

ST AUGUSTINE'S Primary School

22nd September
2023 Newsletter



We want all of our community to have equal opportunities to experience life in all its fulness (John 10: 10). We encourage all community members to "be the best we can be" in every aspect of their lives as we grow in, and reflect on, the Christian virtues of Faith, Hope and Love (1Corinthians 13).

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF PRIMARY

It was great to be able to welcome back the children for the new school year and to hear about all the wonderful adventures they have had over the summer holidays. I have also enjoyed meeting our new Nursery and Reception children, who have settled really well and are growing in confidence.

It has been fantastic to see the rest of the children returning to school with so much energy and enthusiasm and they have settled into their new classes really well. They are clearly enjoying school and are very engaged and eager to learn. I am looking forward to sharing with you, over the coming year, all the fantastic things that have been happening across the school.

The children have selected their new school councillors for this year and I know that they are going to be fantastic representatives for their classes.

Ms Bettoni has also recruited new Anti-bullying Ambassadors from Year 4, who will be helping children to deal with problems and disagreements in the playground and around the school.

I would like to welcome Mr Rasem who is teaching Year 6 and is the Phase Leader for Years 4-6. He will also be taking over responsibility for history and geography and helping Ms Bettoni to introduce and embed our exciting new curriculum for these subjects.

I know that we are going to have a great year at St Augustine's Primary and I look forward to sharing with you all the amazing things that your children learn and achieve over the coming year.

Ruth Vince, Head of Primary



ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Year 6 and Year 5 who have won the attendance award over the past two weeks.

Our attendance was 91.9% last week, which is extremely low. This means that almost 10% of our pupils were out of school and missing their learning. This is partly due to the number of parents who did not return their children to school at the start of term due to taking unauthorised holidays during term time.

Attendance will be a key focus for the school over the coming year and I hope that we can work together to improve it and ensure that all pupils are accessing the education to which they're entitled.

WEBSITE FILMING

On Wednesday (27th September), a film-maker will be visiting the school to produce a video for our new school website. If your child is on our 'No photo on website' list, they will not be included in any filming. If your child is not currently on this list, but you would not like them to take part in the filming, you must contact the school office before 8:45am on Wednesday morning.

Please ensure that your child is wearing correct school uniform on Wednesday. This includes all black shoes, white shirt and tie for children in years 3-6 and navy blue jumper. Some children in Year 5 will be filmed doing PE, so please send your child to school in their school uniform, but with their PE kit in a bag if they are in Year 5.

SHINING STARS 15TH SEPTEMBER

Year 1 - Morocco

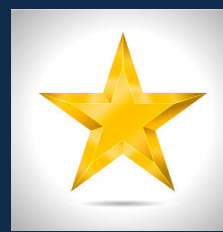
Year 2 - Maya

Year 3 - Adam

Year 4 - Casalina

Year 5 - Barraq

Year 6 - Yasmin



WONDERFUL WORK 22ND SEPTEMBER

Year 1 - Alexandra

Year 2 - Miral

Year 3 - Malek

Year 4 - Amanda

Year 5 - Fatima S

Year 6 - Aiyana





OUR NEW SCHOOL COUNCILLORS

Congratulations to our new School Councillors who have been elected by their classes to represent each year group and the school. The councillors have already discussed their roles and responsibilities and how we were going to be the best that we can in the position that we hold.

Year 1 – Monaco & Amine
Year 2 – Dior & Miral
Year 3 – Amr & Aya
Year 4 – Amira & Joshua S
Year 5 – Fatima P & Barraq
Year 6 – Aiyana & Jawid



YEAR 4 ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS

New Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have been selected from Year 4, following a rigorous application process. Congratulations to Mariam, Noah, Sukayna & Casalina.

They will be working alongside the existing Anti-bullying Ambassadors in Years 5 and 6 to ensure that St Augustine's Primary School remains inclusive and safe for all.

They will also be receiving training, run by The Diana Award, which will help them to develop ideas and actions that we can put in place to make sure that all children feel safe and secure in our school



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MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING AND CAKE SALE

Annual Macmillan coffee mornings across the country have been highly effective in making sure that nobody faces cancer alone and, once again, St Augustine's Primary will be hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday, 29th September 2023 from 9am to 10am in the Dining room and a cake sale in the playground at the end of the school day.

We would like to welcome all parents and members of the local community to catch up over a cup of tea or coffee while enjoying some delicious treats!

During these events, we will be collecting funds to provide medical, emotional, practical and financial support for people facing cancer, as well as campaigning for better cancer care.

