



St Augustine's Academy Newsletter

11th October 2019



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,



It has been another busy week at our school. We were delighted to take part in an afternoon service at St Augustine's Church for our Year 3 and 4 children, their parents, carers and staff. The theme of the service was 'Courage' and children led the prayers and readings and everyone had the chance to reflect on a personal fear. We were then able to take a paper flame, with the words, "Don't be afraid. My love is stronger than your fear," written on it to remind us that God is with us.

It was also exciting to use the new Projector screen that was provided to the school and church following a grant application to the Diocese of St Albans. The screen makes it so much easier for those attending the church to read words to hymns and watch video clips and slide show. We would like to thank the diocese for awarding the funding.

The weather is turning wetter and colder now but the outside area continues to be used well by pupils in Early Years, Years 1 and Year 2. EYFS enjoy regular Forest School, Year 1 have been on a tree hunt and Year 2 have been creating artwork in the style of Andy Goldsworthy. Please make sure that children come to school with warm coats and good school shoes. Remember, boots must not be worn during the school day. Children may wear boots to school in wet weather and then change into school shoes upon arrival at school.

We hope you all have an enjoyable weekend.

Amanda Howes - Headteacher

Health and Well-being



The whole school was involved in celebrating World Mental Health Day this week.

Children wore mufti to school and took part in a range of activities in class. They also had the chance to use the Photo Booth masks and callouts which made us laugh.

Even our vicar and PTFA wore Mental Health stickers, showing that Health and Well-being is important to our whole school community.

Attendance

Our attendance for this academic year is...



97.08%



Raising attendance continues to be a top priority at our school. We aim to continue to beat the National Average and achieve a minimum of 96% attendance.

The whole school community is working hard to maintain good attendance levels; we value every second our children spend learning and understand the impact it has on their achievement.

Our class attendance figures for this week are:

Reception – 96.44%	
Year 1 – 96.43%	Year 2 – 99.31%
Year 3 – 97.67%	Year 4 – 99.64%
Year 5 – 91.25%	Year 6 – 95.42%

Year 4 were our attendance bear winners and Years 2 and 4 receive a Mufti Day for 99+%. 😊

'Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.' Matthew 5:16



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Friendly Football Match

St Augustine's
V
Lancot



Saturday 12th October
9:30am – Kickoff at St Augustine's Academy
(PTFA Providing Refreshments)
Come along and support our team!

Open Training Session
Wednesday 30th October – 3:20pm – 4:30pm
Watch Year 2 and 3 train
(PTFA Providing Refreshments)

Harvest Festival



Harvest Festival

2:30pm – Wednesday 16th October

Parents and Carers are welcome to attend

As part of our harvest preparations, you are invited to donate non-perishable food items, which will be given to the community Foodbank. These items may be brought into school from Monday morning so that a Harvest Festival display can be arranged.

Many thanks, in advance, for your kindness and support.

School Jotter App

Your school has the School Jotter app!
Check it out!

Why should I download the app?

This innovative app keeps parents engaged by sending all the essential information straight to your phone. You will have access to regularly updated information:



Everything in one app!

How do I download the app?

Android users

Go to Google Play, search for **School Jotter** or scan the QR code.



iOS users

Go to App Store and search for **School Jotter** or scan the QR code.



Curriculum



At St Augustine's, we tailor the Curriculum to the changing needs of our pupils. A number of our older pupils have recently talked to staff about difficulties that they are facing as their bodies are changing. As a result of this, after half term our year 6 pupils will take part in a series of lessons from the Dove Self-Esteem Project, covering key topics that we know have an impact on young peoples' self-esteem and body confidence e.g. media, peer and cultural pressures, teasing and bullying about appearance. We hope that these sessions will empower our children to embrace the changes that they are facing.

Celebrations

Well Done to the following children.

