



# St Augustine's Academy Newsletter

## 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018



### Headteacher's Message

Another week has flown by and it is good to see the sunny weather continuing so that the children can still enjoy playing on the field.

In Reception class, our new pupils are settling in well and are enjoying their new classroom. The children have a new interactive whiteboard which is just the right height for them to use.



Our new Inclusion room is now being used for Phonics groups, and for a range of intervention and therapy sessions. The new sensory hut can be seen in the photograph and children have been enjoying using it as a quiet, calming space.



Our school gardening club were excited to see the fruits of their hard work in the form of onions, tomatoes and beans. Our pumpkin is also doing well.

This week, we were also pleased to welcome Headteacher, Mr. Paul Burrett, to our school. It was a pleasure to show him around the classrooms and to see our pupils hard at work with their learning. He very much enjoyed his visit to St. Augustine's and was very complimentary about our school.

Please take time to read the whole of our newsletter this week; there are an additional two pages full of important notices and reminders. Thank you for your support.

**Amanda Howes - Headteacher**

### School Vision

Each week, we will be taking one of our school vision statements to look at in more detail. This week we are looking at...



**Safety Pin - The safety and well-being of our pupils is our top priority.**

In our recent Ofsted report, it was highlighted that, 'The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.' At St. Augustine's we care deeply about our pupils and do everything we can to ensure they are safe.

Our staff, on INSET day, have already received their annual Safeguarding training; they know the processes to follow if they are concerned about a child.

Our safeguarding officers are Justine Fourmy and Cheryl White; if you have any concerns about a child or would like to speak with them then please do not hesitate to contact the school. We all need to safeguard our children.

### Attendance

Our attendance so far this year is...

# 95.84%

Raising attendance at our school is a top priority for this year. Our school target is 96%, which is the National Average; this is what we aim to achieve.

Unfortunately, due to pupils being taken out of school on holiday this week, our attendance figure is now below the national average. Please do not book holidays in term time; they will be unauthorised, you may receive a fixed penalty notice and your child's learning will be affected.

Thank you for your cooperation and a huge well done to all our good attenders.

Our class attendance figures for this week are:

Year 1 – 92.75%	Year 2 – 93.45%
Year 3 – 99.29%	Year 4 – 88.00%
Year 5 – 98.87%	Year 6 – 95.76%

**Year 3 attained 99.29% attendance this week and receive a Mufti Day. Well Done!**

## Celebrations

Well Done to the following children.

### 😊 'SELF' Pupil of the Week 😊

Year 1 – Jake  
 Year 2 – Alfie  
 Year 3 – Summer  
 Year 4 – Kamil  
 Year 5 – Harvey  
 Year 6 – Cienna

### 📖 Reader of the Week 📖

Year 1 – Tarebi  
 Year 2 – Mason  
 Year 3 – Peyton  
 Year 4 – Lillie-Mai  
 Year 5 – Wyatt  
 Year 6 – Conner

### ★ Star of the Week ★

Year 1 – Hawra  
 Year 2 – Kiera  
 Year 3 – Kyle  
 Year 4 – Luke  
 Year 5 – Jordan  
 Year 6 – Banujan

### 🏠 Housepoints 🏠

Neptune - 292  
 Mars - 322  
 Earth - 270  
 Venus - 300

## Word of the Week

Our word for the week is...

# Meticulous

Meticulous means to be very careful or precise.

Can you use the word 'meticulous' in your speaking and writing this week?

## Diary Dates

Tue. 18 <sup>th</sup> Sep.	9:00am – Parent Forum – Feedback Policy
Tue. 25 <sup>th</sup> Sep.	9:00am, 2:30pm, 5:30pm – Phonics Workshops
Wed. 26 <sup>th</sup> Sep.	European Day of Languages Mufti Day
Thu. 27 <sup>th</sup> Sep.	3:30pm – PTFA Annual General Meeting
Fri. 28 <sup>th</sup> Sep.	9:15am – KS2 Service at St. Augustine's Church (Parents/ Carers Welcome)
Tue. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct.	3:30pm – Parents' Evening
Wed. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct.	4:30pm – Parents' Evening
Tue. 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	9:00am – Reading Workshop
Fri. 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	PTFA Movie Night
Fri. 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	Last Day of Half Term
Tue. 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	Children Back to School

Please check the school website for the whole year's diary and for more information about St. Augustine's Academy.

You can also download the amazing 'School Jotter' App to Android and Apple devices to receive information to your phone or tablet.



