



"Created by God to love and learn"

NEWSLETTER 7 2018-2019

07.12.18

School's
 Attendance
 Target: 96%
 Actual: 95.3%

On Tuesday of last week (27/11/18), Network Rail visited the school and shared a presentation to the children detailing the potential dangers of train tracks. The children were very sensible and courteous to our visitor. It might just be worth asking the children what they can remember as a way of recapping the important safety points from the visit.

Last week, the school council members were elected for this academic year. Each class has two representatives who will provide a meaningful way in which pupils can voice their opinions about the school. Congratulations to Florence, Sean, Lauren, Thomas, James, Liliana, Niamh, Matteo, Thomas and Molly who have all been elected by their peers.

Our new team of Chaplaincy leaders were formally commissioned at Clifton Cathedral last week enabling them to fulfil their roles and meet children from other schools who share a similar role. Many thanks to all who went along and as ever behaviour was impeccable and they made good ambassadors for St Augustine's.

Mr Isaacs

Here are the results from question 6 from the pupils' survey.

6. Do you feel happy at school?			
Always	Most of the time	Not very often	Never
32%	42%	20%	6%

The majority of pupils (76%) gave a positive response to this. Throughout the year, we try to populate the curriculum with exciting opportunities that the pupils hopefully find engaging and interesting. Items from last year that spring to my mind include: dissecting a fish in English in Years 5 and 6; residential visits for Years 4 and 6; visits to local attractions such as Farmtastic for Key Stage 1; and a Viking dress up day for Key stage 2 pupils. Already this year we have had our annual conker competition, sports clubs and visits to the Roman Baths, Bristol Zoo and Redwood Trust. We also try hard to invite visitors in as well. Last year we invited a Muslim to speak to the pupils about his faith and Ramadan. By including other memorable days such as those listed above, pupils do have a love for learning. We also discuss with pupils the importance of all subjects and what part they all play in their development as a person.

In addition to these real-life experiences, we have a Code of Conduct which is in place to support pupils with their learning and general behaviour choices. Through consistency across the school, pupils feel happy and safe at St Augustine's, something we have worked hard on over the years and are proud of.



Just a reminder....

Key Stage 1 pupils (Reception & Years 1 and 2) have been invited to take part in the Downend and Bromley Heath Parish Council Christmas Sing Along, being held in the grounds of St Augustine's Church on Friday 14th December, 6:30-7:30pm.

We hope to see you there.

This week we have totalled up the House Points from last year and converted them into money. We are in the process of sending a cheque to the respective charities for each house.

Crisis £176	St Brigid
Shelter £222	St Joan of Arc
Save The Children £176	St Patrick
Mission Together £250	St Max

May I thank all pupils involved for their hard work and generosity when raising funds for charities. I hope it continues this year.

Arriving on Time



When your child arrives late at school, they miss the teacher's instructions and the start of their learning. Your child may feel embarrassed at having to enter the classroom late and find it harder to settle into the school day. This WILL disrupt their learning.

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equivalent to days worth of learning lost in a year
5 minutes	3.4 days
10 minutes	6.9 days
15 minutes	10.3 days
20 minutes	13.8 days
30 minutes	20.7 days

Frequent lateness can add up to a considerable amount of learning lost and can seriously disadvantage your child. We strongly encourage regular attendance and research shows that lateness will have a detrimental effect on a child reaching their full potential.

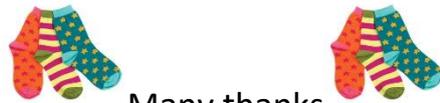
Children don't enjoy being late for school or being left at the end of the school day waiting for their parents.



Congratulations to Luke and Polly for winning our first '50 Word' writing competition. For this achievement they earned a notebook and pen and had their winning entries put up on display for all to read. The picture stimulus for December's 50 Word writing competition is out now. This month it links to a festive theme as the prompt is a picture of a juicy, succulent turkey sat on a Christmas themed dining table. Pupils know how to enter so please encourage them to take part.

Congratulations to Mr Newman and our football team who played Mangotsfield last night. In an exciting match, we won 6 goals to 5. Mr Newman was very proud as the team showed excellent determination and perseverance by battling back from a one nil deficit to eventually being 6 goals to 2 up. As this was a cup fixture, we progress through to the next round, which is the quarter-finals. Thank you to all who participated.

If anyone has any spare socks for KS1 children could they please hand them into the office.



Many thanks

Just a reminder that Christmas performances are coming up in the next few weeks (see the diary below).



We also sent out a letter recently to Reception and Key Stage 1 asking for permission to film all pupils to create a DVD. However, as we have not had all responses back and some parents exercised their right to not give permission, we are unable to film it for distribution purposes. Therefore, during the performance, we ask that all parents adhere to this and do not film or take photographs. However, as we do want to give an opportunity for parents to take some photographs, we will provide an opportunity for photographs at the end of the performance like we did last year once some pupils have left the stage area.

Many thanks for your support with this delicate matter.

Dates for your diary

Monday	7 th	January	INSET Day 3 – School Closed
Monday	25 th	February	INSET Day 4 – School Closed
Monday	3 rd	June	INSET Day 5 – School Closed
Tuesday	21 st	May	Sports day
Thursday	23 rd	May	Sports day reserve
Tuesday	11 th	December	Key Stage 2 to Old Vic for Christmas Carol performance Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) Nativity (2:30pm and 6:30pm)
Wednesday	12 th	December	Reception Class Nativity (2:30pm and 6:00pm)
Thursday	13 th	December	Year 4/5 Class Mass (9:30am)
Monday	17 th	December	Deadline for Christmas gifts for the homeless
Tuesday	18 th	December	Christmas School Lunch PTFA - School disco – letter to follow
Thursday	20 th	December	School Mass - St Augustine's Church (9:30am) Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) Christmas performance in the church (6:30pm)
Friday	21 st	December	Last Day of Term.
Monday	24 th	December	Christmas Holidays
Monday	7 th	January	INSET Day 3 – School Closed
Thursday	10 th	January	School Mass - St Augustine's Church (9:30am)
Friday	11 th	January	Year 6/R Buddy Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Friday	18 th	January	Year 6 class assembly (3:00pm)
Friday	25 th	January	PTFA Film Club – letter to follow soon
Saturday	27 th	January	PTFA – Quiz Night – letter to follow soon
Friday	1 st	February	Year 5/6 class assembly (3:00pm)
Thursday	7 th	February	Year 2 Liturgy (3:00pm)
Friday	8 th	February	Year 3 Buddy Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Tuesday	12 th	February	PTFA – Valentine's Disco – letter to follow
Friday	15 th	February	Year 4/5 class assembly (3:00pm)
Monday	18 th	February	Half Term
Monday	25 th	February	INSET Day 4 – School Closed
Tuesday	26 th	February	Term 4 starts
Friday	8 th	March	Year 3 class assembly (3:00pm)
Friday	29 th	March	Year 2 class assembly (3:00pm)
Wednesday	3 rd	April	Year 4 leave for Kilve Court residential
Friday	5 th	April	Year 4 return from Kilve Court residential

Accompanying this letter is our school meals policy which includes details about how and when to pay. If you have any questions, please contact the office who will be more than happy to help.