

St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School

We try to follow Jesus by loving each other and caring for God's world.

NEWSLETTER ~ 15th December 2023



"But someone is coming soon who is more powerful than I am."

John 1:6-8 ~ The Third Sunday of Advent ~ Gaudate Sunday

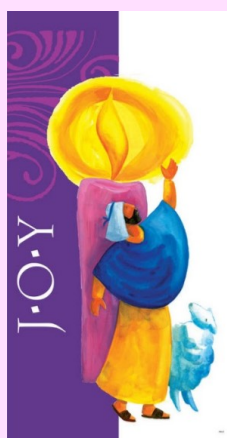
This Sunday we enter the third week of Advent and light the rose coloured, third candle. Our theme is **JOY!** And we rejoice as we draw nearer to the celebration of Christ's coming.

This week, we have much to celebrate and rejoice in. Fantastic Christmas performances from Nursery, Reception classes and KS1. The children enjoyed wearing Christmas jumpers, Christmas dinner and the KS2 Carol Service.

1. What little things have given you great JOY over the past year?

2. What new plans can you make to continue finding JOY over the next year? Maybe learning something new, or a new hobby?

3. How do you plan to share JOY with others over the Christmas period?



KS2 Teaching Changes for Spring Term 2024

We are pleased to confirm the teaching arrangements for the KS2 classes from 4th January 2024.

Zephaniah ~ Ms Porter (full time supply cover for the Spring Term)

Wilson ~ Miss Costello (LKS2 Phase Lead)

Rauf ~ Mr Wicks (full time supply cover for the Spring Term)

We have made arrangements for a smooth transition, and know that these teachers will provide stable consistency until we are able to employ permanent teaching staff.

Thank you again for your patience and support whilst we have made arrangements. We hope you will welcome and support Ms Porter and Mr Wicks when they start in January.



Wednesday Word ~ JOY

Please see the link for this week's edition of the Wednesday Word below.

[Christmas Holiday Special - Magazine - Page 1 \(paperturn-view.com\)](https://www.paperturn-view.com)



St John the Baptist



Catholic Multi Academy Trust



Head Teacher:
Rachel Swindell

Assistant Head:
Amy Casey

Chair of Governors:
Joseph Zammit

Office Team:
Vicki Coates
Bardhe Lleshaj
Lorraine Russell

**19 West End
Old Costessey
Norwich
NR8 5AG**

TEL: 01603 743317

EMAIL: office@st-augustines.norfolk.sch.uk

Website:
www.st-augustines.norfolk.sch.uk

St. Augustine's News

KS1 Christmas Performance

Well done to all the children in KS1: Y1&2 for their fabulous performances this week.

Thank you to our chief photographer, Blake for the stunning photos he took during the performance.



St. Augustine's News

BBC 500 Words Competition

We received some very exciting news this week from the BBC 500 Words competition. We are pleased to announce that the following writers made it through to the next stage of BBC 500 Words.



Congratulations! These are our next stage finalists:

- "Nanny's Magic Mini" by **Amarae ~ Y2 Jeffers**
- "Dinosaur hunt" by **Cobey ~ Y1 Biddulph**
- "Clever Rabbit and the Fearsome Wolf" by **David ~ Y3 Wilson**
- "Thunderpants" by **Ellegra-May ~ Y5 Rosen**
- "Miles Speed" by **Osinachukwu ~ Y2 Jeffers**
- "Alien Story" by **Zachary ~ Y3 Wilson**
- "The boy dragon and the witch" by **Sebastian ~ Y1 Jeffers**

Message from the BBC:

We received thousands of entries and only around 5,000 go through for the second round of judging by the Reading Agency. You should be very proud!

We'll be back in touch with an update when we have selected our shortlisted stories in January.

***Thanks,
BBC 500 Words Team***

After School Camera Club

The school camera club is proving very successful and the budding photographers are full of enthusiasm and creative ideas. Josie Tate, who leads the group said " I'd love to celebrate how amazing they are and how creative they're becoming with their vision....really starting to look beyond the "oh it's just an object sitting there" they're thinking about how they want their pictures to look with different angles/light etc. I'm super proud and they're a joy to be around!"



St. Augustine's Notices

Our Lady and St. Walstan's Roman Catholic Church

Find information about Our Lady and St. Walstan's Catholic church via this website link—[click here](#)

And keep up with events via their weekly newsletter—[click here](#)

Mass times and services—[click here](#)

For More Information contact—**Parish Priest: Fr. David Ward**

The Presbytery, Townhouse Road, Costessey, Norwich. NR8 5AA
Tel: 01603 742812



St Martins Housing Trust Donations

Traditionally after each Christmas Performance we do a collection for a chosen charity. This year, the charity we have chosen is **St. Martin's Housing Trust for the Homeless**.

You can find out more about St. Martin's via their website: <https://stmartinshousing.org.uk/>

Due to our modern cashless society, we have set up an area on WisePay where you add donations, if this is easier.



You will see on the "Home Page" or under the tab called "General Payments" where to make your donation.

