good friend to others  
**Kacper** for always being ready for learning

Year 1: **Year 1** for beautiful singing and an amazing Nativity. We are all so proud!

Year 2: **Year 2** for doing a fantastic job with their Nativity performance! What superstars!

Year 3: **Chisom** for doing a really good work with his maths.  
**Amelia** for working hard in English.

Year 4: **Ike** for your consistent behaviour this week. You always are Respectful, Responsible and Ready to learn.  
**Micayla** for your diligent work in maths this week. You always present your maths beautifully and clearly.

Year 5: **Davi** for being focused and working very hard, especially in Maths.  
**Carla** for having a mature attitude towards school life and learning.

Year 6: **Jeshmi** and **Paulina** for being ready, respectful and responsible.

### 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>

## 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.



## 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.

## Forster Memorial Park Junior Park Run

A brand new junior park run has started at Forster Memorial Park every Sunday morning at 9am. Parkrun is a free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds). For further information please visit: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/forstermemorialpark-juniors/>

## 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/>

Today, our PSA held an another successful Christmas Fayre, they have been working very hard behind the scenes. Please do extend your thanks to PSA members when you see them. All children were given the opportunity to visit Santa in his grotto and receive a present too. This was another gift from the PSA. We are so lucky to have them and we appreciate everything they do in raising valuable funds for all the children.

Have a good weekend

Mrs Duffus

## Dates for your Diary

11 December - Year 6 British Library

14 December - EYFS Nativity at 10am and KS2 Carol Concert at 6.30pm

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 marvellous week at St. Augustine's. We have been exceptionally busy but we have had a great deal of fun too! The KS1 nativity was just beautiful, what talented and enthusiastic children we have here. I am looking forward to our EYFS nativity – a sneak preview this week showed me that we are in for a treat! Finally we will have our KS2 carol service where all children from KS2 will sing the nativity to us. It is already sounding fabulous! I hope you all enjoy the fayre this evening after School, I look forward to seeing you there. Have a lovely weekend everyone!