



St. Augustine's School Newsletter

Friday 1 March 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week our children have shone brighter than usual for so many reasons. On Monday our Faith Leaders helped Mrs Caballero lead an assembly about the season of Lent. They presented our Lenten fundraising projects and did so using their great skills in oracy and presentation. Well done Faith Leaders!

On Tuesday and Wednesday our Equality Council led assemblies on our Rights Respecting School's Programme with UNICEF. They were well prepared and delivered their message supported by Mrs Weatherhead in a fun and engaging way. Well done Equality Council!

For the remainder of the week we have had some visitors from Challenge Partners, an organisation who have reviewed our School and the provision delivered for our pupils. I am pleased to say that we received the highest grading and we are very proud of all our pupils who showed themselves as confident learners who are proud of their learning and willing to share their views. St. Augustine's School, as you know, sets high expectations for all pupils and it was felt by our reviewers that this was a leading school where aspirations are high whilst being a warm and supportive school where positive relationships are strong.

Our staff team always work extremely hard and this week has been no exception, thank you to all staff for being nurturing and rigorous in ensuring that our pupils reach their full potential.

Mini Vinnie Commissioning Mass

On 5 March at 11AM the Mini Vinnie Commissioning Mass will take place at Holy Cross Church on Sangley Road in Catford. All children in Year 5 will attend and parents are welcomed and encouraged to join them.

World Book Day Thursday 7th March

The theme of this World Book Day at St. Augustine's is bedtime stories and we would like everyone to wear their pyjamas for the day! Children can bring in their favourite teddy and bedtime story and we will share these throughout the day.

Year 5

Last week we went to The Science Museum to explore the interactive Wonderlab gallery. We watched lightning strike before our eyes, used a pulley to take us up high and slid down 3 different slides to test out friction, to name just a few of the exciting exhibits. We also managed to squeeze in some time to look in the Earth and Space gallery in preparation for our new topic. We saw a real capsule used to bring astronauts back to earth, as well as many other real artefacts.

The children were fantastic and represented St. Augustine's extremely well. Well done Year 5 and thank you to all the parents who gave up their time to help, your support was greatly appreciated.



Lent Activities

On Monday 25 March at 6.30 pm, Year 5 will perform the Passion Play in the church. A warm welcome is extended to you all.

On Tuesday 26 March we will hold an Easter Bonnet Parade in the KS2 playground at 8.45AM, please come and join us. I am sure that you will be involved in helping the children create the bonnets at home.

On Wednesday 27 March we will share Lenten Breakfast. I will provide you with more details shortly, for now just put the date in your diary.

The Big Lent Walk

The children are very excited about our BIG LENT WALK. Last year's walk was a big success. We have launched our Justgiving page and have already had some donations. The money raised from the walk will go to CAFOD who are working tirelessly to support communities affected by climate change. Please make an online donation on our Justgiving page:

<https://schools.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-augustines-big-lent-walk>

You can also come and join us for our walk on Wednesday 27 March at 2pm.

Unicef Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 17 - (access to reliable information)

Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.



Article 29 (goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures and the environment.



Article 31 (leisure, play and culture)

Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.



ENTER THE BIG MILE!

The Big Mile is a free, family-friendly event that is held on the same finishing stretch as The Big Half in Greenwich, running past the iconic Cutty Sark. It's being held on 1 September, starting at Tower Bridge and finishing by The Cutty Sark. Entries will be £15 each (reduced from £56).

If you would like to take part you find more information and register your place at <https://www.thebighalf.co.uk/>



We will also be taking part in this year's Big Walk and Wheel between 11th and 22nd March. It is the UK's biggest walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling to school challenge. Please encourage your children to take part on as many days as possible.

PSA

We have arranged with Mrs Duffus an own clothes day on Friday 15th March 2024, in exchange for donations from parents for the Easter Hampers. Please ensure the expiry dates do not have a short life span.