★Star of the Week ★

Reception - David
Year 1 – Kenzie
Year 2 – Stephen
Year 3 – Elise
Year 4 – Peyton
Year 5 – Lillyanna
Year 6 – Ellie

😊 'SELF' Pupil of the Week 😊

Reception – Diana
Year 1 – Hayden
Year 2 – Khalidah
Year 3 – Zuzanna
Year 4 – Summer
Year 5 – Kayla
Year 6 – Kaitlyn

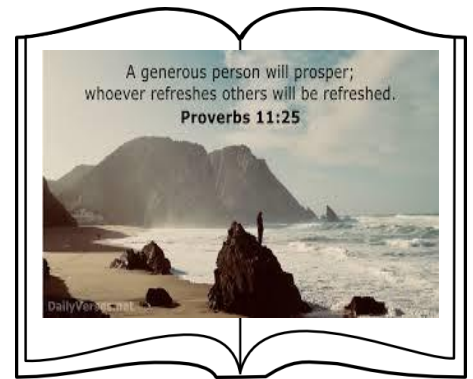
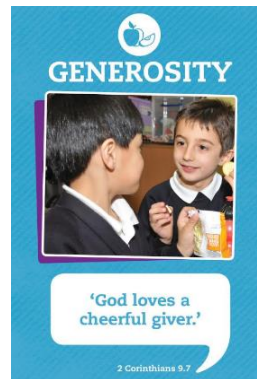
📖 Reader of the Week 📖

Reception - Harmannat
Year 1 – Ella
Year 2 – Karla
Year 3 – Vanessa
Year 4 – Chancenes
Year 5 – Kamil
Year 6 – Abby

🏠 Housepoints 🏠

Neptune - 435
Mars - 445
Earth - 462
Venus – 397

Value of the Half Term



SELF Question of the Week

What have I learnt about self-awareness?



Word of the Week



Pristine



Pristine means 'Unspoilt, clean, fresh and as new.'

Can you find something in pristine condition? Try to use the word pristine in your speaking and writing this week.

Diary Dates

Wed. 16 th Oct.	2:30pm Harvest Festival (Parents welcome)
Fri. 18 th Oct.	Last Day of the Half Term
Tue. 29 th Oct.	Children Return to School
Fri. 1 st Nov.	2:30pm EYFS Stay and Play Session
Thu. 7 th Nov.	Individual Pupil Photos
Mon. 11 th Nov.	Remembrance Day – Children belonging to uniformed organisations e.g. Cubs, Brownies, may wear their uniforms to school.

Please check the school website or App for the whole year's diary and for more information about St. Augustine's Academy.

Please note that dates sometimes need to change. We will notify you if this happens.



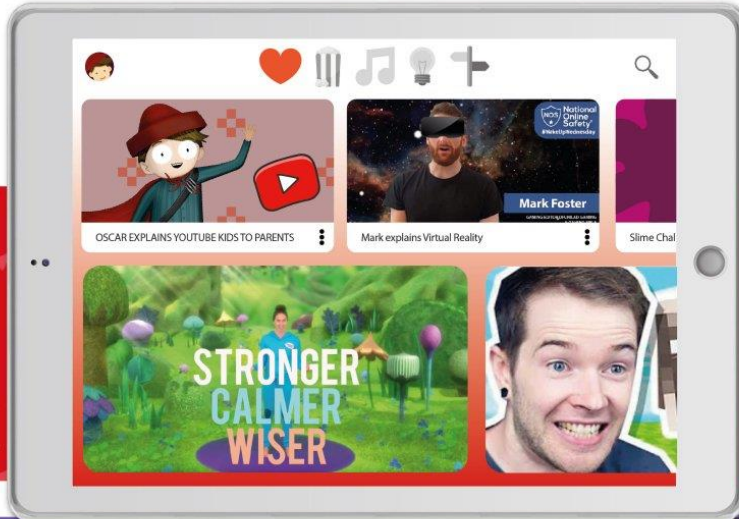
At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



Although children of all ages often watch YouTube content directly via the website or main YouTube app, YouTube itself states that the only place children should be watching its videos is in the YouTube Kids app.



8 things parents need to know about YOUTUBE KIDS



1 SETTING UP

- To set up the YouTube Kids app you need to do the following:
- 1 - Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your YouTube account.
 - 2 - Specify your child's Name, Age and Birth Month.
 - 3 - Select the types of videos to include in the app based on their age or select them yourself.
 - 4 - If you choose to Approve Content yourself, you will be presented with some sample videos to accept or reject. You can select collections, shows, music or learning.
 - 5 - Once chosen you are ready to use the app.

