ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY BULLETIN

Tel 01892 529796
www.st-augustines.kent.sch.uk
office@st-augustines.kent.sch.uk

Term 1, Week 8 | Friday, 23 October 2026

UPCOMING DATES

- **Friday, 23 October:** End of Term 1;
- **Monday, 2 November:** Start of Term 2;
- **Monday, 2 November:** Deadline for Secondary School Applications (Year 6 parents);
- **Tuesday, 3 November:** Parent Consultations in the main school hall from 4.00 to 6.30pm;
- **Thursday, 5 November:** Parent Consultations in the main school hall from 4.00 to 6.30pm;
- **Friday, 13 November:** PTA Light Party (details to follow);
- **Monday, 16 November:** Odd Socks for Anti Bullying Week (details to follow);
- **Year R & Year 6:** NCMP (details sent to parents in September);
- **Tuesday, 8 December:** Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity Production to Parents at 9.30am;
- **Wednesday, 9 December:** Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 Nativity Production to Parents at 2.15pm;
- **Friday, 11 December:** PTA Christmas Market;
- **Friday, 18 December:** School Carol Service at 9.15am (all parents welcome to attend);
- **Friday, 18 December:** End of Term;
- **Monday, 4 January:** Start of Term 3;
- **Friday, 15 January:** Applications for Reception September 2027 Close.

Attendance Data for Term 1 (Thursday, 3 September 2026 – Friday, 23 October 2026)

Class	Attendance
R St Francis	94.1%
1 St Theresa	96.1%
2 St Bernadette	96.8%
3 St Peter	93.3%
4 St Paul	97.2%
5 St Luke	98.2%
5/6 St Patrick	96.9%
6 St Mark	96.5%

Congratulations and well done to **St Patrick** as the class with best attendance this term!

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful first half term we have enjoyed at St Augustine's! It has been a busy few weeks, filled with learning, laughter and many special moments. It has been a real pleasure getting to know our children and families and I am incredibly proud of the **love, peacefulness and integrity** I see modelled throughout our classrooms and corridors each day. Your children are a real credit to you and it is a privilege to serve as their Headteacher.

Harvest Mass – A Heartfelt Thank You!
Today, we came together as a school community for our Harvest Mass beautifully celebrated by **Fr Pascal**. A special thank you to Fr Pascal for leading us in prayer and helping us reflect on the importance of gratitude, generosity and caring for others. What a meaningful way to bring our first half term to a close!

I would like to extend an enormous thank you to all our families for the incredible generosity you have shown through your Harvest donations. Your kindness has been truly heartwarming and reflects the wonderful community we share at St Augustine's. All donations were collected by **Nourish today**, where they will help support local families in need.

A very special thank you to our fantastic Year 3 and 4 **Pupil Chaplains**, who helped ensure everything was carefully packed and ready to be sent. Their willingness to help was a lovely example of our faith in action.

Through your generosity, our children have seen our Catholic Social Teaching principle of the *Preferential Option for the Poor* brought to life.

Thank you to every family who contributed. Together, we really can make a difference!

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Arbor
This year we have been using a new system in school which manages your child's information called ARBOR. We will also soon be using ARBOR as the platform for sending emails and messages to parents and eventually allowing you to book your child's clubs, parent consultations, trips etc, as well as view their attendance and other data.

It is therefore important that all parents sign up for access to the ARBOR parent portal. Please check your inbox (or junk/spam folder) for a welcome email from ARBOR. Alternatively, you can access the portal through this link https://login.arbor.sc and click **Forgot your password?** to finish setting up your account using your email address which is registered with the school as your username.

After you have set up your ARBOR account, you can also download the ARBOR app which will allow you to access information quickly and to receive in-app messages from school.

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

Medication
We have been looking through our medical boxes today and we are sending home all medication for children with a school care plan. Please can you check (where applicable) and send in the medication your child/children require on the first day back after half term (Monday, 2 November).

Black History Month
Throughout October, we have recognised Black History Month, celebrating the achievements, contributions and stories of Black people past and present.

As a Catholic school, we remind our children that everyone is created in the image and likeness of God. Celebrating diversity, showing respect and ensuring everyone feels valued are important parts of our school life, not just during October but throughout the year.

Children's Choice Award
This afternoon we celebrated the Children's Choice Award. What makes this award particularly special is that our children choose their classmates who demonstrate our school values of **Love, Peace and Integrity.**

Whether through friendship, kindness or simply making someone smile, it is lovely to see our children recognising the good in one another. Congratulations to all our recipients – you should be very proud!

Open Mornings Continue
It was lovely to welcome prospective families to our Open Morning this week and share what makes St Augustine's such a special place.

Our tours will continue throughout November and December. If you know families looking for a Reception place for September 2027, please encourage them to visit us.

Further information and booking details can be found on our school website and school facebook page. Please follow and share,

Parents' Evenings – Next Term
Thank you to everyone who has already booked an appointment for our Parents' Evenings next term.

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If you haven't yet managed to book, please email the school office, and we will be happy to share the remaining available appointment slots.