List of donations below requested from each class

Reception - Books, boxed chocolates, wines & spirits, Easter eggs

Year 1 - unused soaps, bubble bath, bath salts/soaks, shampoo, deodorant, body wash, Easter eggs

Year 2 - cakes, boxed biscuits, wines & spirit, Easter eggs

Year 3 - unused soaps, bubble bath, bath salts/soaks, shampoo, deodorant, body wash, cakes, Easter eggs

Year 4 - boxed sweets/cookies, jams, preserves Easter eggs

Year 5 - unused make up/perfume, Easter eggs

Year 6 - boxed sweets/biscuits/chocolates, Easter eggs.

Any queries please ask Mrs Renata Graver (PSA)

Many Thanks



Head of School Award



Kyane, Harry and Diaz for their excellent writing
Joshua, Mikai and Katia for their creative work using split pins



Times Tables Rock Stars

Trevone, Kian and Omari for improving their accuracy in the last 7 days.

Certificates of Achievement

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

Reception: **Olivia** for using her knife and fork at dinner time.

Noah for superb progress in Phonics

Year 1: **Hosanna** and **Nahiem** for knowing their number bonds to ten and scoring the highest on hit the button

Year 2: **Zara** for her fantastic work in Humanities exploring the continents.

Anujithan for being focused during book club, using a loud and clear voice.

Year 3: **Piotrus** and **Daniel** for always being ready to learn and paying really good attention.

- Year 4: [Nathan](#) for your great maths this week. You worked hard when learning all about length.
[Maxwell](#) for amazing science this week. You were able to discuss the pitch of a sound with your table group.
- Year 5: [Elize](#) for demonstrating serious dedication towards her learning at all times.
[Xhezuina](#) for being resilient and perseverant in everything you do.
- Year 6: [Valentina](#) for excellent engagement with our Lady of Shalott work.
[Alicja](#) for always being ready, respectful and responsible.

[Sharing REAL with Parents \(Raising Early Achievement in Literacy\)](#)

Parents are invited to four fun workshops (with Crèche) to explore ways can support literacy both at home and while you're out and about. The workshops emphasise four strands of literacy: environmental print; books; early writing; and oral language. The first session starts Wednesday 6 March for more information please click on the link: [Sharing REAL with Parents](#)
YouTube video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZ_MF_kihlY

[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/>

[Nursery](#)

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

We have another busy week next week with a Commissioning Mass for the Mini Vinnies, school trips, visitors, World Book Day and International Women's' Day but for now have a wonderful weekend and continue Lenten preparations with your friends and family.

Mrs Duffus
Head of School

Dates for your Diary

- 4 March
 - Hearing and Vision check for Reception Class
 - Year 6 Trip to Horizon 22 at Bishopsgate
- 5th March
 - Year 3 River Thames Workshop
 - Year 5/6 Urban Synergy Workshop
 - Year 5 Mini Vinnie Commissioning Mass Ham at Holy Cross All welcomed
- 7 March
 - World Book Day
- 8 March
 - International Women's Day
- 12 March
 - Year 5 to Cinema – Bromley
 - Year 2 to Pizza Express
- 13 March
 - Science Day
- 14 March
 - Year 2 Class Assembly
- 15 March
 - Own clothes day exchange for donation to add our Easter Hampers.
- 22 March
 - Year 4 British Library
- 25 March
 - Passion Play – Year 5 at 6.30PM
- 26 March
 - Easter Bonnet Parade
- 27 March
 - Lenten Breakfast
 - Big Lent Walk at 2PM
- 28 March
 - End of Term – 2PM Finish



A message from Miss Collins:

It has been an action packed week here at St. Augustine's with our Challenge Partner visitors coming to review the School. It was wonderful to hear their comments on our children and staff, all of which were overwhelmingly positive – no surprise there!

The reviewers witnessed interesting and challenging lessons, engaged and well behaved children, clear progress in work books, knowledgeable staff who show nurture and care to all children as well as a determination to achieve the very best outcomes for them.

Our visitors said that St. Augustine's School had a clear and aspirational vision for the lovely children we are blessed to teach. What a lovely way to finish the week!

Have a very lovely weekend everyone – it is certainly time for the fabulous staff team here to rest!