

St. Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School,
Boscombe Crescent, Downend, Bristol, South Gloucestershire. BS16 6QR
Tel.01454 866690 Fax 866694
www.staugustinedownend.org.uk Head Teacher: Mark Hilliam
mail: office@staugustinesprimary.org.uk



“Created by God to Love and Learn”

NEWSLETTER 1

5.9.25



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to our children, parents and families. A special welcome to our new Reception starters in Ash Class, and all of our new children who joined us this September.

We have an exciting and busy year ahead, so please do check the calendar and your messages from school to keep up with diary dates and new after-school clubs. This newsletter is produced fortnightly and is our main channel of communication, along with letters, texts and emails.

You can also check out further events and photos from school on our Instagram page: [Instagram](#)

Finally, we also have a suggestion box in the foyer for any recommendations or praise for a job well done!

May God bless,

M Hilliam

Mr Mark Hilliam,
Headteacher

Homework expectations:

In the first week, we allow time for the children to settle into school and become used to their new class and routines. Homework is designed to support learning and is comprised of activities that you could expect to undertake with your child anyway:

- 1) Frequent reading, daily if possible** – please listen to your child read and note in their reading record. You can start this when your child receives his/her reading book and reading record.
- 2) Weekly spelling tests** – spelling lists will be given out today, to be tested every Friday.
- 3) Maths** – children in Years 1-6 will soon be set up on our **'My Maths'** portal, which allows teachers to set work online. Children in Years 2-6 will also be able to practise their multiplication tables with their **'Times Table Rockstars'** login. Again, details will follow next Friday.
- 4) Humanities homework** – this is set the week before a half-term holiday (i.e. three times per year) and children are given three weeks to complete it, allowing you the flexibility and time to choose whether to do it during a school week or the holiday.

We know that some parents are keen for their children to practise their maths and other subjects at home and we would recommend the games and activities for home learning listed on our website:

[St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School - School & Remote Learning](http://staugustinedownend.org.uk)
(staugustinedownend.org.uk)

Each class page has links to home learning resources.

A message from Signature Sports for after-school clubs:

We hope you enjoyed the summer break,

Signature Sports after school sports clubs will again be starting at St Augustine's next week. Please see below the list of clubs we will be running in Term 1:

Tuesday - Reception - 6 Gymnastics club
Wednesday - KS2 Dodgeball Club
Thursday - Reception - Year 6 Multi-Sports Club

All bookings can be made via our new and improved booking system, login details will remain the same from the previous system: <https://signaturesportscoaching.ipalbookings.com/>

Any queries around bookings please email Aaron at signaturesportsclubs@outlook.com

Kind Regards,

Ashley Wintle
Manager
Signature Sports Coaching



www.signaturesportscoaching.co.uk

P.E

As before, we are asking children to come into school in their PE kits on their days below. This saves valuable lesson time previously used up in changing!

When are my child's PE days? From 8th September:

Reception: Wednesdays and Thursdays
Year 1: Mondays and Wednesdays
Year 2: Tuesdays and Wednesdays*
Year 3: Wednesdays* and Fridays
Year 4: Tuesdays and Fridays
Year 5: Tuesdays* and Thursdays
Year 6: Mondays and Tuesdays* **These lessons are taught by our professional PE coaches from Signature Sports. **More information about PE days and lessons will be contained within your class newsletters.***

Swimming:

Swimming will start on 30th September and is on Tuesdays. Year 6 will swim first, then Year 5, then Year 4. Details to follow. Please let us know if you can volunteer to accompany the class. **Year 6 dates are: 30/9, 7/10, 14/10, Year 5 dates are 6/1, 13/1, 20/1, 27/1, 3/2, 10/2, 24/2 and 3/3.**

Meet our priest:

For our new parents, we would like to introduce you to our priest, Father Barnabas Page. Father Barnabas celebrates masses in church and school throughout the year, as well as leading some of our services, e.g. Ash Wednesday. Further details for the parish can be found here, including mass times and parish events:

[St Augustine of Canterbury](#)



Volunteers required:

We are in great need of volunteers to help us! If you are interested in reading with children, please let us know. We would also welcome volunteers for marshalling children to church and/or accompanying children on trips or for swimming lessons. Volunteers are a really important asset to our school and will enable us to do much more for our children, so thank you in advance.



Competition time! Radio Maria England Young Presenter/Broadcaster Competition.

Radio Maria England is searching for new and talented young people, who are interested in broadcasting, to support our mission of evangelisation and to develop some youth-based programmes with Christian content. Successful schools will have the opportunity to present their own monthly show on Radio Maria England (individual students or teams can apply). Entry is free, for further information please contact: jerry.lohan@radiomariaengland.uk

Radio Maria England School Poetry/Songwriting/Spoken Word Competition.

The theme is ‘A Prayer for Christian Unity.’

Radio Maria England invites you to enter our poetry/songwriting/spoken word competition. In John’s Gospel, Chapter 17: v1-26 Our Lord prays fervently for all people to be united with God and one another. This prayer has also inspired the motto of our Holy Father Pope Leo XIV (“*In Illo Uno Unum*”) “In the One we are one.” Please refer to the Gospel passage for guidance and inspiration.