We look forward to meeting with you and celebrating your child's progress.

Looking Ahead to Next Term
As you will see from our key dates, we have another wonderful term ahead, with plenty of exciting opportunities, celebrations and special moments planned for our children and staff.

All Saints Light Party – Friday, 13 November
We are looking forward to our **All Saints Light Party**, kindly organised by our wonderful PTA. Children are invited to enjoy an evening of saint inspired activities, games, music and fun as we celebrate our faith together. **Please save the date and see the newsletter for further details!**

Half Term Poppy Making Challenge – Lest We Forget
You will find below our **Poppy Making Challenge**, which we hope all our children will enjoy taking part in over half term. Our aim is to bring together the children's wonderful creations in a special whole school display as we prepare to mark Remembrance Day. This will be a meaningful opportunity for our school community to come together in remembrance, honouring those who have sacrificed so much for the peace we enjoy today.

Please bring your poppies into school on **Monday, 2 November**. We cannot wait to see your creations and bring them together in a beautiful display of remembrance. *Lest We Forget.*



October – Month of the Holy Rosary
October has also been a special month of prayer. I particularly enjoyed joining Years 1 and 2 for their virtual Rosary led by Archbishop John Wilson. It was a lovely opportunity to come together in faith and reflection.

Wishing You a Lovely Half Term
As we finish for the holiday, I would like to thank our dedicated staff for their hard work and care and our families for your continued encouragement and support.
Most importantly, thank you to our wonderful children for the smiles, conversations and joy you bring to St Augustine's each day. Seeing you and your children on the gate each morning and evening is one of the best parts of my job. Thank you all for the warm welcome and your support I really appreciate each and every one of you.

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I hope you all enjoy a restful half term with time to relax and make special memories together.

May God bless you and your families and keep you safe until we return.

With warmest wishes and prayers,

Mrs Louise Holden
Headteacher

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

Safeguarding

If you're worried about a child or would like some family support, please contact one of our Safeguarding Team:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):

Judith Taylor : senco@st-augustines-tunbridgwells.kcsp.org.uk

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL):

- Louise Holden : headteacher@st-augustines-tunbridgewells.kcsp.org.uk
- Katrina Liddle;
- Candice Beckett.

Prospective Parent Viewings - Reception September 2027

We have started our prospective parent viewings for Reception September 2027! If you, or anyone you know, would like to make a booking please contact the school office. The dates are as follows:

TUESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER AT 9.30AM;
THURSDAY, 5 NOVEMBER AT 9.30AM;
TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER AT 9.30AM;
THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER AT 9.30AM;
TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER AT 9.30AM;
THURSDAY, 19 NOVEMBER AT 9.30AM;
TUESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER AT 9.30AM;
THURSDAY, 26 NOVEMBER AT 9.30AM;
TUESDAY, 1 DECEMBER AT 9.30AM;
THURSDAY, 3 DECEMBER AT 9.30AM.

Application for Secondary School – September 2027

Online applications are now open and **will close on Monday 2 November 2026.** Applications can be made at : www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions. If you are unable to access the online site, an alternative format can be requested by emailing : kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk.

Application for Primary School – September 2027

Online applications open on Friday, 6 November and **will close at midnight on Friday, 15 January 2027**. Applications can be made at: www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

EDEN CLUB

Bookings are now closed for Term 2! All bookings received have been processed and confirmation sent out to parents.

Our wraparound care provision (Eden Club) for parents takes place Monday to Friday during term time before and after school.

Eden Breakfast Club opens at 7.30am until the start of the school day and Eden After School Club runs until 6pm.

Breakfast Club costs £7 per session and includes a light breakfast. After School Club costs £15 and includes a light supper.

PTA NEWS

All Saints Lights Party – Save the Date!

We are excited to announce our All Saints Lights Party which will take place on **Friday, 13 November!** This will be afterschool and all year groups are welcome! More details to follow.