It would be great if you could come along to this wonderful event and bring along other family and friends to support such a good cause.

SECONDARY TRANSFER MEETING - THURSDAY 13TH OCTOBER

The closing date for applications to secondary schools for 2023 is Tuesday 31st October. Parents of children in Year 6 must submit an application form by this time, otherwise your child will not be considered for a place until after everyone else has accepted their places in March or April of next year. This is also the procedure you must follow if you are applying for a place at St Augustine's CE High School.

The easiest way to make your application is online. If you need any help with this process, please see Mrs Wiggins or Ms Vince.

To help you to make your application, we have arranged a meeting about the process for applying for Secondary school places on Monday 2nd October at 3:45pm in the school hall. At this meeting, we will explain how to make an online application and will be able to answer any questions that you have about the process.





HEADTEACHER'S AWARD

Congratulations to all of the children who have been awarded Headteacher's certificates for demonstrating our school values.

These children have already earned 100 Dojo points, which means that they have received the Bronze Headteacher's certificate.

Year 2: Maya, Klea, Shouq, Shyla and Wessam

Year 3: Adam, Amr, Ziad, Riza, Maria, Madhvi and Lareen

Year 5: Ali K



OUR VALUE THIS HALF TERM IS FRIENDSHIP



In collective worship and in class, we have been exploring what a friend is. We have talked about how a good friend is faithful, reliable, has an interest in sharing their thoughts with you, is neighbourly, dependable and is someone special who makes you happy and will always care about you.

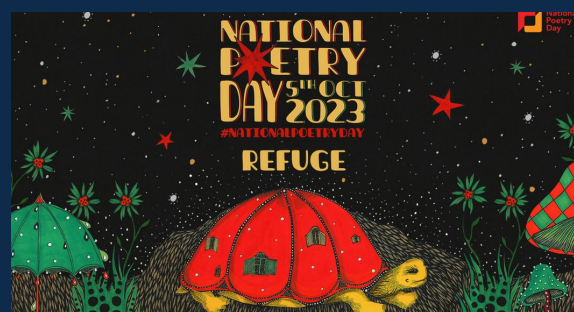
Friendship is a value that is at the very heart of any community. As a school, we are proud of how inclusive, welcoming and supportive we are of all those in our school community and the wider community.

Christians believe they can call God their friend because of the relationship made possible through Jesus. Throughout this half term, we will be working with the children to explore what makes a good friend and how we can nurture friendships and overcome the challenges we may face together.

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

We are delighted to announce that we will once again be celebrating National Poetry Day this year on Thursday 5th October with a special Poetry Day assembly during which some children will be performing poems.

All children will be asked to learn a poem that they will be given for homework. They will have a week to learn the poem then recite it to their class. Each class will then select a child to perform their poem in our special Poetry Day assembly. Please support your child with this and also share your favourite poems and rhymes with your children at home.



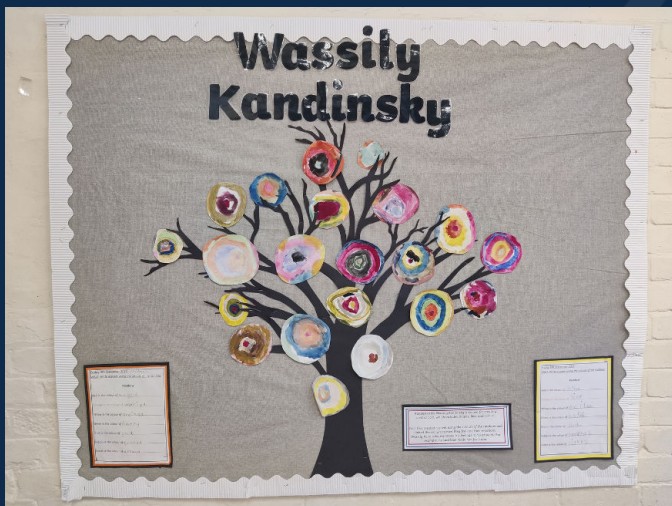


TAKE ONE ARTIST

During the first week of the autumn term, all children took part in Take One Artist Art Week. Every class had the opportunity to study the work of an artist and to produce their own artwork, which is on display around the school. The children enjoyed learning about the work of some of the world's most influential artists and produced some wonderful work.

YEAR 1 - WASSILY KANDINSKY

During Art Week, Year 1 looked at the artist Wassily Kandinsky. First, they investigated his artwork and looked carefully at the shapes and colours he uses in his art. They learned how to mix primary colours to make secondary colours. They also created lots of amazing abstract art using 2D shapes to create their own fantastic versions of Wassily Kandinsky's art.



