



St. Augustine's School Newsletter

Friday 15 March 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Yet another busy and fun week has flown by at St. Augustine's. It was lovely greeting you all this morning and being greeted by so many happy and smiling faces, we are so fortunate to belong to such a vibrant community.

Please may I remind you that we have our Lenten Breakfast and Big Lent Walk coming up on 27 March. Lenten Breakfast will begin at 8AM and all are welcome to come and share a breakfast of porridge and or toast. You can arrive anytime between 8 and 8.30AM and our Year 6 and staff will be ready to serve you. You must stay with your child until 8:45 when School will officially begin. There is no charge however, you can make a donation towards our Lent fundraising for the Catholic Children's Society and Cafod. Later in the same day we will be going on our Lent Walk to Beckenham Place Park, please join us if you can, we will depart at 1.30PM, walk to the Mansion House and then return to school.

We also have our annual Easter Bonnet Parade on Tuesday 26 March, please arrive at school at 8.45Am and join us in the KS2 playground for a wonderful parade of homemade bonnets. For Year 5 parents and the rest of the school community, Year 5 will be performing the Passion Play at 6.30PM on Monday 25 March at St. Augustine's church, please come and support our children and witness this beautiful retelling of such a significant story.

Swimming Gala



I was looking forward to the Swimming Gala because I was part of the team. There were four of us. We did freestyle, breast stroke, back stroke and butterfly. After, we had the Medley Relay race, which included all the strokes. We ended up first in the heat and in total came third out of all the schools. It was a great event and I enjoyed it.

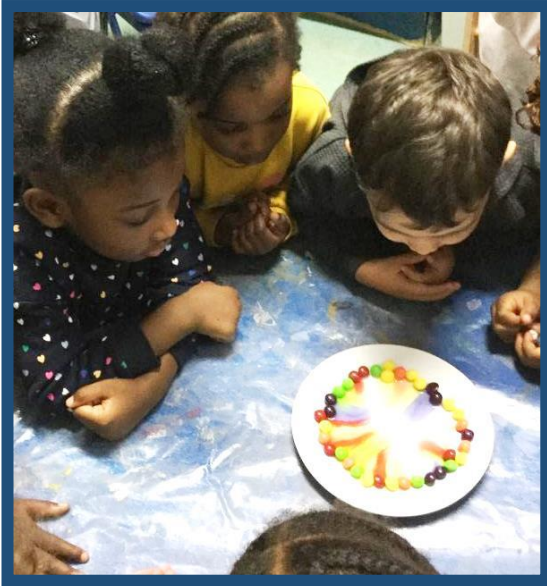
By Fiachra



Science Day

This week Wednesday was Science Day at St Augustine's. The theme for the day was **The BIG Question**. The children across the school were encouraged to think like scientists and ask questions about the world around them. Nursery and Reception took part in a range of activities that provoked 'Science Talk'.

In Nursery the children used magnets when exploring the question, *how can you make a magnet bounce?* In Reception the children were exploring *which container is best for getting the Gingerbread Man across the water?* The children were having lovely conversations about the suitability of each material by looking at what they were made out of.



Key Stage 1 & 2 explored the following "BIG" questions:

Why do we dream?

What makes us human?

The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their ideas and thoughts with each other and their teachers. It was lovely to see them discussing the BIG questions over their lunch and with adults in the school. A huge thank you to all staff who made the day memorable and full of awe and wonder for the children.

Years 5 & 6

Bring Your Family to University Days are a series of free one-day events aimed at providing information, advice and guidance about university to young people and their parents and carers through fun and interactive sessions on UCL's central London campus.

These events will include activities such as subject taster lectures, panels, support sessions for parents/carers, campus tours and the opportunity to talk to current university students. A free packed lunch will be provided.

Primary School Dates

- Saturday 27 April: Primary school (Year 5-6)
- Saturday 15 June: Primary school (Year 5-6)

For More details please click on the link below:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/widening-participation/learners/primary/bring-your-family-university-days>

Neal Zetter

After Easter we are delighted to announce that the poet Neal Zetter will be joining us in School to give performances of his new collection of poems. Next week, we will be sending home an order form that will give you the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of his books. There are a number to choose from that will suit all ages.

Year 2

This week Year 2 visited Pizza Express in Beckenham. They had an excellent time testing ingredients and making their own pizzas. They were all such fantastic chefs and they were incredible ambassadors for the school.



Also this week Year 2 performed their class assembly. They showcased just how hard they have been working this year so far. They spoke wonderfully about their favourite topics and put on a fabulous performance. They should all be so incredibly proud of themselves.

