St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School

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

Wisdom, Love, Might, Let there be Light!

NEWSLETTER ~ 5th December 2025



"Repent, change your ways; for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand."

Matthew 3: 1-12 ~ Second Sunday of Advent: LOVE

This week, we have been preparing for Christmas by decorating the school ready for the Christmas Bazaar and rehearsing songs and lines for Christmas performances.



But during all these preparations we need to keep in mind the real reason for celebrating Christmas.

KS2 prepared their souls and minds this Advent, by celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation today. Our children have reflected on their mistakes and thought of ways to restore **LOVE** in their lives by saying sorry and demonstrating this in their actions.

1 ~ What are you doing to prepare for Christmas?
2 ~ How are you helping others this Christmas?
3 ~ How are you mending any mistakes you have made this year?



FOSA & St. Walstan's Parish...

Christmas Bazaar



Saturday 6th December from 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Please come along and enjoy festive games, activities and stalls selling a variety of crafts, food treats, toys and bric 'a' brac.

If you can help on a stall (even for half and hour), please let FOSA know. Details on the FOSA page.



Heart of Gold Award

The 'Heart of Gold' Award acknowledges the outstanding kindness and thoughtfulness of our children.

This week the award goes to:

Anna ~ Wilson



Wednesday Word ~ PREPARATIONS

Buying presents, decorations and planning our Christmas meal are all good ways of preparing for Christmas. But through all these preparations we do need to keep in mind the real reason for all these festivities. It's important that we spend some time preparing ourselves too.

Please see the link for this week's edition of the *Wednesday Word*: click here





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freepik.com

St. Augustine's News



Rudolph Run ~ Thank you for your generosity!

The children were amazing, running off their energy for charity yesterday.

Thank you for your generous donations. We will share the total shortly when all donations have been sent in.

Deadline for donations and sponsor forms: **Friday 12th December 2025**









Ongoing Reminder of the Parking Rules

- **Do not park in the staff car park**
- **Park safely and legally**
- **Some spaces available at Our Lady & St. Walstan's Catholic Church car park**
- **Some spaces may be available at The Costessey Centre car park**
- **Do not park on Cleves Way or Husenbeth Close**
- **Park and Stride ~ Park 10 minutes walk away and stroll the rest of the journey**
- **Consider biking, scootering or walking if you can**



St. Augustine's Notices

Christmas Post Box

The School Christmas Post Box is open from

Monday 8th December
to
Wednesday 17th December!

Children can post their festive cards over the next two weeks.



Please make sure every card clearly includes the

NAME & CLASS

so we can ensure they reach the right person.

Spread some holiday cheer and get posting!

School Choir Advent Performances

The School Choir will be performing at their usual events this Advent season.

17th December 2025 at 2:00pm
Costessey Baptist Church

We would like to invite you to attend this performance, as there is much more room in the Baptist church for this concert than there is at St. Walstan's for the Carol Service.

Please also bring your singing voices, for audience participation! .



Knights of Saint Colomba
Nativity Scene Painting Competition

Two competitions:
Infants ~ KS1: Y1, Y2 (ages 5-7 yrs)
Juniors ~ KS2: Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 (ages 7-11 yrs)

Painting competition rules:

- Must be a painting
- Must be a scene from the Nativity story
- Free hand drawing (no tracing)
- Paper size A4-A3 on own choice of paper
- Must include the Bible Chapter & Verse (written within the painting or on the back)



Deadline:
Monday 15th December 2025

Cash prizes for the winners!

The Big Norfolk Holiday Fun

The Big Norfolk Holiday Fun (BNHF) activity programme provides holiday activities for children and young people aged 5-16 (or 4 if your child is in reception) in Norfolk.

The UK Government's funding for the programme has been extended for a further 3 years, after 5 initial years of their support.

Children who receive benefits-related free school meals can claim free spaces on the activities, whilst paid spots are available on many activities for those who don't.

If you feel your child/ren could benefit from a free place but are NOT entitled to Free School Meals, please contact us to discuss applying for an Awarded Place. More info on this CLICK HERE

Find out more about this in Active Norfolk's FAQ section.

Big Norfolk Holiday Fun

freepik.com

FOSA News

Please contact Louise Dhorajiwala, FOSA Secretary, on 07743 863675 if you would like to join the FOSA events helpers WhatsApp group.

We have also set up a FOSA Facebook Page where we hope to advertise all events and share upcoming information.
https://www.facebook.com/groups/8171783059576512/

FOSA need ad-hoc volunteers for upcoming events. You will only ever be needed for part of an event to enable you to enjoy the event with your family! To put your name on the volunteer list please contact Louise on: 07743863675.

Christmas Cracker SOS!

