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 ~ 19th December 2025

Spring Term Starts ~ Tuesday 6th January 2026



"You must name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." **Matthew 1:18-24 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent: PEACE**

THANK YOU for all the generosity and kindness you have shown our families, communities and staff this term. You have generously donated for our whole school fundraisers and shared gifts with our staff. We truly appreciate this.



We wish all our St. Augustine's Families
a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!

This coming 3rd Sunday of Advent we focus on the word **PEACE**. 'Promoting Peace' is one of our Catholic Social Teachings (CST). Peace is not just the absence of war. It is part of God's nature, and a value we should all seek to live out in our daily lives, and especially during the Christmas holiday season.



1 ~ Think of all the ways, you have noticed, where people have shared and created PEACE?
2 ~ In what other ways can you find PEACE in your life?
3 ~ What words and actions help you to spread PEACE to others?

Good Bye and Good Luck Miss Foster!



We wish Miss Foster all the best as she begins a new year travelling to adventurous countries abroad.

After Christmas, we welcome Miss Parr as the new class teacher for Morpurgo.

Heart of Gold Award

The 'Heart of Gold' Award acknowledges the outstanding kindness and thoughtfulness of our children.
Anyone can nominate a Heart of Gold, so please let us know if you think someone really deserves the praise.

This week the award goes to:
Anish ~ Rossetti



Wednesday Word ~ MARY

The Gospel tells us something about Mary who was chosen by God to be the mother of HIS Son, Jesus (the name 'Jesus' means, "the LORD saves").

Please see the link for this half term's *Wednesday Word* **Christmas Holiday Booklet**: click here





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St. Augustine's News

Advent Festive Season

We ended this term with more wonderful seasonal festivities.

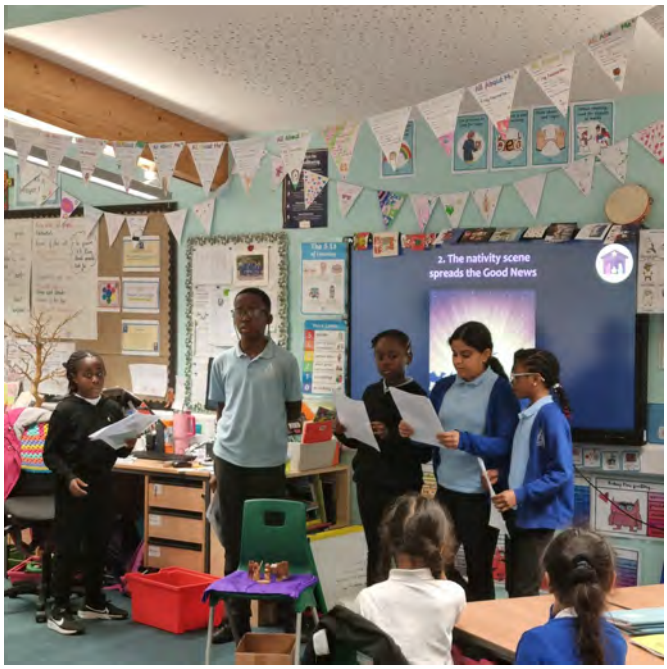
Choir Carols at Costessey Baptist Church

This week our School Chaplains visited each class to share the nativity story using a traditional crib. They shared facts from Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter "Admirabile signum" of the nativity scene (1 December 2019).

It was impressive to see our chaplains lead others in the school to reflect and celebrate the true meaning of the Christmas story. Our chaplains supported each other, and evaluated on their own teaching skills and practice to improve each session.









St. Augustine's News

Attendance Awards

Each half term we celebrate the attendance of the best two classes in the school with our 1st Place Pig and 2nd Place Sheep awards.

Congratulations our two class winners!



1st Place Pig Award: UKS2 Rosen Class ***(96.16%)***



2nd Place Sheep: LKS2 Rauf Class ***(96.15%)***

House Points

1st Place: Bethlehem with 1761 points

2nd Place: Jerusalem with 1725 points

3rd Place: Galilee with 1676 points

4th Place: Nazareth with 1622 points

Choir Carols at Costessey Baptist Church

Continuing our annual tradition, the school choir visited one of our local neighbourhood churches, the Costessey Baptist Church. Members of our own parish, and our wider Christian community, sang together and shared each other's hospitality.

We would like to thank Costessey Baptist Church for hosting our carol concert, and all the audience members that attended and joined in with our seasonal songs of praise.



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St. Augustine's News

Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

The children looked fantastic in their Christmas jumpers and enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner together. There was plenty of music, games, and laughter – a truly joyful day for everyone!

Thank you to FOSA for arranging and providing every child with a Christmas cracker.













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St. Augustine's News









Eco Warriors

This week, Eco Warriors have finished their project of building a bug hotel in the Eco area. They have enjoyed writing a letter to Winbirri Vineyard to ask for sticks and loved putting them in the bug hotel!

Well done Eco Warriors!



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.



Next FOSA Meetings:

Thursday 22nd January 2026 at 6:00pm

Thursday 26th February 2026 at 6:00pm

St. Martins Homeless Shelter Donations

This year, we are proud to support St. Martin's Homeless Shelter as our chosen charity.

Donations can be made via WisePay: On your child's homepage, please click onto General Payments to make the donation

Your donation will help provide essential support and resources to those experiencing homelessness, giving them the opportunity to build a better life in Norwich and Norfolk.

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Services to support over Christmas



We understand that times can be challenging, and we want to ensure you know about the support available for families in our community. If you or someone you know needs help, please see the following resources:

Financial Support & Food Parcels
If you are experiencing financial hardship, need food parcels, or have concerns about debt, please visit:
https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/41087/Contact-Family-Hubs

Concerns About a Child or Family Support
If you have any worries about a child or need immediate family support, you can contact:
Children's Advice and Duty Service (CADS) Norfolk County Council | Norfolk Community Directory

Health Advice for Children and Families
For general health advice and support for children and families, please visit:
Health Advice & Support for Children & Families

Domestic Violence Support
If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic abuse, help is available through:
Leeway Domestic Violence and Abuse Services

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need any assistance.

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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

IMPORTANT: Please Check Our School Emails – Stay Informed!

We want to remind you how important it is to read the emails we send out. These messages often include key information about upcoming events, important dates, changes to schedules, and updates that help keep everything running smoothly for your child.

By checking your emails regularly, you'll ensure you don't miss out on:

- **Important notices** about school activities and trips
- **Reminders** for deadlines and forms
- **Updates** on policies and procedures



Your engagement helps us work together to support your child's learning and wellbeing. Thank you for staying connected!

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**.

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
KS2 Epiphany Mass at St. Walstan's Families and Friends Welcome	**9:30am Tuesday 6th January 2026**

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

New Art and Crafts Club

Day Time	Club	Provider	Information
Monday 3:15~4:15pm	Football	Pav's Team	Great for teamwork, coordination and fitness.
Tuesday 3:15~4:15pm	Dodgeball	Pav's Team	Fun, energetic, and great for reflexes and teamwork.
Wednesday 3:15~4:15pm	Mini Makers Art & Craft Club	Madison	Children will explore exciting art and craft projects, learn new skills, and let their imaginations run wild.
Thursday 3:15~4:15pm	Football	Pav's Team	Great for teamwork, coordination and fitness.
Friday 3:15-4:15pm	Girls Football	Pav's Team	Great for teamwork, coordination and fitness.

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Thank you for your support

To ST AUGUSTINE'S V.A.

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Your collection total £430.80p

District total £20,922.70p.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION