



UPCOMING DATES

- **Tuesday, 15 September:** Year 5 Swimming Starts;
- **Wednesday, 16 September:** Year 2 Group 1 Forest School begins;
- **Monday, 21 September:** PTA AGM at school after school drop off;
- **Friday, 25 September:** Year R Phonics & Reading Session for all Reception parents at 9.15am
- **Friday, 25 September to Tuesday, 29 September:** School Book Fayre after school in the main school hall;
- **Tuesday, 29 September:** KCSP Beginning of the Year Mass at Aylesford Priory for all School Chaplains (letter going out today);
- **Tuesday, 20 October:** Individual/Sibling School Photos;
- **Friday, 23 October:** Harvest Mass at 9.30am;
- **Friday, 23 October:** End of Term 1.

MESSAGE FROM MRS HOLDEN, HEADTEACHER

What a wonderful first week we have enjoyed at St Augustine's. It has been a pleasure to welcome our children and families back to their full school week and to see our classrooms and corridors once again filled with laughter, learning and friendship.

This week's Collective Worship focused on the Sunday Gospel reading: *"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."* As a school family, we reflected on what these words mean for us and our community. Together, we explored our values of Love, Peace and Integrity, discussing how we can be peacemakers when disagreements arise and how we can show kindness, understanding and respect towards one another. The children spoke thoughtfully about the importance of supporting each other and recognising Christ's presence whenever we gather together in prayer, learning and friendship.

To support children in developing positive relationships and making good choices, we have also introduced a Reflection Bench during break and lunch times. The Reflection Bench provides a space for children to pause, reflect and discuss situations that may have occurred during the school day. If there has been a conflict with another child, staff support the children in talking through the situation and exploring ways to resolve it positively. If the reflection relates to a school rule, we discuss the rule with the child and help them understand why it is important for the wellbeing of our whole community. The Reflection Bench is not simply a consequence; it is an opportunity for learning, growth and reconciliation, helping children to develop responsibility, empathy and a deeper understanding of our school values.

On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome Mrs Whittle (CEO) and Mrs Bennett (Director of Primary Education) from our Trust, KCSP. They were highly impressed by the work that has been completed over the summer break and we would like to thank them for their continued support in ensuring that our school was ready to welcome pupils back for the new academic year. During their visit, Mrs Whittle and Mrs Bennett joined us for our first Phase Prayer and Liturgy celebration of the year, where the children reflected on and celebrated the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was a wonderful way to begin the school year together in faith.

We also visited our Reception class, who have settled beautifully into school life. They have shown great enthusiasm and confidence as they begin their journey at St Augustine's. It has been a joy to watch our oldest pupils undertake their role as buddies, demonstrating kindness, responsibility and care as they help our youngest children feel welcome. Their actions are a wonderful example of our school values in action and have ensured that every child feels part of our school family.

One of the many highlights this week was our first school Mass of the academic year, celebrated by Fr Paschal. We were delighted to welcome him to St Augustine's and are grateful for his prayers, guidance and blessing of our school community as we begin the year together in faith. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Mrs Hope and Mrs Liddle for their hard work in planning and preparing such a beautiful celebration. A special word of thanks must also go to our altar servers, readers, those who led the prayers of intercession and the children who took part in the offertory procession. You represented our school community with reverence, confidence and pride.

Finally, I would like to share news of our Prayer Bowl, which was gifted to me during my time serving in the Education Service for the Archdiocese of Southwark. The Prayer Bowl will be placed in the front entrance of the school, and families are warmly invited to place any special intentions or prayers within it. These intentions will be gathered and offered during our forthcoming Harvest Mass on Friday, 23 October at 9.30am.

Thank you for your continued support. The children have made an excellent start to the year and I look forward to all that we will achieve together in the weeks and months ahead.

With every blessing,

Louise Holden
Headteacher





WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

Free School Meals

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Supporting Families at St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Could Your Child Be Eligible for Free School Meals?

Recent changes mean that **more families** receiving Universal Credit **may now qualify** for Free School Meals (FSM).

TARGETED FREE SCHOOL MEALS	EXTENDED FREE SCHOOL MEALS
FROM SEPTEMBER 2026	FROM SEPTEMBER 2026
Your child may be eligible if you:	Your child may also be eligible if you:
- Receive Universal Credit - Have a household income of £7,400 or less per year (excluding benefits)	- Receive Universal Credit - Have a household income above £7,400 per year

WHY APPLY?

Free School Meals can provide:

- A nutritious meal every school day
- Additional funding for the school through the Pupil Premium
- Extra support and opportunities to help your child thrive

APPLY TODAY!

www.kent.gov.uk/free-school-meals

Don't miss out on support your family may be entitled to.

NEED HELP? If you would like help completing an application, please contact the school office.

ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
"Growing Together in Faith, Knowledge and Love"

RECEPTION

In Reception, our pupils have begun to take part in Drawing Club, an approach created by early years educator Greg Bottrill which brings stories and creativity to life.

Our first week's session began with the story 'Not now Bernard'. Following the session, the children created their own Drawing Club adventures, inventing characters, twists and endings through their drawings.

These sessions will also give pupils a meaningful way to apply phonics as they add labels and eventually simple sentences to their work. Above all, Drawing Club builds confidence and a love of storytelling, helping every child feel like an author and illustrator!