Thank you for all your support and generosity at this time of year.
From all at St. Augustine's.

Update Contact Details

In the event of an emergency or accident, the school MUST be able to contact you immediately by telephone, so we need to have the most up-to-date information on our system.

We send out electronic communications from school, but this will only continue to be successful if you notify us when your email address changes.

The Admin team send home Data Collection Sheets for checking and updating on an annual basis, but if any of your details change (address, home telephone, mobile, email etc) during the year, we would welcome an update as soon as possible. Please email office@st-augustines.norfolk.sch.uk with any updates. Thank you for your help with this.



Big Norfolk Holiday Programme

Big Norfolk will be running football activities as a provider for the Big Norfolk Holiday Programme this Christmas. The activities are FREE for any families with children eligible for free school meals. If you are interested in signing your child up for this, please follow the booking link below.

[Big Norfolk Holiday Fun Programme - Football Coaching Norfolk - Sports Academy Norwich \(pavfunballacademy.co.uk\)](#)



For families with children who may be interested in a variety of activities, not just football, they can visit: [Home | EveryMove](#)

Your child's wellbeing

1. Do you have concerns about your child's health and wellbeing?
2. Has your child experienced a difficult situation which they have found difficult to cope with?
3. Has something happened in the past or recently to unsettle your child, for example bereavement, a family separation, or violence?

We encourage you to report any concerns or difficulties to us, so we can help your child to feel safe and supported.

Please let us know your concerns by filling in this form, or having a chat with your child's class teacher. Thank you.

[Parent Form: report wellbeing concerns](#)



Increase in the cost of School Meals

We have been informed by Aspens that due to the cost of living increases, and wages, they are going to have to increase the price of the school meals from £2:40 to £2:53. **These price increases will take effect from 1st January 2024.**

Healthy school meals, cooked on the premises, are available each day. There is a three weekly rolling menu detailing each day's main course and dessert. We also offer a vegetarian option, jacket potato, pasta or a packed lunch option as main course.



The Government have continued to support the Universal Infant Free School meals project and this means that all of the children, from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can be provided with a school meal free of charge. However it is worth checking if your child is eligible for Free School Meals even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, we will receive extra funding if your child is eligible.

If your child is in Years 3-6, they can also have a free school meal if you are in receipt of certain benefits, you will need your National Insurance number to hand and your child's date of birth.

If your child is not receiving free school meals at the moment and you think you may be eligible – apply now! Please do not reapply if you are already receiving FSM.

Parents can apply for free school meals via the following link. [Free school meals - Norfolk County Council](#)

KS1 and KS2 After School Clubs Spring First Half Term 2024

After School Clubs for the Spring Term are now on WisePay. If your child attends a club already you will still need to sign them up and rebook as they are only open for each half term.

KS1 and KS2: PE Kits should be brought to school at the start of the day, so the children can change before the club starts. Children will need to be collected from the Lower Playground at 4:15pm

All clubs run from 3:15pm until 4:15pm.

Monday	Art Club	Reception, KS1 and KS2
Tuesday	Dodgeball	
Wednesday	Basketball	
Thursday	Football	
Friday	Football	





Key Stage 1 African Drumming

Music Clubs

KS1 West African Drumming
Delivered by Norfolk Music Service
(£2.10 per session*)

Thursday after school: 3.30pm-4.15pm

- Dependent on uptake. £2.10 based on 20 children in class. Cost could rise to £4.40 per session.

Dates



2023 / 2024	School Closes (Last day children attend school)	School Opens (First day children come back)
Christmas Holidays 2023	Wednesday 20th December 2023 School finishes at 1:30pm	Thursday 4th January 2024
Spring Half Term 2024	Friday 16th February 2024	Monday 26th February 2024
Easter Holidays 2024	Wednesday 27th March 2024 School finishes at 1:30pm	Monday 15th April 2024
May Bank Holiday	Monday 6th May 2024	Tuesday 7th May 2024
Summer Half Term 2024	Friday 24th May 2024	Monday 3rd June 2024
Summer Holidays 2024	Friday 19th July 2024 School finishes at 1:30pm	- - -

Event	Date
Reception Visit Vision and Hearing Screening	Monday 29th January 2024
Reception Visit Vision and Hearing Screening	Tuesday 30th January 2024
Shrove Tuesday	Tuesday 13th February 2024
Ash Wednesday (Day of Fasting and Abstinence)	Wednesday 14th February 2024
Year 6 SATs Week	Monday 13th May 2024
Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check Week 1	Monday 3rd June 2024
Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week	Monday 10th June 2024
Year 4 Multiplications Tables Check Week 2	Monday 10th June 2024
School Class Photos	Wednesday 19th June 2024

Contact Us ~ During term time, our school office is open from 8:30am-4:00pm.

Our Office Team: Vicki Coates, Bardhe Lleshaj, Lorraine Russell

Telephone: 01603 743317

Email: office@st-augustines.norfolk.sch.uk

Website: www.st-augustines.norfolk.sch.uk

Warning ~ DO NOT REPLY to emails sent from:

