



St Augustine's Academy Newsletter

17th July 2020



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,



(Photo taken on the day before school closure)



We did it! The end of the academic year is finally here and what a year it has been.

Firstly, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you for the support that the community has shown us during the year. We have been overwhelmed with flowers and chocolates today and we are so very grateful. Thank you all.

Today is also tinged with a little sadness as we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. They have made us so proud and we know that they have exciting times ahead. To every Year 6 pupil, keep on shining and living out the St Augustine's Way. You will always be part of our family and have a special place in our hearts.

At the end of every year we create a PowerPoint of memories. Please visit the school website where, if you scroll to the bottom of the Home page, you will find the link. We hope you enjoy looking at our school memories of 2020.

All that is left to do, is to wish you all a safe, fun and happy summer break and we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 7th September.

Amanda Howes - Headteacher



Home Learning



A huge congratulations to the winners of our Gina Bates – Kindness and Caring trophy and our 'Bamford Academic Achievement Shield'. We are all delighted for you.

'Memories' Home Challenge



We always love seeing the learning that our children at home have been doing. These are great! Thank you.

'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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The School Day

September 2020



From September 2020, all pupils will return to school. The health and well-being of our school community is our top priority and we have carried out a full and detailed risk assessment to help us ensure that our site and our practices are as safe as possible. Below, you will find information about the changes we are making to our school day, and to our school routines, to help everyone keep safe and well.

Start, Finish Times and Breakfast Club



The school day will be staggered and we will be using different entrances for different pupils. Siblings may arrive together at the earlier time. Breakfast Club will continue to be available for Key Worker children only.

- Reception – 9:00am – 3:20pm – Side Gate
- Year 1 – 9:00am – 3:20pm – Hall Door
- Year 2 – 8:50am – 3:10pm – Hall Door
- Year 3 – 9:00am – 3:20pm – Main Gate
- Year 4 – 8:50am – 3:10pm – Side Gate
- Year 5/6 – 8:50am – 3:10pm – Main Gate

Class Bubbles



Classrooms will look very different when schools reopen. Here is how:

- Each class will be called a 'Bubble'. 'Bubbles' will not mix with other 'Bubbles'
- Children will sit side by side, in rows of tables facing the front. The teacher will teach from the front and will try to stay 2 metres away from children
- 'Bubbles' can share equipment and resources
- The whole school will not be able to physically gather for activities but we will try to use Zoom to link 'Bubbles'

Lunchtimes and Playtimes



Lunchtimes and playtimes will be staggered to minimise interactions, and some children will eat in their classrooms. During the lunch hour, children will have 30 minutes eating and 30 minutes play each day. Each 'Bubble' will have their own area to play in. Eating routines are given below.

- Reception – 12:00 – 12:30pm – Classroom Eating
- Year 1 – 12:00 – 12:30pm – Classroom Eating
- Year 2 – 12:30pm – 1:00pm – Classroom Eating
- Year 3 – 12:30pm – 1:00pm – Dining Room Eating
- Year 4 – 12:00 – 12:30pm – Dining Room Eating
- Year 5 – 12:30pm – 1:00pm – Classroom Eating
- Year 6 – 12:00 – 12:30pm – Classroom Eating

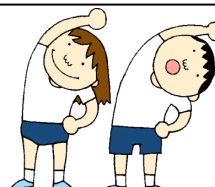
Hygiene Routines



Good hygiene routines will be built into the school day. Children and staff will:

- Wash their hands with soap and water, for 20 seconds, at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Catch sneezes with tissues or an elbow and put used tissues straight into the lidded bin provided.

PE



PE will still take place but children must come to school in their PE kit on PE days. PE days are as follows:

- Reception – No PE Kit needed (In September)
- Year 1 – Wednesday and Thursday
- Year 2 – Thursday and Friday
- Year 3 – Wednesday and Friday
- Year 4 – Wednesday and Friday
- Year 5 – Wednesday and Thursday
- Year 6 – Thursday and Friday

Outdoor Learning



Children will spend much more time learning outside in the healthy open air. Each class has been allocated 2 sessions per week in our wonderful Forest School area.