In the competition there are three age categories, 7-11yrs, 12-14yrs, 15-18yrs. Finalists will have the opportunity to perform their poems/songs/spoken word at a special event to showcase Christian Talent, which will also be broadcast live on Radio Maria England. Winners will be announced at the event and will receive the Radio Maria Young Herald’s Trophy, and details of specific prizes will follow. Entry is free, for further information please contact: jerry.lohan@radiomariaengland.uk

The closing date for both competitions is 30th September, the Feast of St Jerome.

Dates for your diary – more dates will be added as they arise:

Week of	8 th	September	School council elections this week
Sunday	14 th	September	Education mass in Clifton Cathedral, 6pm
Week of	15 th	September	House captain elections this week
Monday	18 th	September	New school year mass, 9:30am in church
Week of	22 nd	September	Chaplaincy team chosen
Monday	22 nd	September	Reception children in full time
Monday	22 nd	September	Mathstermind 1
Tuesday	7 th	October	Open Day 1: tour at 9:30am
Wednesday	8 th	October	Open Day 2: tours at 9:30am and 11am
Friday	10 th	October	Harvest festival (am), conker competition.
Wednesday	15 th	October	Open Day 3, 11:30am
Wednesday	15 th	October	Open Day 4, 6pm
Friday	17 th	October	Buddy Tea, 2:45pm
Tuesday	21 st	October	Parents evening 1, 3:40pm-6:30pm
Thursday	23 rd	October	Parents evening 2, 4pm-7pm
Friday	24 th	October	INSET day, school closed to pupils
HALF TERM			
Wednesday	5 th	November	Hazel Class trip to SS Great Britain and docks
Thursday	7 th	November	Open Day 5, 10am
Saturday	8 th	November	Open Day 6: 10am-12noon, stay and play after tour
Wednesday	12 th	November	Spellathon 2
Saturday	15 th	November	Parish Christmas bazaar, held in school
Tuesday	18 th	November	Virtual governor meeting with new parents, 7:30pm
Thursday	20 th	November	Chaplaincy Commissioning, Clifton Cathedral, 11am

Friday	21 st	November	Birch Class mas
Wednesday	26 th	November	Maths themed day
Monday	15 th	December	Reception Class nativity, 2:00pm
Tuesday	16 th	December	KS1 Nativity, 2:00pm
Wednesday	17 th	December	Carol service for KS2 at 6pm
Tuesday	17 th	December	Xmas lunch (to be confirmed)
Thursday	18 th	December	Ks2 Theatre trip to see Treasure Island, Ks1 trip to see Antartica
Friday	19 th	December	Christmas mass, 9:30am (tbc) HALF DAY: CHILDREN TO BE COLLECTED AT 1:40pm, in the usual way.
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY			

8-13 YEAR OLDS

FACE
FOUNDATION FOR ACTIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

6-8PM
FACE FILTON

SOCIAL CLUB

19TH SEPTEMBER 2025

THIS MONTH'S SESSION FALLS ON

TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY

WE WILL BE RUNNING SOME PIRATE-ISH THEMED ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING

PIRATE SHIP OBSTACLE RACE PIRATE TALKING CHALLENGE

MAKE YOUR OWN WORKING TELESCOPE TREASURE HUNT

RSVP Katie on 07488812123 or katie@facecharity.org.uk



Women's Work Lab

Mums! Ready to join our hive?

Our powerful programme is created by mothers, for mothers. Join the community of women at our hive where we give you the tools, techniques and work experience to rediscover employability skills and explore your path so you can find work that works for you and your family.

Starts: **22nd September 2025**

Ends: **10th December 2025**

Our South Glos Programme is

held at: Dings Crusaders,
Shaftesbury Park, Frenchay,
BS16 1LG

Every Tues & Wed 10 am - 1 pm, except half term

Support is available for travel costs.
Open to mums ages 19+ (no upper
age limit) who are not working.



Apply today at
www.womensworklab.co.uk

Find out more by getting in touch with
Paige, our Programme Manager:

✉ paige@womensworklab.co.uk

☎ 07300840694





AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB

HERE AT
YOUR
SCHOOL

The Club

Mad Science Afterschool Clubs provide the perfect mix of fun, interactive, educational content. Taking aspects of physics, chemistry and some biology to engage and excite all children enrolled. Our hands-on, enquiry based sessions encourage independent learning skills and discovery at their pace. They'll be immersed in a fully unique and different topic each week during the course, so there's plenty to explore as they get to grips with key science concepts and fun STEM based explorations.

They'll have so much fun,
they forget they're learning

Booking



<https://madsciencsw.ipalbookings.com/>

Scan QR code to access registration.

For Guidance scan the purple help code

1. Create your parent account
2. Add your child's details
3. Book Your Course

If you have an iPAL account with us, simply log in and choose your new club dates to secure your space.

ST AUGUSTINE PRIMARY

MONDAY

15th, 22nd, 29th September
6th, 13th, 20th October
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th November
1st 8th December 2025

**Registration Deadline:
10th September 2025**

**Please register before this time to
secure your child's space.**

Spaces are limited - first come first served

12 Week Session- £114.00
Join us for all new content and sessions!

BOOK ONLINE TODAY

[https://
madsciencsw.ipalbookings.com/](https://madsciencsw.ipalbookings.com/)



1 Hour
from end
of the school day



All Staff
Enhanced DBS
Safeguarding Trained



All Materials
& Consumables
provided

Spark Their Curiosity

REGISTER & BOOK TODAY!

office@madscienceSW.co.uk • 01792 348205 • www.madscienceSW.co.uk