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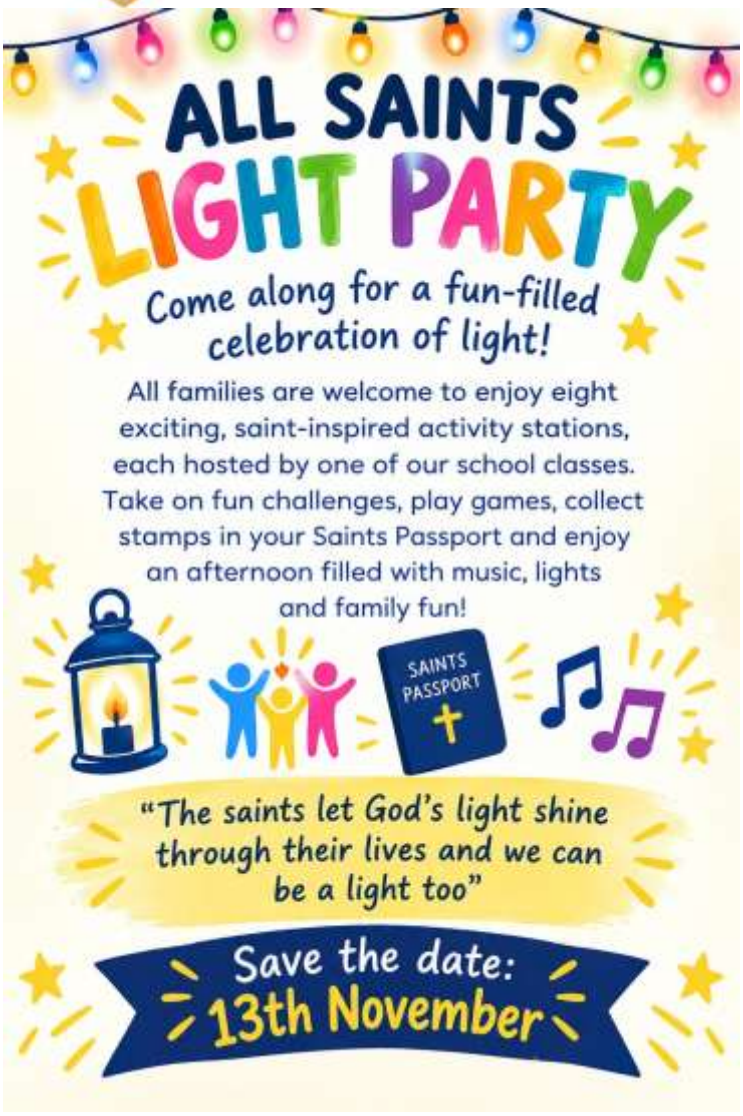

Keeping Our Children Safe – Hi-Vis Jackets & Fundraising

The first fundraising on the agenda for this year will be focused on Hi-Vis jackets to ensure the safety of the children when they leave the school site. We will also be aiming to raise funds for a new surround system to replace the current broken one in the hall. This will enhance assemblies, performances and other school events, benefiting all children across the school.

Class Representatives Wanted

The call for class reps is still open for **St. Francis, St. Theresa, St. Peter, St. Paul and St. Mark.**

Please contact us at ptaaugustines@gmail.com or speak to one of the PTA team on the playground if you are interested.

ST AUGUSTINE'S PTA

Welcome to a new school year!

Our PTA website is where you can find upcoming fundraising events, sign up to volunteer and access our second-hand uniform shop.

Please take a few minutes to register or update your children's classes so you receive the relevant PTA updates.

New to the school?

1. Visit www.pta-events.co.uk/staugustines
2. Register your details, including your name, email address and your child's name and class. You only need to add one child at this stage.
3. Go to **My Account → Class Mailing Lists**.
4. Select **'click here'** to register your child for the relevant class mailing list, entering the class password below.
5. Repeat step 4 for any additional children.

Already registered?

1. Go to **My Account → Class Mailing Lists**.
2. Click on your child's name and select their new class.
3. Enter the relevant class password below.
4. Repeat for each child.

Class passwords

Class	Password
St Francis	1francis
St Theresa	1theresa
St Bernadette	2bernadette
St Peter	3peter
St Paul	4paul
St Luke	5luke
St Mark	6mark
St Patrick	56patrick

If you have any questions, please message us or email ptaaugustines@gmail.com.

Thank you for your time and support!

Kind regards,
The PTA

See you after half term!

The PTA Team

CHILDREN'S CHOICE

Reception St Francis: Mrs Liddle & Mrs McCarthy
Delilah - for being a great friend;
Ayi - for being a kind friend.

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1 St Theresa: Mrs Croker & Mrs Slattery
Enoch - for being a happy and kind member of the class;
Daisy - for being a kind friend and helpful person.

2 St Bernadette: Miss Atkinson & Mrs Mundy
Eliana - the class said "she is a great friend" and "she helps me when I am upset";
Lucas - the class said "he always tries to do the right thing" and "he is a great friend and fun to play with."

3 St Peter: Mrs Stanbridge
Nihal - for being a kind and caring friend;
Klarisa - for always having a smile.

4 St Paul: Mrs Hope
Freddie - because he always works hard and makes his friends laugh;
Billie-May - because she is a great friend and always helps others.

5 St Luke: Mrs Crabb
Evie Woodcock – because she is always on task, she works quietly, considers others and makes great contributions in class;
Reggie Brown – because he is a great listener; he follows instructions carefully and brings peace and integrity into our classroom on a daily basis.

5/6 St Patrick: Miss Atherton
Freddie:

- For always being a good friend;
- For always trying his best with his behaviour and for being funny;
- For always being funny, sharing with people, making people happy and filled with laughter;
- For always being focused and working hard.

Callista:

- For being a really nice person to talk to and she's kind;
- She is really sweet and loving and is always nice to others;
- She always helps to tidy the classroom;
- She is kind-hearted, imaginative and amazing at art. She is a friend anyone would wish for.

6 St Mark: Mrs Beckett & Mrs McCarthy
George - for his cheerful nature and calm attitude;
Darcy - for being a lovely calm member of the class.