



St. Augustine's News

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

9th January 2026

Riversmead,
Hoddesdon,
Hertfordshire.

EN11 8DP

Tel: 01992 463549

Executive Head Mrs. Joanne Walsh

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school and to the start of a new term. It has been a pleasure to see the children return so positively; they have settled well into the New Year and are working hard in their classrooms.

On Wednesday, the children celebrated Epiphany Mass. During Fr. Julian's reflection, he reminded us that Epiphany is a call to follow the example of the Magi by offering the gift of ourselves — our hearts, our lives, and our service — to Jesus. This is a wonderful message as we begin a New Year together as a school community - an opportunity to commit to our own ministries so that we may be and become the people that God needs us to be.

As we start the term, I would like to remind parents of our school uniform policy:

- Earrings: *Plain gold studs only* are permitted and must be covered with tape or removed for PE lessons and tournaments.
- Coats, hats, and gloves should be *plain navy blue or black*, in line with our school colours.

I would also like to address punctuality. A number of children have arrived late this week. Lateness can have a significant impact on learning; being late by just 5 minutes each day over a school year equates to 3 full days of lost learning, and 10 minutes equates to 6.5 days. Please note that lateness is recorded on your child's school attendance record.

Additionally, several children are leaving school during the day for appointments. I understand that appointments can be difficult to arrange; however, where possible, *pre-planned appointments should be booked towards the end of the school day* to minimise disruption to your child's learning. Thank you for your continued support of our teaching staff.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Dolly and Diego, our Autumn Term 2 Head Girl and Head Boy, for their commitment and support in assemblies and for setting a positive behaviour standard across the school.

A huge congratulations to our Spring Term Head Boy, Tiago, and Head Girl, Eva. I look forward to working with you both this term.

Finally, we currently have spaces available in our after-school activity clubs, ranging from archery to computing coding. Please see the attached letter for further details.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Enjoy the weekend and stay warm.

Mrs Joanne Walsh

Sunday 11th January 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

Matthew 3:13-17

**This is my beloved Son, with whom I
am well pleased**



Attendance Award

Congratulations to Year 4

Reception:	50.0%
Year 1:	92.0%
Year 2:	90.7%
Year 3:	88.4%
Year 4:	92.4%
Year 5:	91.7%
Year 6:	90.7%

Whole school target 96%
**Please see the guidance below for if
your child should be in school**

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

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)

13 th Jan	Father Julian visiting Year 4
16 th Jan	School Nurse visiting Reception (1 st Cohort) John Warner Netball & Football Tournament (Y5 & 6)
19 th – 23 rd Jan	Year 3 – 6 Intra Netball Tournament
20 th Jan	Father Julian visiting Year 5
22 nd Jan	Choir Young Voices Trip Worries and Sleep Support Workshop 6:00pm (Parents must email the office to book)
27 th Jan	Father Julian visiting Year 6
3 rd Feb	Father Julian visiting Year 3
9 th – 13 th Feb	Year 1 & 2 Intra Football Tournament Women in Science Week
11 th Feb	VR Workshop
12 th Feb	Year 3 trip to Waltham Abbey Gardens
16th - 20th Feb Half Term – school closed	
23 rd Feb	Children return to school
24 th Feb	Father Julian visiting Year 1
25 th Feb	NSPCC Workshop (Years 2, 5 & 6)
3 rd Mar	Father Julian visiting Year 2
4 th Mar	Year 5 & 6 Mass (parents welcome)
5 th Mar	World Book Day
6 th Mar	Indoor Athletics (Broxbourne School) School nurse visiting Reception (2 nd Cohort)
9 th -13 th Mar	British Science Week
10 th Mar	Cranbourne Football Tournament (Y5 & 6 A Team)
18 th Mar	Reconciliation Year 6 Stations of the Cross 2:15pm (parents welcome)
23 rd Mar	Reconciliation Year 5
24 th Mar	Reconciliation Year 4
25 th Mar	Easter Play (Years 3 & 4) 2pm & 6pm
26 th Mar	Rocksteady Concert (tickets only) 2.15pm Nursery closes 2.40pm

Happy Birthday!

Nursery:	Noella & Arabella-Rose
Year 1:	Aditi & George
Year 2:	Lorenzo
Year 3:	Vienna
Year 4:	Benjamin
Year 5:	Edoardo

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

Gold Book Award

Nursery:	Ennio
Reception:	Sienna M
Year 1:	Hudson
Year 2:	Marcel
Year 3:	Evie
Year 4:	Gianni
Year 5:	Emma
Year 6:	George Sc

Congratulations on your effort this week!

Consultation on Admissions Policy

St Augustine's Primary School is consulting on the proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2027/28 and is seeking responses from parent/carers, schools and community groups. Please visit the website on the link below to view the proposed arrangements.

<https://www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=57>

Reception Admissions 2026

Please note if you currently have a sibling in the school and are applying for a place in Reception 2026, you must also complete a School Information Form (SIF) available on the website or from the School Office.

Applications close on 15th January 2026