We need children's crackers to make our school dinner extra snappy!
Donations welcome and can be dropped off at the school office.

Big thanks!

Christmas Dinner Date:
Wednesday 17th December 2025
Last week of term





Next FOSA Meetings:

Thursday 22nd January 2026 at 6:00pm

Thursday 26th February 2026 at 6:00pm

Cake Bakes Donations

There will be a cake sale on Friday 12th December.

If you can donate any cakes/biscuits for this event we would very grateful.

Any donations can be brought to the school office on the morning of the event.



St. Augustine's Notices

Volunteers Sought to Support School Admission Appeals

The Diocese of East Anglia Schools' Service is seeking volunteers to serve as school admission appeals panel members, helping ensure parents' rights are upheld when a child is not offered a place at their preferred Catholic school.

Panel members play a vital role in considering cases where parents wish to challenge a refusal of admission. Each hearing typically lasts between 20 and 30 minutes, although some may take longer depending on their complexity. During the busy summer term, multiple appeals may be scheduled on the same day, and volunteers may occasionally be asked to sit for two or even three consecutive days. Importantly, panel members are always able to decide their own availability, making this a flexible opportunity suited to those available during school hours.

Appeals may be heard in person or via video conferencing, and volunteers can express a preference for the type of hearings they are comfortable with. All panel members will receive training from the Diocese.

To ensure a balanced and fair process, each panel is made up of both lay members, people without professional involvement in education, and education members, people with experience working in or understanding schools. Individuals cannot sit on panels for schools with which they have a personal connection, for example being a parent, governor or staff member.

Anyone interested in volunteering or finding out more is invited to contact:

Helen Bates ~ Assistant Director (Schools' Service)
Diocese of East Anglia,
21 Upgate,
Poringland,
Norwich.
NR14 7SH

Email: ssc@rcdea.org.uk or Telephone: 01508 495509

Join the movement → www.smartphonefreechildhood.org

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xsw9HdM_MZw

We want to support a global community of families delaying smartphones — and this video is made to help spark those conversations with children.

It's fast, fun, and full of the big ideas:

- How smartphones changed the world
- How they're designed to grab your attention
- The hidden superpowers you unlock by waiting
- Real teens on why smartphones aren't all they're cracked up to be



Watch it together – it's short, fun, and the perfect way to spark the conversations kids really need.

Further information can be found here:
https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/

If you are interested in starting a group to co-ordinate with parents, then please find the Norfolk Smartphone Free Childhood page **here**

St. Augustine's Dates

2025 / 2026	School Closes (Last day children attend school)	School Opens (First day children come back)
Christmas Holidays 2025	Friday 19th December 2025 **School finishes at 1:30pm**	Tuesday 6th January 2026
Spring Half Term 2026	Friday 13th February 2026	Monday 23rd February 2026
Easter Holidays 2026	Friday 27th March 2026 **School finishes at 1:30pm**	Monday 13th April 2026
Summer Half Term 2026	Friday 22nd May 2026	Monday 1st June 2026
Summer Holidays 2026	Friday 17th July 2026 **School finishes at 1:30pm**	---

EVENT	DATE and TIME
Parish Christmas Bazaar at St. Augustine's	**Saturday 06/12/2025 from 14:00-16:00**
KS1: Y1&2 Christmas Performances in school hall ****Tickets available on WisePay****	**Tuesday 09/12/2025 at 09:30** **Wednesday 10/12/2025 at 14:00**
Nursery Nativity Performance in Nursery classroom	**Tuesday 09/12/2025 at 11:00**
Rec Nativity Performances in school hall ****Tickets available on WisePay****	**Tuesday 09/12/2025 at 14:00** **Thursday 11/12/2025 at 14:00**
Y5 trip to see Charlie & the Chocolate Factory at Ormiston Victory Academy	**Wednesday 10/12/2025 at 09:00**
Choir Performance at Gray Fairs Court	**Thursday 11/12/2025**
KS2 Advent Carol Service at St. Walstan's *Families and Friends welcome*	**Friday 12/12/2025 at 14:00**
Choir Performance at Costessey Baptist Church *Families and Friends welcome*	**Wednesday 17/12/2025 at 10:00**
Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day	**Wednesday 17/12/2025**
LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM **SCHOOL CLOSES AT 1:30pm**	**Friday 19/12/2025**

St. Augustine's Family Prayer Group ~ Every Month from 2:00pm-3:00pm

All families of St. Augustine's are invited to attend a parent and guardian led prayer session. Prayer sessions aim to provide an opportunity for stillness and reflection, followed by tea and coffee and a chance to meet other families.

Any questions, please contact Gabriella: g.notaricosta@gmail.com

Next Prayer Meeting Date:

Monday 12th January 2026 at 2:00pm