Preparing Your Child for Return to School

Advice for Parents and Carers



School will look and feel different for your child when they return in September. It is so important that they are as ready as possible for the changes they will experience. Here is how you can help them to be prepared, ready and confident.

Re-set Body Clocks and Regain Stamina!



In the week before your child is due back at school make sure they go to bed early and wake up in time to 'get ready for school'. Your child may feel anxious. Remind them that all the feelings they may have are normal and okay. Your child may find a long day at school tiring to start with, so they need to build up their stamina and hand strength to cope with a full day of learning.

Clean Hands!



Show your child how to wash their hands properly and explain that they will have to wash their hands 5 or 6 times a day when they are at school.

Catch it, Bin it, Kill it!



Make sure your child knows how to blow and wipe their nose and to put the tissue in a bin. Show them how to cough into their elbow if they need to and do not have a tissue to hand.

Social Distance!



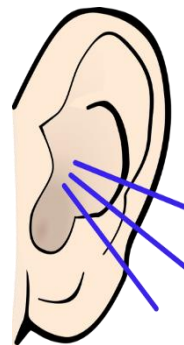
Measure out 2 metres and show your child what that looks like. They may not always be able to keep that distance but an awareness of what it looks like will help us and them to stay safe.

Be Independent!



Children will sit in rows of tables facing the front and teachers will not be able to sit alongside children to help them with their work. Talk to your child about 'having a go' and not becoming upset if they are finding something difficult. Tell them that they can raise their hand or use a RAG card to ask for help, but remember, this help will be given from a distance.

Listen and Learn!



Your child needs to be able to concentrate. Limit the amount of screen time your child has. They will need to re-learn how to be in a class with other children and to listen to the teacher. Read with them every day, tell them stories and ask them to listen all the way through before you discuss what you have read. With older children, get them to read to you and to explain what the text means and what they think about it.

Play Safe!



Explain to your child that they will not be able to play with children from different classes and must avoid physical contact with others. They may not be able to play on equipment or with some toys until we can clean them - so they will need to be patient and take turns. Each class will have its own area to play in.

Be Patient!



Everything will take longer than usual and your child may have to wait in line for lunch, or to be picked up to go home. They will have to follow a one-way system in school and life will be very different to before lockdown - they need to follow instructions carefully to keep themselves and others safe.



School Guidelines

Expectations for Pupils, Parents and Carers



When our school reopens to all pupils again in September, it is important that we all follow Government guidelines, our Risk Register controls and our own 'St Augustine's Way' to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible. The list of expectations below must be followed by all pupils, parents and carers to help our school stay a safe environment for all.

Pupils Expectations:

- *Live the St Augustine's Way by following our Golden Rules 'Show Respect, Be Kind and Try Our Best' and remembering our values.*
- *Keep yourself and others safe by:*
 - *Listening carefully to school staff and following their instructions*
 - *Waiting patiently – everything will take longer than usual*
 - *Entering the school building separately and patiently at start time*
 - *Social Distancing e.g. Play games that do not involve touching others*
Keep 2 metres apart from adults, and from children not in your bubble
Follow the school's one-way system
Stay in your designated areas for play and lunch times
 - *Washing your hands when you enter the school and at regular times during the day*
 - *Leaving all PE kit and toys at home and only bringing essential equipment to school*
 - *Avoid sharing or touching other people's personal things e.g. water bottles*
 - *Avoiding touching your mouth, nose, and eyes*
 - *Remembering to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'*
 - *Avoiding putting things in your mouth e.g. pencil*
 - *If you wear a face covering or mask to school, you must take it off before you enter the school building and give it to your parent or carer to throw away or take home.*
- *Wear your school uniform; wear your PE kit to school on PE days*



Remember – If you are unsafe, consequences will be given, and your parents/carers informed. This includes actions such as: deliberately coughing or spitting, touching others, playing unsafe games, and not following social distancing rules.

Parents and Carers Expectations:

- *DO NOT bring your child/ren to school if they (or anyone in your household) have Coronavirus symptoms but follow the Government guidance here:*
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- *Collect your child immediately if you are called regarding illness*
- *Support the school in getting a test and engaging with Track and Trace if Covid-19 symptoms are detected in school*
- *ONLY 1 Parent/Carer may enter the school site (past the silver gates), to bring their child to school*
- *Ensure that your child has good attendance and is only away from school if they are ill*
- *Encourage walking, cycling or scooting to school*
- *Young children must always stay next to their parent/carers (e.g. buggy, holding hands, reins)*
- *Ensure social distancing from other adults while waiting for the doors to open – as per government guidance*
- *Be on time. (Please do not arrive too early as this will cause congestion and unnecessary mixing with other families – if your child's allotted time is missed then please phone the school for further instructions.) Remember, Breakfast Club will only run for the children of Key Workers and there will be no After School Clubs until further notice*
- *Do not congregate outside the school gates; this will enable others to come into school safely*
- *If your child wears a face covering or mask to school, you must bring a plastic bag to put it in and it must be thrown away or taken home*
- *Support school staff in reinforcing health and safety messages and set a good example by following them too.*
- *Do not attempt to enter the school building or meet with staff at the start or end of the school day but contact the office by telephone or email if you have a message for a staff member.*
- *Ensure that the school's uniform policy, including for jewellery and hair, is followed*

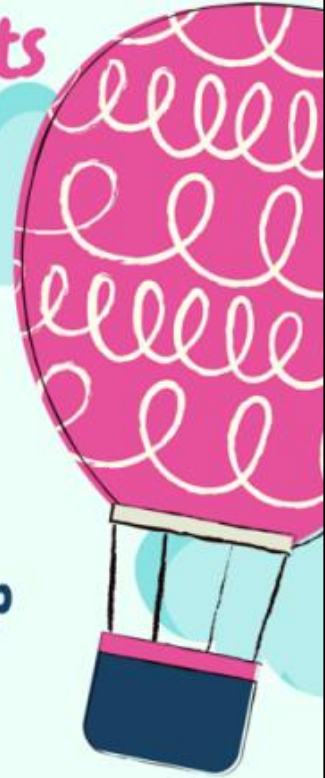


Remember – Parents/carers/younger siblings will not be permitted to enter the school building at drop off and pick-up times. This includes for use of the toilet.

These prayers, pictures and links have been specially chosen to help you to worship at home. We hope you find them a source of strength and inspiration.

