



"Created by God to love and learn"

NEWSLETTER 14 2018-2019

29.03.19

School's
 Attendance
 Target: 96%
 Actual: 95.5%

Yesterday saw our annual KS2 Easter performance to parents and the school. Although I was unable to attend, I was informed that it was an amazing performance that was thoroughly enjoyed by all who watched. May I offer my sincere thanks to all those who took part especially Mr Bell, Mrs Bowen, Mrs Scott and Mrs Swonnell who were instrumental in putting it together.

Last Friday our football team competed against Watermore Primary School in the semi-final of the plate. It was a superb game to watch for the neutral, and a tense one for the spectators from both sides. At one point, St Augustine's were 3:1 up, however Watermore battled hard to pull it back to 4:4 at the final whistle. Although we eventually lost 3:2 on penalties, the team played well together as they worked for each other and were always supportive – especially at the end.

It is on these occasions when we truly see our school values being displayed. The compassion given to the child that missed the decisive penalty; the perseverance to never give up despite conceding some goals; or the responsibility they collectively showed that when someone was beaten by a pass or piece of skill, someone else was there to cover. Then at the end of the game, even though they had narrowly been beaten, the respect they offered to their opponents.

What may have been a mere football match to some, was to me a perfect advert for our school that epitomises what St Augustine of Canterbury Primary School is all about.

Congratulations to all of those who took part and a massive thank you for the incredible amount of pride I felt when watching you all play.

Mr Isaacs

Here are the results from question 17 from the pupils' survey.

17. Except for holidays, have you stayed away from school?

I always go to school unless I'm sick	I've stayed off school once when I was not sick	I've stayed off a few times when I was not sick	I've stayed away even when I was not sick
65%	22%	7%	6%

This survey was conducted last June and with the school's push on attendance this year, I would hope these results would look different now. Whenever we talk to the pupils about attendance, we always make clear our expectation that children attend school regularly (every day the school is open) unless genuinely sick. We also explain that if they or their parents are unsure, we will then make the decision to send people home. Through our work this year in assemblies, all children know the school's target of 96% and they understand the importance of attending school. By engaging with pupils in these conversations will help them understand that they are expected to be in school and not to stay off when they were not sick.

Here are the results from question 18 from the pupils' survey.

18. Have you been bullied?			
Nobody ever bullies me	I get bullied a little bit	I get bullied quite a lot	I get bullied all the time
51%	36%	8%	5%

This is one of the hardest ones to read from my point of view. Only 51% of children have stated they have not been bullied therefore 49% of children asked have, in their opinion, been bullied. This is worrying and shows how much work schools need to do in this area. It also vindicates why schools promote anti-bullying and have lessons such as PSHE.

At St Augustine's, we aim to deal with all incidents thoroughly and as quickly as we can as we know that when children are upset or have high levels of stress or anxiety, they will not be performing as well academically. Linking this back to the school's mission statement of "*Created by God to love and learn*", we know this will not happen unless children feel safe and secure. This is also another reason why we encourage parents/ carers to let us know about issues outside of school or if their child tells them something at home.

Of course, there may be an inaccuracy to this data. When you speak to children about bullying, they always have misconceptions and often claim they are being bullied when in fact, on investigation, it is sometimes an isolated incident. This is therefore not classed as bullying and the term bullying is being used incorrectly but is the word the children know and are familiar with.

Leavers' Mass

The end of year Leavers' Mass has changed date. It will now be on Monday 22nd July instead of Thursday 18th July starting at 9:30am as usual.



Relationship and Sex Education Consultation Evening for Parents

Last year was the final time we were using the out-dated resource 'Living and Growing'. As this is the first year we are using the national Jigsaw scheme of work for the Relationships and Sex Education and we are teaching it from Year 1 upwards, we are offering all parents an opportunity to view the resources and ask any questions that they may have.

The parents' consultation evening will be on **Wednesday 1st May starting at 6:30pm** and finishing about 8:00pm.

PTFA Plea for members

As you are aware, the PTFA have contributed so much to the school lives of all children at St Augustine's. Through their selfless work, they give their time to discos, cake sales, films, Mother's Day flowers, the Easter Cake Bake Off as well as the summer fayre.

However, as children (and parents) pass through the school, recruiting members is growing increasingly harder. If you are interested in helping out more and would like to join the PTFA please contact Anne-Marie Lougee or Esther Dow who are the co-chairs via the school office.



Dates for your diary

Monday	3rd	June	INSET Day 5 – School Closed
Tuesday	21 st	May	Sports day
Thursday	23 rd	May	Sports day reserve
Monday	22nd	July	Leavers' Mass (9:30am)
Monday	1st	April	PTFA – Easter Bonnet parade (in assembly) cancelled PTFA - Easter Bake Off competition and cake sale
Wednesday	3rd	April	Year 4 leave for Kilve Court residential
Friday	5th	April	Year 4 return from Kilve Court residential
Monday	8th	April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday	23rd	April	Term 5 starts
Thursday	25th	April	School Mass - St Augustine's Church (9:30am)
Friday	26th	April	Year 4 Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Wednesday	1st	May	Parents' Consultation Evening - Relationships and Sex Education (6:30pm)
Thursday	9th	May	Reception Liturgy (3:00pm)
Friday	10th	May	Year 1 class assembly (3:00pm)
Monday	13th	May	Year 6 SATs week
Friday	17th	May	PTFA Film Club – letter to follow soon
Monday	20th	May	Sports Week
Tuesday	21st	May	Sports Day
Thursday	23rd	May	Sports Day reserve (in case of poor weather on Tuesday 21 st May)
Friday	24th	May	Year 5 Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Monday	27th	May	Half Term
Monday	3rd	June	INSET Day 5 – School Closed
Friday	14th	June	PTFA Father's Day gift sale – letter to follow soon
Friday	21st	June	PTFA Mufti Day – Tombola Donations for Summer Event
Wednesday	26th	June	Year 6 Life skills visit
Saturday	29th	June	PTFA and Community Summer Event
Thursday	4th	July	Year 3 Class Mass (3:00am)
Friday	5th	July	School Reports out to parents
Monday	8th	July	Informal Parents' Evening following school reports (3:30pm) Year 6 leave for Longtown residential
Friday	12th	July	Year 6 return from Longtown residential
Tuesday	16th	July	PTFA Summer Disco
Monday	22nd	July	Leavers' Mass (9:30am)
Tuesday	23rd	July	Last day of Summer Term

