



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs J Foley



**We love and learn together by growing
in friendship with Jesus**

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you have all enjoyed your summer break. We received so many lovely gifts and cards at the end of the last academic year; we thank you once again for your kind words, thoughtfulness and generosity. Over the last two days, all staff have been completing Phonics training along with statutory anaphylaxis, asthma and epilepsy training. This afternoon we will be attending Autism training alongside some of our MAC schools.

Tomorrow, we will be welcoming children from Years 1-6 back into school, through the usual route. I will be on the gate and staff will be on the playground and pupil entrances for the children to make their own way into their classroom. Our new Reception children also have a 'stay and play' session tomorrow and information has been shared linked to their schedule over the coming days. Staff within Nursery are carrying out home visits and we look forward to Nursery children having their 'stay & play' sessions on Monday 9th September.

We have a number of new children joining us in other year groups and welcome a team of new staff; Mr Cunningham (Year 4 Class teacher), Mrs Garcia (Lunch-time supervisor) and Ms To (Lunch-time supervisor). I am sure you will give them a warm welcome and we wish them every success in their new roles.

Over the summer, a few health and safety works were completed; new fire alarm installation and an adjustment made to the car park gate to enable safer access. Some new carpets were also fitted to Foundation Stage and the Library. Work will continue to take place over the coming weeks to the Library, to put all of the shelving and books back into place along with new resources to ensure it provides maximum opportunity to use this wonderful space.

As previously advised, we have moved to a new catering provider, Aspens. Full details about this company were issued prior to the summer break and we have now been given guidance on how to place an order for your child's school meal. There are a few changes to ordering to your child's meal that you need to be made aware of:

- 1) All meal orders **MUST** be completed on ParentPay (whether you are required to pay for them or not).
- 2) Failure to place an order by the deadline will mean that your child's meal has not been counted and therefore will not be cooked. So you would need to provide your child with a packed lunch.
- 3) There are no longer sandwich/baguette options (only hot meals). Menus are on the website.
- 4) Mrs Jones has issued an email with full details and all information is also on the school's website, so it is imperative that you read the guidance if you wish for your child to have a hot meal this week.
- 5) Please talk with your child and tell them what has been ordered for their school dinner.

We do appreciate that this is a new system and it may not run as smoothly as we would like in the first instance, so please bear with us and the catering team so that we can ensure your child is fed.

School gates are open each morning from 8:45am. Children arriving after 8:55am will be deemed as late, as this is when registration takes place. An alarm sounding will take place to indicate this time and the pedestrian gate will close. Please use the digital entry system in the entrance foyer to sign your child in if they are late arriving or late being picked up. There is also now an alarm sounding to indicate the end of day. Collection for Nursery children when they start properly is at 2:50pm or 3:20pm, prior to the rest of the school coming out onto the playground at 3:25pm. As always, if there is a change to any pick up arrangements, please place a note into the children's home school link book, or notify the office staff in the morning. **Afternoon messages to the office are not guaranteed to reach the member**





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of staff due to teaching commitments, so any child who is not collected from the playground will be brought to the office. Any late messages can be checked by staff then.

A gentle reminder of the following:

- Please label all of your child's school uniform, especially jumpers/cardigans and coats.
- Summer uniform can be worn up until the end of September. Winter uniform (shirt and tie) from Monday 2nd October.
- Black/navy coats only or school blazers.
- Children in Years 1-6 will be able to come to school in their PE kits (plain navy shorts/plain navy tracksuit bottoms and yellow t-shirt). School jumpers/cardigans or navy Leaver's hoodies can also be worn with their PE kit during the day.
- PE days will be issued tomorrow and a timetable will be placed on the class page on the website.
- Only stud earrings permitted. Other earrings will be requested to be removed.
- Long hair is to be tied up. No large bows, only school colour clips/small bows. No lines or extreme shaving.
- Healthy snacks to be brought in for KS2 children. No morning snacks are required for infants.
- We are a **nut free school** – please respect this as we have children with severe allergies.
- No sweets/treats to be brought into school as part of birthday celebrations due to children with allergies.
- We have supplied children with their books and stationary; no pencil cases are required. Children within Key Stage 2 may need to buy their own replacement pens/pencils/glue sticks/white board pens across the year.
- After school clubs will start next week. Full details of this will be with you in the coming days, as we are finalising the timetable.

I would like to say thank you to all of our staff. They have worked so hard to ensure the classrooms were ready to welcome all of the children, having their work on display and enabling a smooth transition back to school. It is a real privilege to serve St Augustine's and work with such a dedicated team who follow our mission every day, 'we love and learn together by growing in friendship with Jesus'.

Tomorrow, I will hold a special welcome back to school assembly for children in Years 1-6, where we celebrate the upcoming Feast day of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, learnt about our Catholic Pupil Profile Virtues (Curious and Active) for this half term and had a reminder about school rules and safety. We will also talk about ways in which the children will try to follow Jesus' example, learn how we can live out the 7 principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) and continue to aspire to all aspects of our MAC Children's Charter. This Friday, we will be celebrating the Feast of Our Lady, completing MAC related activities and celebrating Mass (Years 1-6) with Fr Dominic at 9:15am – family members are most welcome to join us. A reminder that parking is not available outside school, but free car parking is available by Tudor Grange Pitch and Putt.

Children will have an opportunity to become a leader within school. We wish every child who puts themselves forward for a role the very best of luck to become; Family leaders (Year 6 only), RE Council, School Council, Digital Leaders, Reading Council and ECO Council.





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PE days will be issued tomorrow – please note, there will not be any PE tomorrow (Wednesday 4th September).

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be holding Parental Curriculum meetings to provide additional information regarding your child's learning. These will be held as follows: -

Tuesday 10 th September	2:50 – 3:20pm	Year 1 Curriculum Meeting
Wednesday 11 th September	2:50 – 3:20pm	Year 5 Curriculum Meeting
Thursday 12 th September	2:50 – 3:20pm	Year 6 Curriculum Meeting
Tuesday 17 th September	2:50 – 3:20pm	Year 3 Curriculum Meeting
Wednesday 18 th September	2:50 – 3:20pm	Year 4 Curriculum Meeting
Thursday 19 th September	2:50 – 3:20pm	Year 2 Curriculum Meeting

Our newsletter will resume on Friday next week. Homework and reading books etc. will go home on Wednesday 11th September, to be returned Monday 16th September.

Wishing everyone a successful new academic year!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Foley
Head Teacher

