



St. Augustine's News

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

3rd July 2026

Riversmead,
Hoddesdon,
Hertfordshire.
EN11 8DP

Tel: 01992 463549

Executive Head Mrs. Joanne Walsh

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful week we have had! On Monday, our CEO – Mr Andrew Celano visited St Augustine's and was impressed by the calm and hardworking environment he witnessed across the school. It was lovely to see our staff and children showcase the positive culture we work so hard to nurture every single day.

This has been a particularly busy time of year, and we have had the pleasure of watching two Rock Steady concerts this week. It is wonderful to see the growth in confidence and skill that our pupils have demonstrated. When we started the year, we had just one Rock Steady group meeting on one afternoon. Now we have two full afternoons with Rock Steady, which really speaks to the enthusiasm and talent within our school.

I am delighted to share a special moments from this week. On Wednesday, our Key Stage 2 children from both St Cross and St Augustine's came together to attend a Chaplaincy Team Mass with Bishop Paul. During the Mass, Bishop Paul thanked our teams for their service and hard work, and blessed them for deepening the Catholic life of our schools. Following the Mass, Bishop Paul took time to walk around our school, talking with and watching the children in their classroom environments. One particularly touching moment saw Bishop Paul teaching our year 2 children sign language for "Jesus loves me, Jesus loves you" and "Jesus loves everyone." Later, one of our Nursery children told their parent, "Mrs Walsh bought Jesus to the classroom!" – a comment that captures the spirit of what we are all trying to achieve.

Today, the whole school enjoyed an immersive Rise Theatre production exploring the theme of 'Treasure Within' – the seven key principles of Catholic Social Teaching. The production was a brilliant mix of drama, humour, and meaningful reflection that kept our entire school audience, from Reception through to Year 6, captivated. It was not only educational but inspiring, encouraging our children to think about how these values can be lived out in their everyday lives. It has been an uplifting experience for all.

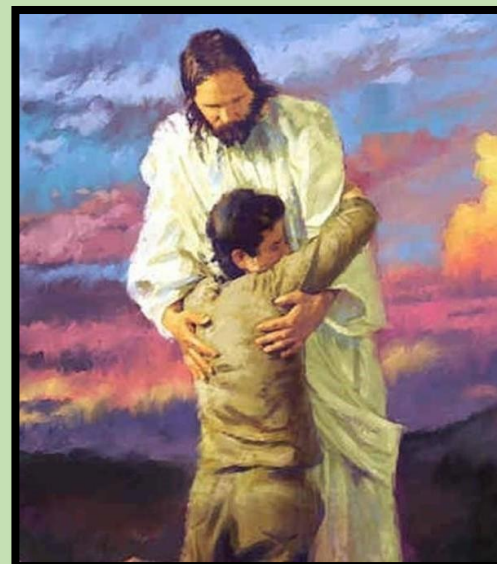
As we move forward, I look forward to welcoming you to parents' evening on Monday. At this meeting, you will receive your end of year child's report and have the opportunity to discuss it with your child's teacher. For those attending online meetings, a copy of the report will be provided in an envelope the next day.

Finally, please join me in wishing our District Sports Team all the very best as they compete on Tuesday. We are cheering you on!

Have a great weekend.

Mrs Joanne Walsh

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Year A)
Sunday 5th July 2026
Matthew 11:25-30**



Attendance Award *Congratulations to Reception*

Reception:	87.61%
Year 1:	91.87%
Year 2	94.52%
Year 3:	98.64%
Year 4:	94.93%
Year 5:	92.19%
Year 6:	93.12%

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)

6th July	Parents Consultations – 1pm – 6pm (in-person and online)
7th July	District Sports Years 3 – 6 at John Warner Sports Centre
8th July	Year 6 Leavers Play 10am & 2pm
9th July	Transition Day Come and Read Year 2- 2:45pm
10th July	Chaplaincy Retreat – Aylesford Priory Year 5 St Mary's Science Workshop 9am -12:40pm School Fair 1:30pm Celebration assembly – 2:45pm
13th July	Reception school trip- Lee Valley Adventure Park
14th July	Summer Reading Challenge
15th July	Leavers Mass 9:15am Leavers Assembly 2:00pm (Year 6 Parents)
16th July	Years 3 & Years 4 – 6 Catch-up Swimming Nursery Teddy Bears Picnic 9:30-10:30
17th July	School closes 1:30pm
Monday 20th July- Monday 31st August –Summer holidays	
1st Sep	INSET DAY
2nd Sep	Children return to school
14th Sep	Year 6 Crucial crew trip (Current year 5)
22nd Sep	Individual school photos
28th Sep	Flu immunisations
28th Sep-2nd Oct	Year 6 Bikeability (Current year 5)

Free School Meals

From September 2026, the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals (FSM) will be changing. From the start of the new school year, all parents/carers who are in receipt of Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of the amount received.

All pupils who are eligible for FSM in Year 2 must reapply when moving into Year 3.

There is no requirement for pupils who are already receiving Free School Meals to re-apply.

Applications for the new school year can be made now.

Please see attached letter for further details and link to apply.

Happy Birthday!

Year 2: Teddy

Year 4 : Gracie

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

Gold Book Award

Nursery: Diego

Reception: Raphael

Year 1: Ileana

Year 2: Josephine

Year 3: Max T

Year 4: Emelia

Year 5: Ava-Grace

Year 6: Olivia

Congratulations on your effort this week!

Lost Property

Unnamed lost property will be out on the bench every day next week at pick up time. Please have a good look through anything not claimed will be recycled over the summer.