Cooking Club

The children have enjoyed making a variety of sweet and savoury treats this term. Over the last two weeks they have made Gingerbread Stars and Quesadillas.



Year 5

This week Year 5 went to Vue Cinema in Bromley to watch Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, which was free of charge as part of the Into Film Festival. Before the film began, a representative from the BBFC - The British Board of Film Classification, talked to the children about how to keep themselves safe when they are choosing a film to watch. They learnt about how films are classified according to the content they contain. I hope they use this knowledge to make good decisions about what movies they will watch when they are at home. I think it is fair to say from the happy smiling faces that we saw, as they reclined their chairs and got comfy, that they had a fantastic time! Thank you to Mrs Tomsa for securing the booking for Year 5 and to all the parent helpers who gave up their time to come.



After School Clubs

After School Club letters will be sent out this Monday 18 March, so keep a look out in your e-mail Inbox as well as checking Spam/Junk folder.



Artist of the month – Sonia Boyce

As a school we celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March therefore it is only right our artist of the month is an inspirational women. Dame Sonia Dawn Boyce is a British Afro-Caribbean artist and educator, living and working in London. She is a Professor of Black Art and Design at University of the Arts London. Boyce's work involves a variety of media, such as drawing, print, photography, video, and sound. Her art explores "the relationship between sound and memory, the dynamics of space, and incorporating the spectator". Her work is available to see at Tate and Victoria & Albert Museum.

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/sonia-boyce-obe-794>

Unicef Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 24 (health and health services)

Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.



Article 27 (adequate standard of living)

Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and social needs and support their development. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.



Head of School Award



Mary for her amazing writing based on The Lady of Shallot
Anabelle for sharing her talent of piano playing with the whole school in assembly this morning



Times Tables Rock Stars

Patricia, Lindsay and Ava for putting great effort into sustaining their mathematical fluency.

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 her amazing progress in phonics
AJ for remembering what a vowel is.

Year 1: **Alfie** for naming the key landmarks in Kenya.
Mikolaj for being a super scientist during our investigations.

- Year 2: [Year 2](#) for their amazing, clear and a fabulous assembly.
- Year 3: [Harmony](#) for working so hard on her story map.
[Jayden G.](#) for a great improvement in class and being a fabulous partner in P.E.
- Year 4: [Elijah](#) for thinking like a scientist and giving a clear explanation for how to make magnets bounce. You impressed Mrs Caballero with your science knowledge.
[Year 4](#) for all of the 'Talk' you contributed to on Science Day. You all gave explanations and shared scientific ideas for the BIG questions we explored in class.
WELL DONE!
- Year 5: [Leon](#) for demonstrating detailed scientific knowledge at all times.
[Kashwin](#) for showing great interest and curiosity in all of our science topics and for working extremely hard.
- Year 6: [Gianna](#) and [Sultan](#) for excellent progress within reading.
[Valentina](#) for her extensive knowledge of animal species.

[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

[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.

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.

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.

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/>

Thank you for all your generous donations today, our wonderful PSA will work their magic and will soon be selling raffle tickets for your chance to win a splendid Easter Hamper.

Have a wonderful weekend

Mrs Duffus

Head of School

Dates for your Diary

- 21 March - Poetry Day
- 22 March - Year 4 British Library
- Reception Class BPP Spring Walk
- 25 March - Passion Play - Year 5 at 6.30PM
- 26 March - Easter Bonnet Parade 8.45AM
- 27 March - Lenten Breakfast 8AM
- Big Lent Walk at 2PM

28 March - End of Term - 2PM Finish

Easter Holiday

- 15 April - Children return to school 8.55AM Prompt
- Year 4 Swimming
- 29 April - Year 5 Trip to Deptford Creek
- 30 April - Year 3 Trip to The Hub at The Glades in Bromley
- 2 May - Nurses in to carry out National Dental Programme. 15 Selected children across Reception and Year 1
- 6 May - May Bank Holiday
- 13 - 16 May - KS2 SATs Week



A message from Miss Collins:

It has been another busy week at St Augustine's and I too have been very busy. I spent two days this week at other schools as part of our work with Challenge Partners. It is always useful to see other schools so that we can learn from them but also so that we can share our excellent practice. However lovely other schools are it is always good to get back to St. Augustine's and I was very pleased to spend the day here today seeing our lovely children and staff. They do all make me smile! I hope you all enjoy a very lovely weekend and are able to spend time with your lovely children.