



St. Augustine's School Newsletter



Friday 14 June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another marvellous week at St. Augustine's with lots of learning and enjoyment to experience.

This week our fabulous children in Year 1 have completed their phonics screening, they all did their very best and I know that the team supporting them have worked hard to ensure they reach their full potential.

Our Year 4 children have also been fantastic in practising their multiplication times tables. Many of them are on the leader board for Times Table Rockstars for all the work they are doing at home. This week they completed their multiplication timetables check and again worked so hard with Mrs Thomas' encouragement to do their very best. You will receive the results of the Phonics, MTC and SATS tests along with your child's school reports in July.

A huge well done to year 4 who took part in the annual Cricket Festival today. The children all behaved superbly and represented our School well. They came 3rd place in the competition with *Ike winning an award for 'great sportsmanship'* and *Jan winning the cup for 'most valuable player'*. Mrs Thomas would like to thank Mrs Stoneham for organising the event and Miss Collins for ensuring our lovely parents had chairs and the children ground coverings.

A huge thank you to our parent helpers who made the trip possible and that bit more special by cheering our lovely children on. Well done Year 4.

Bellingham Festival

Next Saturday, 22nd June is the Bellingham Festival, each year this event takes place with local community groups. Please come and visit us, staff at St. Augustine's will be there promoting our School and there may even be some free items to give away!

Mobile Free Zone

You will have seen in the news recently lots of discussion around the use of smartphones. As of Monday we will be supporting this with a return to being a 'Mobile Free Zone'. Children in older years who have a phone because they travel alone, can continue to bring their phone to school to be placed in the office during school hours. Parents, please refrain from using your mobile phone whilst

on the school premises. Also, please consider purchasing a mobile phone without access to social media or the internet. Please see the comment from Miss Collins at the end of this newsletter.

Greet your child with a smile, not a mobile!

School Business Manager

We currently have a vacancy for a part-time School Business Manager, please see our website for details if you are interested or for an informal chat please see myself or Miss Collins.

Bee Man Visit

This week Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 were visited by some apiarists from Ruxley Manor. The children had a phenomenal time! They got to taste honey, look at bees in an observational tank, dress up as bee keepers and even hold a hornet! The children were incredibly enthusiastic about their new learning and we cannot thank the apiarists enough for all of the lovely experiences that they provided the children with.



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 Date: Saturday 15 June

For More details please click on the link below:

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

Year 4

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Unicef Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 32 Child labour – Governments must protect children from economic exploitation and work that is dangerous or might harm their health, development or education. Governments must set a minimum age for children to work and ensure that work conditions are safe and appropriate.

Article 35 Prevention of sale and trafficking - Governments must protect children from being abducted, sold or moved illegally to a different place in or outside their country for the purpose of exploitation.



LewishamSENDIASS

Your local Information, Advice & Support Service for families of children and young people aged 0-25 years with SEND.

[Click for more details](#)

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/>

The Wednesday Word is available to families and can be accessed by clicking on the link below:

Link [The Wednesday Word](#)



Gabriel for being focused in his work

Angel for being a fabulous helper

Adeola for amazing writing



Times Tables Rock Stars

Nathan, Lindsay and Tobe are the winners this week with the most amount of correct answers over the last seven days
Top Ten on our Overall Leader board are:

1. Nathan	2. Tobe
3. Elijah	4. Ike
5. Adeola	6. Zac
7. Wisdom	8. Victor
9. Kashwin	10. Ella

Certificates of Achievement

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

Reception: **Karter** for excellent listening and participation in maths.
Kylian for speaking so loudly and clearly.

Year 1: **Kaan** for persevering with his phonics and sounding out letters beautifully.
Kenza for being a great role model on her first week at St. Augustine's.

Year 2: **Christina** for being confident, loud and clear when speaking in English.
Azraiah for amazing work and research on Mary Seacole.

Year 3: **Matheus** for his perseverance in maths, converting minutes and seconds.
Antonelli for her engagement in science and identifying reflective surfaces.

Year 4: **Year 4** for your positive attitude and determination to do your very best in the Multiplication Check this week. You all have worked very hard to learn your times tables.

Year 5: **Wilson** and **Rex** for amazing focus and attention in phonics with Miss Stevens.

Year 6: **Reuben** and **Sultan** for always being ready, respectful and responsible.

ENTER THE BIG HALF!

The Big Half Marathon in Greenwich, running past the iconic Cutty Sark is being held on **1 September**, starting at Tower Bridge and finishing by The Cutty Sark. Entries will be £15 each (reduced from £56). Please see Mrs Stoneham if you would like to reserve a place.



The Big Mile

As part of the The Big Half Marathon, 'The Big Mile' is the perfect event for first-time runners, families with children and anyone looking to get more active - plus it's accessible for wheelchair users. All participants receive a medal too! To sign up for this free event that takes place in Greenwich Park on Sunday 1st September please click on the link below:

<https://www.thebighalf.co.uk/the-events/the-big-mile>

At last the sun is shining, let us hope this continues as we enter the weekend. Please keep our school community in your prayers, there are some members suffering loss, ill-health are in need of our support in helping them heal. Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Duffus

Head of School

Dates for your Diary

- 17 June -Year 6 Paddle Boarding at 1:30
- 18 June -Year 2 Trip to National Portrait Gallery
- 20 June -Reception Class Assembly
- 21 June -Year 5 Trip Royal Observatory Greenwich
- 26 June -Year 1 Trip to Royal Observatory
- 27 June -Year 3 Class Mass
- 5 July - PSA Summer Fayre
- 8 - 12 July -Sports Week
- 12 July -Sports Day
- 15 July -Year 5 End of Year Production
- 18 July -Year 6 Leaver's Mass



A message from Miss Collins:

I have been speaking to a number of parents over recent weeks about the growing campaign to ban smart phones for children in primary schools. Some local authorities have already implemented this ban and there is a push for Lewisham to also adopt this ruling.

The reason for wanting such a ban is because of the increasing amount of research about the damage such phones can have on our children. Primary school children having easy access to the internet on their own phone is a development of recent years and there is now increasing evidence to show the harms attributed to smartphone usage:

- a link between smart phone use and anxiety and depression
- safeguarding risks both through content children can see but also the vulnerability of children walking through the streets with expensive phones out and on show
- a negative impact on children's learning through a dependency on them and a reduction in attention span
- addiction
- sleep issues
- eye damage
- friendship issues

With all this taken into consideration I would like parents who are considering buying their child a mobile phone to seriously think about buying a 'brick phone'. This is a phone which allows you to make calls and send text messages but has no internet access. They are growing in popularity and used by many children now right into secondary school ages.

To begin I would like us, as adults, to be role models for our children and I am asking that from Monday morning when you are bringing your child to School or collecting at the end of the day you do not use your phone on the School site. This will most importantly give you time to talk with your child but also show them that you are reducing your phone usage. I look forward to phone free drop offs and pick ups!

Many thanks for your support, if you have any comments to add to the discussion please do let me know - together we will work for the good of those precious children.

Have a lovely weekend.