



# St. Augustine's Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February

*We come to school to live and learn happily together by loving ourselves and each other as Jesus teaches us.*

## Diary Dates

**\*Important updates in purple**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

**HALF TERM**

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

Pupils return to school at 8:40am

Reading for Pleasure 2:45-3:05pm-

Year 2

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

Year 5 Class assembly @2:45pm

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

Reading for Pleasure 2:45-3:05pm Year

3

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

World Book Day

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 5 & 6 Hoddesdon District Sports

Football tournament

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

Parent Consultations 2:00pm-8:00pm

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

Choir Event

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Netball Tournament Year 5 & 6 hosted

by John Warner

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

Parent Forum Meeting @2:00pm

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

SApta Easter Raffle

Year 3 & 4 Easter play @6:00pm

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Football Tournament Year 5 & 6

Hosted by Cranbourne

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

End of Term School finished at 1:30pm



**Stars of the Week**

Reception - Fatima

Year 1 - Adeo

Year 2 - Aaron

Year 3 - Ava- Grace

Year 4 - George

Year 5 - Oliver

Year 6 - Sophie

Our Stars of the Week are chosen for their conscientious effort and hard work throughout this week as well as exemplary behaviour.

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

What a fantastic half term it has been, so much has gone on with Netball, Shrove Tuesday, Valentine's, Ash Wednesday just to name a few, it's been a busy one. We would like to thank SApta for all their hard work with the Valentine's disco and non-uniform day. We hope you have a restful week and look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024.



## Lent

Reception	We make a promise to Jesus in Lent.
Year 1	Lent is a time to think about others.
Year 2	Lent is a time for us to reflect.
Year 3	This Lent, we are going to remember Jesus' sacrifice for us.
Year 4	We are ready to reflect and renew during this sacred season of Lent.
Year 5	Lent is a time for reflection and sacrifice to remember the 40 days and 40 nights of hardship Jesus suffered.
Year 6	Lent is a period of reflection, fasting and almsgiving. We should focus on living our life according to Jesus to show our gratefulness to him. The Liturgical colour is purple.



## Our Subject Learning This Week

Reception	In Geography, we have identified the Polar Regions (the North and South Poles) on a world map.
Year 1	In PE this week, we have been practising different gymnastic shapes and creating a sequence of movements.
Year 2	In Music, we have enjoying singing our song 'I wanna be in a band'.
Year 3	In Italian, we have been looking at how Italy celebrates Lent.
Year 4	In Literacy, we have been practising using direct speech in our writing. We have learned about inverted commas and how to punctuate dialogue.
Year 5	In Maths, we have been working on finding the missing number in multiplication sums using our multiplication knowledge.
Year 6	In Science, we have had an amazing time learning all about the heart. We dissected hearts, role played how the heart pumped blood around the body and created our own blood to learn about its properties.

The Year 1 and 2 Inter Football tournament was postponed this week due to weather, it will be re-scheduled.

## Solidarity and Peace

This half term our Catholic Social Teaching focus was 'Solidarity and Peace'. Solidarity is a word which can be overused and little understood. However, it is fundamental to the way in which we treat one another. If we truly believe that we are all sisters and brothers of one another, made in God's image and likeness as seen in the guideline of human dignity, then seeking the good of one another cannot be ignored. Solidarity is not just feeling sorry for those who suffer. It is a commitment to action. "We are all really responsible for all" - all of us. Wherever we are. Whatever our age. Whatever our circumstances. We are all responsible for one another, those close by, and those far away. All of our actions have consequences locally and globally. From how we treat people we meet in the street, to the coffee we buy in the supermarket. God has created us to live peace fully with one another. Sadly, this is often not the case and many people live lives that are not peaceful, due to the actions of others. God calls us to be peacemakers in the world - to stand in solidarity with those in need. Through CST lessons and assemblies, the children have been thinking about how they can stand in solidarity and become peacemakers.



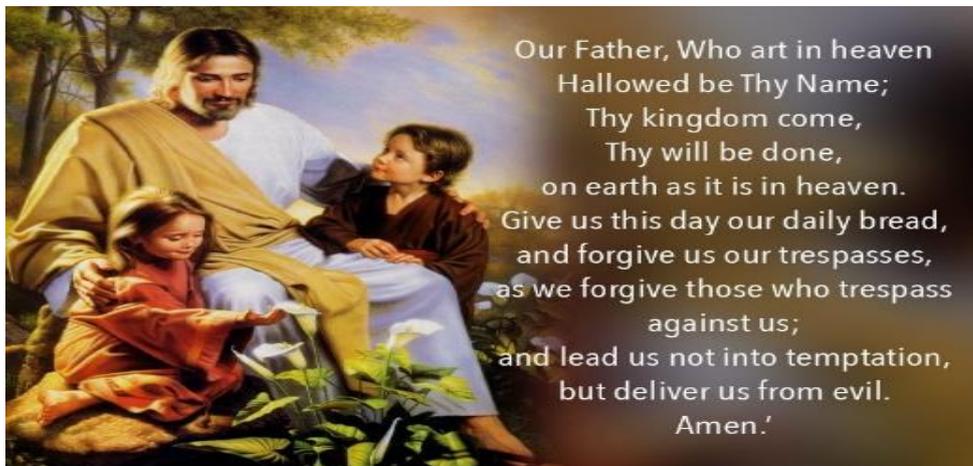
### The Year of Prayer

Further to sharing the Our Father in last week's newsletter, the RE homework for this half term is for your child to write the Lord's Prayer, the Our Father in your **family's home language**. It can be hand written, written in calligraphy or typed using any font or style. You may create your own beautiful border, find your own border or use one of the border's provided by the teacher. (Sent as homework in Teams)