YEAR 6 - DAVID HOCKNEY

Children in Year 6 studied the British artist, David Hockney, who is one of the most famous artists of the 20th Century. They spent time analysing his paintings and did some amazing sketches of London landmarks before producing some amazing artwork, based on Hockney's work, using a range of tools and techniques.





TAKE ONE ARTIST

YEAR 5 - NJIDEKA AKUNYILI CROSBY

During Art Week, Year 5 pupils embarked on an inspiring journey into the world of Njideka Akunyili Crosby, a renowned artist who masterfully fuses elements of Nigeria and America. The children wholeheartedly embraced this cultural fusion, channelling their creativity to craft mesmerising artworks. Inspired by Akunyili Crosby's intricate patterns, they skilfully incorporated these designs into their individual pieces before merging them onto one large card paper. This collaborative effort resulted in a captivating, cross-cultural masterpiece, leaving everyone deeply moved and appreciative of the rich tapestry of artistic expression that had unfolded throughout the week.



RECEPTION - JACKSON POLLACK

In Reception we looked at the artist 'Jackson Pollock'. We talked about his work, describing his techniques by using words such as flick, drip and splatter. The children enjoyed making their own art creations in the style of Jackson Pollock, both on a large and small scale.

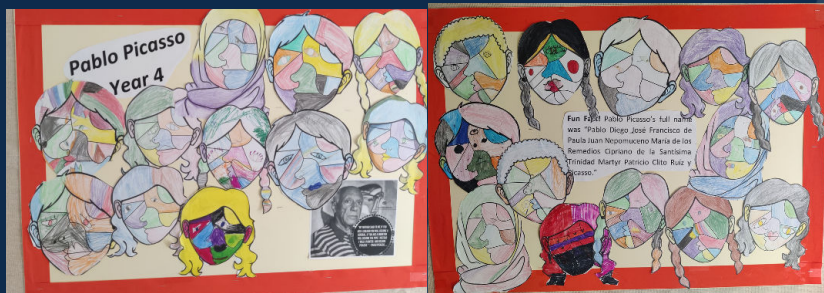




TAKE ONE ARTIST

YEAR 4 - PABLO PICASSO

Year 4 have been finding out all about the famous Spanish artist, Pablo Picasso. They enjoyed finding out about his life and works and that he had an incredibly long name! In addition to some wonderful artwork, they worked together to write a poem about Picasso and his life using the facts that they had been learning over the week.



NURSERY - HENRI MATISSE

During Art Week, children in our Nursery class enjoyed looking at the work of the artist, Henri Matisse. They talked about the shapes and colours that he used in his work and then cut out lots of interesting shapes to create their own artworks inspired by Matisse. They certainly are a very creative bunch!



YEAR 3 - FRIDA KAHLO

During Art Week, Year 3 studied Frida Kahlo. Frida Kahlo was a Mexican painter, who was famous for her self-portraits. The children produced their own self-portraits in the style of Frida Kahlo. The work that they produced was amazing.





SCHOOL UNIFORM

Once again, I need to ask all parents to check the school uniform policy very carefully. Despite many reminders, a number of children are not wearing the correct school uniform.

If your child is not wearing the correct uniform, you will receive a reminder letter and will be expected to send your child in the correct uniform the next day.

The uniform policy clearly states that shoes **MUST** be ALL black and that cycling shorts or leggings must **NOT** be worn for PE. It is also clear that all jumpers and sweatshirts must be navy blue and that hoodies must **NOT** be worn.

RECEPTION STARTING SCHOOL

The children have settled into school so well and have been enjoying exploring their environment, such as playing in our outdoor area and role playing in the home corner. For our 'All About Me' topic, the children have been painting self portraits and making their own faces out of playdough.

What a great start to the year!

Mrs Sorbello-Bali



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Website video filming
Reception at Forest School 9.15-11.30am
Year 1 at Forest School 1:00-3:00pm
MacMillan Coffee Morning and Cake Sale
Y6 Secondary Transfer Meeting
International Evening 3.45-5.30pm
National Poetry Day
Hello Yellow Day and Parents/Carers Coffee Morning 9am
Y6 Awareness Academy
Half-term

Wednesday 27th September
Thursday 28th September
Thursday 28th September
Friday 29th September
Monday 2nd October
Tuesday 3rd October
Thursday 5th October
Tuesday 10th October
Mon 16th & Tues 17th October
Mon 23rd - Fri 27th October