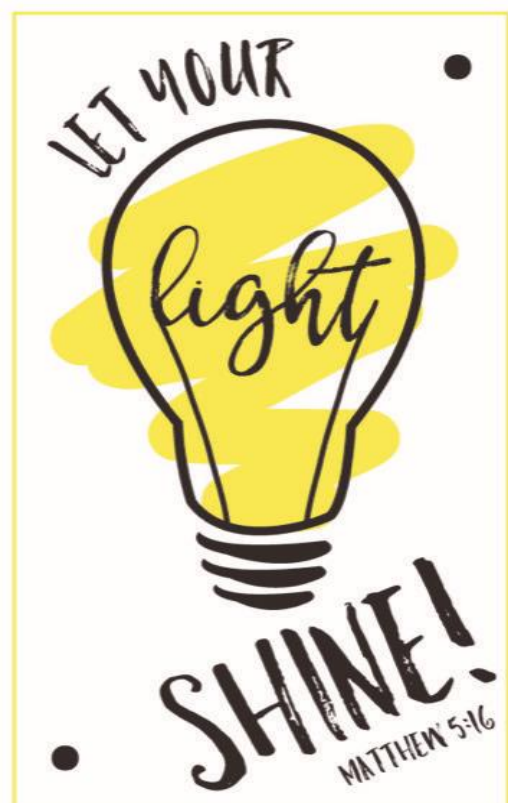
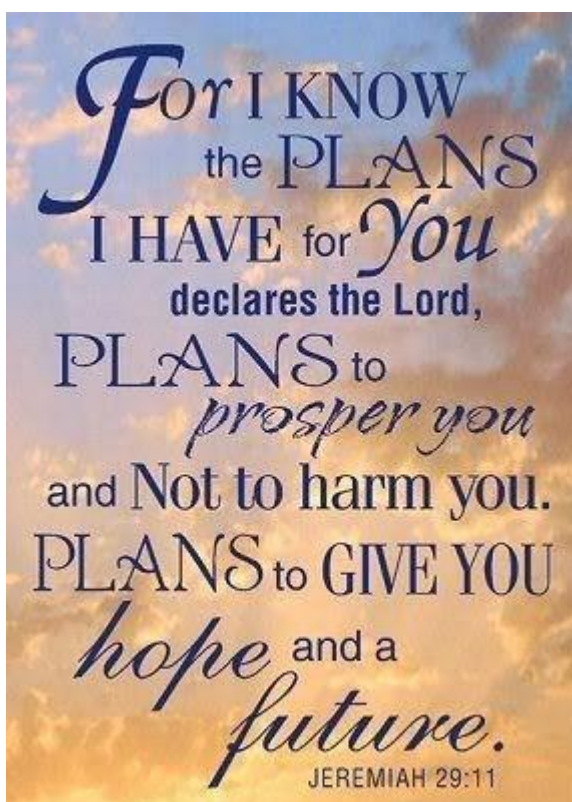
A Prayer For Our Students

Lord, thank you for the **unique gifts** of every child as they transition into a new school year. Fill each student with **fresh enthusiasm** and a heart that is excited to learn and grow. Cover them with your **enduring love**, give them **confidence and grace**, and equip them with the ability to **persevere** through trials. Bless their teachers with **wisdom, understanding, and a heart to serve**, as they embark on the journey together! **Amen!**



laurieyogi.com | fb.com/laurieyogi.fitwithfriends

Shaped for
STRENGTH



Free

Get
biking this
summer

Summer Holiday

Learn to Ride, Lose the Stabilisers

Get kids riding in a safe, off-road environment, supported by local Sustrans schools officer Alister Barclay.

Choose a one-hour time slot and location that suits you, then contact alister.barclay@sustrans.org.uk, 07917 084663 for further details and to sign up.

Thursdays at Stratton Upper School

Eagle Farm Road, Biggleswade SG18 8JB

Thursday 6th August	11am-12pm	12-1pm
Thursday 13th August	11am-12pm	12-1pm
Thursday 20th August	11am-12pm	12-1pm
Thursday 27th August	11am-12pm	12-1pm

Saturdays at Priory House

Central Bedfordshire Council car park, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ

Saturday 8th August	1-2pm	2-3pm
Saturday 15th August	1-2pm	2-3pm
Saturday 22nd August	1-2pm	2-3pm
Saturday 29th August	1-2pm	2-3pm

Sundays at Watling House

Central Bedfordshire Council car park, High Street North, Dunstable LU6 1LF

Sunday 9th August	10-11am	11am-12pm
Sunday 16th August	10-11am	11am-12pm
Sunday 23rd August	10-11am	11am-12pm
Sunday 30th August	10-11am	11am-12pm

Max 6 learners per supervised session to allow for social distancing

Additional unsupervised space will be available for anyone wanting extra practice

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



The Summer Reading Challenge is the biggest children's reading for pleasure programme in the UK. Last year, 4591 children and their families from Central Bedfordshire alone took part.

