



St. Augustine's News

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

25th April 2025

Riversmead,
Hoddesdon,
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EN11 8DP

Tel: 01992 463549

Executive Head Mrs. Joanne Walsh

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the summer term! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter holiday filled with joy and relaxation.

Firstly, I would like to address the sad news of Pope Francis' passing on Easter Monday. His tireless advocacy for children and young people throughout his pontificate has left an indelible mark on our world. We have taken time to speak with our pupils about this historic event, helping them understand the significance of the moment we are witnessing. Let us join together in prayer for Cardinal Nichols as he becomes part of the conclave following the Pope's funeral on Saturday. We ask for his divine wisdom to guide the choosing of the new pontiff.

I am delighted to share a beautiful initiative undertaken by our Year 5 pupils today. They have created small wooden crosses in the forest, placing them near trees to create spaces for prayer and reflection. These crosses serve as a touching connection to God and Saint Kateri Tekakwitha's spiritual life within nature. Saint Kateri, known as the "Lily of the Mohawks," was deeply devoted to her faith and the Eucharist, providing an inspiring example for our young learners.

On a brighter note, I am thrilled to announce some exciting developments in our school grounds. During the Easter break, we installed new play equipment in the nursery and reception playground, along with an outdoor classroom, mud kitchen, and prayer garden. While this area is still being finalised, we are planning a special opening on Friday, 16th May at 2:15pm. We warmly invite parents of children in Nursery and Reception to join us for this momentous occasion.

As we settle into the term, I must draw your attention to a few important notices. We have observed that some pupils are still arriving late to school. Please ensure your child is at school by 8:50am to start the day promptly. This term is particularly crucial, with numerous assessments scheduled for Years 1, 2, 4, and 6. Additionally, please remember to order your child's lunch daily.

I am pleased to share our new parent communication [leaflet](#). We hope this will enhance our ongoing dialogue and keep you well-informed about school matters.

Looking ahead, we are excited to host an Art Day in July. To make this event a success, we are seeking donations of plain white oversized T-shirts, bows, ribbons, fabric remnants, and spare buttons. If you have any of these items to spare, please send them in with your child to their class. Your contributions would be greatly appreciated.

Lastly, a gentle reminder that class photos are scheduled for Monday, 28th April. We will send a reminder email on Sunday to help everyone prepare.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement with our school community.

Mrs. Joanne Walsh

Sunday 27th April 2025
John 20:19-31



Prayer for Pope Francis



Dear Pope Francis,
We give thanks for your commitment to the word of justice and we thank you for the love and trust you had in all human beings and all natures beauty.
May you rest in peace. Amen.

By Louis Year 5

Dear God,
Thank you for the life of Pope Francis. We thank you for his compassion to all people. We ask you to give Pope Francis eternal life in Heaven. We hope he has a peaceful afterlife. We will miss him. Amen

By Amelia Year 5

Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any parent have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform the school's Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSP): **Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Baldwin and Mrs Blackwell**. In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a statutory duty to discuss the issue with one of the DSPs to seek further advice.

Key Dates:

Please see our website [calendar](#) (dates subject to change)

28th Apr	Class photos Year 3 Swimming Lessons (6 weeks)
29th Apr	Father Julian visiting Year 5
30th Apr	Whole School Easter Mass 9.15am (school uniform to be worn)
2nd May	John Warner Football & Netball Tournament (Yr 3 & 4)
5th May	School closed – bank holiday
6th May	Father Julian visiting Year 3
7th May	Year 4 Mass
11th May	First Holy Communions (St Augustine's Church)
12th – 15th May	Year 6 SATS
14th – 15th May	Year 5 SPEC Trip
15th May	Year 6 PGL Parents meeting 3pm
16th May	Year 6 Trip to park SAPTA Non uniform day
18th May	First Holy Communions (St Augustine's Church)
20th May	Father Julian visiting Year 1
21st May	Year 6 Mass
23rd May	May Procession Pilgrimage to St Cross School 9.30am, Parents Welcome
26th - 30th May	Half Term
2nd June	Children return to school
2nd – 6th June	Year 6 PGL trip
3rd June	Father Julian visiting Year 2
4th June	Year 3 Mass
11th June	Year 5 Mass Nursery Toddle
12th June	Come and Read Year 4 2.45pm SAPTA Father's Day Sale
13th June	Sports Day
17th June	Year 2 Royal Gunpowder Mills Trip Father Julian visiting Nursery and Reception Netball Tournament Year 5 & 6
18th June	Year 4 Mass
19th June	Whole School Mass (Corpus Christi) 9.15am

Happy Birthday!

Nursery:	Charlie
Year 1:	James
Year 5:	Alisia
Year 6:	Joseph

Wishing you, another fabulous birthday full of God's blessing.

Gold Book Award

Nursery:	Mia
Reception:	Franciszek
Year 1:	Max
Year 2:	William
Year 3:	Julian
Year 4:	Lilly
Year 5:	Daniel
Year 6:	Nelly

Congratulations on your effort this week!

Attendance Award

Congratulations to Reception

Reception: 96.6%

Year 1: 95.0%

Year 2: 94.8%

Year 3: 94.3%

Year 4: 96.0%

Year 5: 92.1%

Year 6: 92.7%

Whole school target 96%



Download the Studybugs app for reporting your child's absence.

A quick and secure way to report absence due to illness and send messages to school.



Studybugs