2 USING THE APP

Based on how you have set it up your child can then use the app to explore a safe set of videos. It's worth noting that YouTube Kids uses algorithms to ensure safe videos rather than a personal check, so it's possible for videos to slip through. If an inappropriate video does appear you can select the menu in the top right to block and report it. This not only helps your child but also improves the YouTube Kids app as a whole.

3 ADVERTISEMENTS

It's worth remembering that even in YouTube Kids, children will still see adverts. These are marked as "Ad" and preceded by an ad Intro. The types of advertisements and products are checked to follow YouTube's advertising policies which exclude things like food and beverages. However, there can be toys or other items included in videos directly by creators themselves to advertise them. You can remove adverts in YouTube Kids, like the main YouTube, by subscribing to YouTube Premium. This also has the added benefit that you can download videos for offline viewing, you can also watch videos in the background while using other apps. This can be really useful if you have a long journey to take children on.

As with television adverts or bus stop posters, it's a good idea to talk to children about how adverts work and help them to recognise them. In my family, I remember pointing out the grinning children, added sound and light effects and exciting narration in TV ads. It's important to do this for other forms of advertising as well. It's important to understand how YouTube Kids collects information about your child's viewing and how this relates to advertising and video content. When they watch a video, the device, language, which videos they watch and searches they make are recorded. This is used to help suggest personalized content. It can also be used to serve contextual advertising, although the app does not allow interest-based advertising or remarketing.

4 SELECTING GREAT CONTENT

One of the best features on YouTube Kids is the ability to select channels, videos or collections of videos for your child to enjoy. This is a great opportunity to sit with your child and better understand what they want to watch. Are there particular topics or themes that resonate? Then you can check through different options in this area, and together with them choose the best matching channels.

The YouTube Kids app also enables you to disable the Search feature to avoid young children stumbling upon content designed for older viewers. The app also avoids videos from inappropriate channels being suggested to watch next. If you have selected content for your child only those will come up. If you have set an age limit, only videos deemed appropriate for that age will be suggested.



5 VIEWING TIME

There are a number of ways you can administer how long a child can watch YouTube videos in a day. In the YouTube Kids app, you can set a timer before handing your child the smartphone or tablet. Once the time has run out the video will be paused.

You can also set limits on iPhones and iPads in the Screen Time section of the Settings. This not only enables you to see how long they play but specify how and when they can do this. You can apply similar limits on Android devices via the Family Link app settings. Other systems like the "Circle" system or features built into your Internet Router enable you to set limits across multiple devices which can be useful as children will often cruise to another smartphone, tablet or smart TV once their time has run out on their device.

As well as helping younger children not watch longer than is healthy, this is a good tool for discussion with older kids. Discuss together how long is appropriate to watch in a day and then agree on the limits. This ensures they see them as helpful rather than being policed.

6 RESTRICTIONS

As well as using the YouTube Kids app, you can also set up restrictions on other ways your family watches YouTube. Ensure you are logged in when using YouTube and turn on Restricted Mode in your User Profile. You can also set this at the bottom of the video page by clicking Restricted Mode: On. Ensure that you also click the Lock Restricted Mode on this browser to ensure so that other users can't turn it off.

7 WATCHING TOGETHER

Another good way to keep YouTube viewing positive is to spend time finding channels and content that your child will enjoy and benefit from. In my family, we each get together once a month and show each other our favourite videos from the last four weeks. This not only sparks conversations about what we've watched but enables us to share the things we've enjoyed watching.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

For younger children, you can use the YouTube Kids app to keep tabs on what they have been watching. Tap on the Recommended icon on the top of the home screen and then swipe right. You will see videos with the play button on them and a red bar at the bottom. These are the videos your child has watched. Anywhere the bar at the bottom is mostly black is a video your child has skipped.



Meet our expert

Andy Robertson is a parent of three children and journalist who writes for national newspapers and broadcast television. His Taming Gaming book helps parents guide children to healthy play.



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#WakeUpWednesday