Please note that dates sometimes have to change and we will notify you if this happens.

## 'SELF' Question for next Week

What makes me me?



## Our Value for this half term is...

### THANKFULNESS



'Always be thankful.'

1 Thessalonians 5:16

"A thankful heart is a happy heart."



Think of one person that you are thankful for. Tell them how much you appreciate them.

Celebration Assemblies take place at 9:00am every Thursday morning in the school hall. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.



## Notices and Reminders

### Parent Forum

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 9:00am, we will be holding our first Parent Forum of the school year.

The Parent Forum is a way for the school to share its future plans with you and discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

In the past, we have regularly had approximately 10 parents/carers who have attended these meetings. We have discussed issues such as pedestrian safety and have looked at the school's Behaviour, and Sex and Relationships Policies. Parent input is invaluable and we appreciate all the ideas and suggestions we have had for parents in the past.

On Tuesday, we will be sharing the school's new, trial Feedback Policy with you. We will also be talking about the new initiative 'Accelerated Reader' which will be in place for after the October half term holiday.

If you are unable to attend the meeting but have something that you would like discussed, then please contact the school office so that we can ensure that it is included in our meeting.

We look forward to seeing you there.



### Football

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!



The school football club has been running at St. Augustine's for many years. It has been enjoyed by dozens of pupils and is an important part of school life.

To enable football club to run this year, we need a volunteer to assist, coach Paul Allard, on a weekly basis.

You would need to be willing to undertake a DBS check to ensure your suitability to work with children and you will also be provided with the opportunity to undertake the Level 1 Coaching Award, funded by the Football Association.

Football club would run, after school, on Tuesdays for Years 4 – 6 and Wednesdays for Years 2 - 3. The finish time is 4:30pm.

Please consider volunteering; it would be such a shame to not be able to run football club this year.

If you are interested then please contact the school office where they will be able to put you in contact with Paul.

Thank you for your support.

### Junior Wardens

Pupils in Years 4 – 6 will have received a letter about Junior Wardens this week. Junior Wardens is an after-school club run to teach pupils the importance of good citizenship and has been enjoyed by many pupils over the years.

Junior Wardens takes place on Wednesdays from 3:20pm – 4:30pm and costs 50p per session.

Please encourage your child to participate in this interesting and worthwhile club.



### Flu Vaccinations

This week, parents in Reception to Year 5 will have received information regarding flu vaccinations for your child.

Please be reminded that consent forms need to be returned by Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you.



## Downside Magazine Drawing Competition

### CALLING ALL BUDDING ARTISTS!

#### Calling all children under 12 years old

Do you like to draw or take pictures? The answer is yes then why not to send us your drawings or photographs. You can draw or take picture of anything which has a connection to Winter season. The best pictures will be included in the December, January & February edition of the Downside magazine and one of them might even make the cover!

All the pictures will be displayed on our website [www.downsidemaginedunstable.co.uk](http://www.downsidemaginedunstable.co.uk) and facebook page.

**We need your pictures in by 26th October 2018!**

They can either be emailed to: [downsidemagazine@live.co.uk](mailto:downsidemagazine@live.co.uk) or dropped into the Dunstable South Children's Centre, Oakwood Avenue. Make sure they are clearly labeled with your name and age.

Best of luck to you all!





**Dear Parents/carers,**

We would like to remind you that the Friends of St Augustine's (FOSA) AGM is on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30pm in the school hall. Children are welcome and there will be cartoons on the big screen to keep them entertained.

The AGM gives you the opportunity to hear what FOSA have done over the last year and what the plans are for the coming year. We will also be electing the committee which consists of the chair, secretary and treasurer.

The aim of FOSA is to provide the children with activities such as discos and cinema nights to enhance their time here at St Augustine's while also raising money.

If anyone would like to find out more about FOSA please come and chat to us at the meeting or find one of us on the playground, we are always looking for people who would like to get involved in any way big or small.

If anyone would like to nominate themselves or someone else (with their permission) for one of the above positions, please do so on the slip below and hand into the school office by Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September.

We hope you can show your support for the hard work FOSA have done over the last year by attending the AGM and we look forward to seeing you.

Yours sincerely

Moira Wollington

FOSA Treasurer

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**PTFA – Nomination Slip**

I would like to nominate .....for the position of Chairperson/Secretary/Treasurer. I confirm I have the consent of the person I am nominating.

Name: ..... Date: .....