PE

Reception St Francis : Friday;
Year 1 St Theresa : Tuesday & Friday;
Year 2 St Bernadette : Wednesday & Thursday;
Year 3 St Peter : Monday & Wednesday;
Year 4 St Paul : Monday & Wednesday;
Year 5 St Luke : Tuesday (Swimming) & Wednesday;
Year 5/6 St Patrick : Tuesday (Year 5 Swimming) & Wednesday;
Year 6 St Mark : Tuesday & Thursday.

YEAR 3

Ties are still available from the school office if you have not already purchased one!

Term 1, Week 2 | Friday, 11 September 2026

SPORTING NEWS



We are delighted to announce that St Augustine's School has achieved the School Games GOLD Mark Award for the 2025/26 academic year!

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

So many of our pupils enjoyed competing in local inter-school competitions last year. We are extremely proud of our all our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs and we are so pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks must go to: Miss Atherton and Mr Beckett for running an incredible PE curriculum and for providing inclusive opportunities to all our pupils in extra-curricular competitions.

Thank you to all those who have volunteered, supported and run clubs throughout the school year.

We look forward to applying once again in 2027!

CLUBS

Dance Club

Don't forget that anyone interested in Dance Club can sign up for a free session that is being held on Thursday, 17 September at 8am in the main school hall.

Please see attached flyer for full information regarding Dance Club during Terms 1 & 2.

PTA NEWS



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School PTA
TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

AGM
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Help shape the PTA!

Come along to hear what we've been up to, share your ideas and help shape the year ahead. It's a great opportunity to meet other parents, get involved and make a real difference in our school community.

ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS
We will be electing new committee members at the AGM, including:

- Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- and other roles!

Interested in joining the committee? Come along and put yourself forward! New ideas and fresh faces are always welcome.

We're delighted that Mrs Holden will be attending our first AGM as our new Head Teacher. This is a great chance to meet her, hear more about her plans for the school and work together for the benefit of our children.

Small contributions make a big difference!

DATE
Monday 21/09/26

TIME
Straight after school

LOCATION
At school (Place TBC)

SUPPORT ♥ FUND ♥ ENRICH
OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Stronger Together



HEADTEACHERS AWARDS

This year, I am delighted to reintroduce the **Headteacher's Award Sticker**. This special award will be presented to children who have demonstrated exceptional effort, behaviour, kindness, resilience or achievement in line with our school values of **Love, Peace and Integrity**. Receiving a Headteacher's Award Sticker is a significant recognition and I look forward to celebrating the many successes of our pupils throughout the year. Whether it is outstanding work in the classroom, showing compassion towards others, acting as a positive role model or going above and beyond in school life, we want to recognise and celebrate those children who make a special contribution to our school community.

I am excited to meet with our award winners each week and share in their achievements. **Congratulations** in advance to the many children who I know will make us proud this year!

Celebration Assembly

Due to our School Mass taking place today, we were unable to hold our usual **Celebration Assembly**. However, we never want to miss an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our children.

Therefore, all children who were due to receive a certificate or special recognition this week will be invited to enjoy a special break time with Mrs Holden on Monday. This will give us the opportunity to celebrate their successes, recognise their hard work and share in their achievements together.

We are incredibly proud of all of our pupils and look forward to continuing to celebrate their efforts, progress and embodiment of our school values throughout the year.

Reception St Francis: Mrs Liddle & Mrs McCarthy

All of St Francis class for an amazing first week; they have all been super stars!

1 St Theresa: Mrs Croker & Mrs Slattery
Lois - for her kindness. She is always helpful and shares love with her friends;
Julia - for super participation in lessons;
Enoch - for sharing excellent ideas in English about the Gingerbread Man.

2 St Bernadette: Miss Atkinson & Mrs Mundy
Finn Clark – who has displayed great integrity in his approach to work and school life. He consistently makes the right choice and is always helpful. His hardworking attitude resulted in a fantastic piece of writing about St Bernadette, demonstrating secure understanding of Bernadette's story and English grammar and punctuation. Well done Finn!

3 St Peter: Mrs Stanbridge
Bobbi-May - for an excellent start to the new school year. Well done for such a positive attitude;
Jaxon - for being a superstar in maths. Well done!
Siddh - for our school value of peace. He has been an excellent role model, showing kindness, responsibility and respect in the classroom.

4 St Paul: Mrs Hope
Filip M - for his fantastic enthusiasm and engagement in Maths;
Hannah - for being a kind friend in supporting others in class;
Asher and Bella-Rose - for making a great start in their new school.

5 St Luke: Mrs Crabb
Loghan - for his positive attitude in his learning this week;
Weronika - for being such a fantastic role model during Mass;
Fatima - for her peaceful presence within the classroom.



ST AUGUSTINE'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
WEEKLY BULLETIN



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Term 1, Week 2 | Friday, 11 September 2026

5/6 St Patrick: Miss Atherton

Ilaria - for settling so wonderfully into our school community;

Daisy - for her determination and focus in each of her lessons;

Delilah - for showing our values of peace, love and integrity in everything that she does!

6 St Mark: Mrs Beckett & Mrs McCarthy

Kash - for working for the common good by being a good role model and helping at lunchtime with the younger children;

Maddison - for her excellent writing about our class Saint in English;

Samuele - for showing integrity around the school every day by looking out for others and working hard.