You can watch the video below to see how to sign the Our Father

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnww2ndRfzA>

For guidance on prayer at home, please refer to our school website or visit [Family prayer ideas \(cafod.org.uk\)](http://familyprayerideas.cafod.org.uk)



### World Book Day

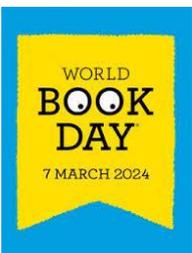
World Book Day will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March and we would like to give your child the opportunity to dress up for this event. There are a number of options for this. Your child may dress up in traditional dress from their culture, an important figure they have been learning about or a character from their favourite fiction book. We will leave this entirely up to yourself and your child to decide! We are mindful that some families may be struggling with the cost of living crisis, so please do not feel you have to buy an outfit for this event. Get creative and use something you already have at home or just make a prop or clue about the book so your child can share this with the class.

Please see the separate letter sent by Mrs Blackwell about the plans for this event.

<https://www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines/site/pages/parents/schoolday>

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:

Application forms for children currently in Year 2 who wish to make their First Holy Communion in May 2025 are still available to collect from the Presbytery, or you can email the Presbytery to request the form. Details of the course will be given with the form. You will need to commit to attending weekly Mass. If you are unable to commit, please defer applying for the course until next year. **Please note the deadline to return the forms is on the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**





### Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday

To celebrate Shrove Tuesday a number of exciting things happened within the Early Years and Key Stage 1 classes. Reception class did not let the weather spoil the celebration and children took part in a pancake flipping contest! Key Stage 1 got to sample pancakes with a selection of toppings at lunchtime. Fun was had by all children.



Key Stage 2 had a pancake race and ate pancakes to mark Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday is the last day before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. Lent is the Christian period leading up to Easter, a time when many people fast or give up something they love. This time is a reminder for Christians of **Jesus Christ's sacrifice and his withdrawal into the desert for 40 days**. In preparing to give up richer foods as part of Lent, pancakes began to be eaten on Shrove Tuesday. This was because people would use up richer foods such as eggs, sugar and milk before Lent began, which when combined, can make pancakes.



Year 3 to Year 6 went to Mass at 2pm on Wednesday to be blessed with ashes, Father Julian and the congregation praised the prayerful atmosphere and beautiful singing of the hymns, including a Taize during the Blessing of the Ashes. Thank you to the many families and friends who joined us to celebrate Ash Wednesday.

### EYFS Donations

EYFS would like to say thank you to everyone who has provided donations for the development of the Mud Kitchen area, also a huge thank you for the hanging baskets for our prayer garden. We really do appreciate your donations and they have already been put to good use!

We are still in need of donations to help us make our Prayer Garden into a more reflective space and are looking for some donations of:

- Soil
- Planters/plant pots/seeds/etc.
- Artificial plants or flowers
- Trellis Archway
- Children's benches



Thank you for your continued support.



### Nursery Places Available

Our Nursery applications are decided entirely by us and we are OPEN for applications immediately, so do contact our office on 01992 463549 or email [admin@staugustines.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@staugustines.herts.sch.uk) Our details and further information can also be found on our website <https://www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines>, which will give you an excellent flavour of our wonderful school and community. You are all welcome. Parents, please put out the word.

## Saptas Save the dates for this year.

Mothers day Gift sale  
Friday 8th March 🌸

Easter Raffle  
Tuesday 26th March 🐣

Bags for School  
Friday 26th April 🛍️

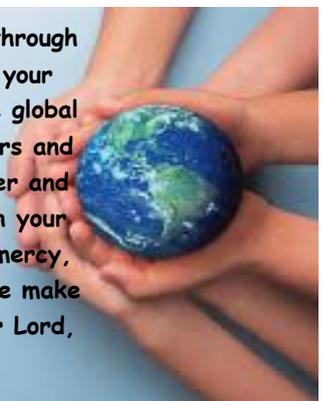
Quiz Night  
(Adults only)  
Friday 10th May  
TBC 😊

Break the rules non  
uniform for summer fair  
Friday 3rd May 🎡

Fathers Day Gift sale  
Friday 14th June 🍷

Summer Fair  
Saturday 29th June  
🌈 🎪 🍷 🌻

Loving God and Father of all, through you we learn that we are all your children and belong to your one global family. Help us to act as sisters and brothers, supporting each other and working together, so that with your help, we can build a world of mercy, kindness, justice and peace. We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord, Amen



God Bless,

Mrs Napier

HEADTEACHER