This year is going to be a bit different. The Reading Agency has developed a Digital Summer Reading Challenge on the theme of Silly Squad, which is running until September. Central Bedfordshire Libraries have lots of e-books, audiobooks, activities and information on how to sign up for the [Silly Squad Summer Reading Challenge](#). We plan to offer a Select and Collect service later in the summer, which will give access to our print books.

How the Challenge works

- The challenge is aimed at children age 4-11, although anyone is welcome to join.
- Virtual Library has information on the [Summer Reading Challenge](#) and how to sign up.
- This year, children set their own challenge for what they are aiming to read over the summer. It can include books, e-books, audiobooks and magazines.
- [E-books, audiobooks and e-magazines](#) are available free of charge from Central Bedfordshire Libraries, using a library card number and pin.
- Parents and children can [join the library](#), enabling them to access our e-resources.
- Our libraries are currently closed, but we are planning a Select and Collect service, which will include access to books for the Summer Reading Challenge. Up to date information about library opening will be found at [Central Bedfordshire Libraries - Library Opening](#)
- Suggestions for reading can be found on our Virtual Library [Booklists](#)
- We will not be giving out materials and prizes this year.
- Activities online include Silly Squad crafts, Code club, ~~Chatterbooks~~ book-themed activities and Marty the Martian event. Details on our [Facebook page](#) and on the [Virtual Library](#).

Joining the Summer Reading Challenge is a way to support your children's reading and is especially important this year when children have missed so much of their normal schooling. Reading for pleasure is a more important determination of children's educational success than their families' socio-economic status. [Sullivan and Brown (2013) [Social inequalities in cognitive scores at age 16: The role of reading](#)]

For further information, go to the Silly Squad information on our [Virtual Library](#) or you can [Contact us](#).

Support and Advice

The table below gives a whole range of support services that you can access for help and advice. Please use them. This is a really testing time for us all and we all need a little bit of help and support sometimes. Remember, if you feel you can't cope, you can also ring the school to speak to someone.

Service	Number	Website	Information
Child Line	0800 1111	https://www.childline.org.uk/	Child Line is a free, private and confidential service where young people can talk about anything. Support is available online, on the phone, anytime
Children's Centre	0300 300 8104	Contact - Kim.woodland@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk	Support for parenting, debt, domestic abuse and foodbank vouchers etc.
Rev Ricky Dunstable Team Vicars	01582 528485	Contact – rickyturner@ntlworld.com PrayDunstable@gmail.com	Prayer and general help and support.
MIND	0300 300 0648	https://www.mind.org.uk/	Mind offers information and advice to people with mental health problems
Headspace		https://www.headspace.com/ App is available to download on the App store or Google Play	Mental health activities. Provides guided meditations, animations, articles and videos
Victim Support	0808 1689111	https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/	Free and confidential support for people affected by crime and traumatic events – regardless of whether you have reported the crime to the police or not
Salvation Army	01582 606031	https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/dunstable	The Samaritans offer a church and social services to support those in need
Kooth		https://kooth.com/	Kooth is an online and confidential service giving help and advice about emotional health to young people
Samaritans	116 123	https://www.samaritans.org/	Free and confidential support and advice
Anxiety UK	TextService: 07537 416 905 Infoline: 03444 775 774	https://www.anxietyuk.org.uk/	Anxiety UK relieve and support those living with anxiety and anxiety-based depression by providing information, support and understanding
Youngminds	Parents Helpline 0808 802 5544	https://youngminds.org.uk/	A UK charity fighting for children and young people's mental health
Signpost	0800 0282 887	https://www.signpostforbedfordshire.com/	Support for those affected by crime
NSPCC	0808 800 5000	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/	Help for adults concerned about a child
National Online Safety		https://nationaleducationgroup.cmail20.com/t/t-l-nkrhuy-fyhllutij-y/	Highly visual and informative Online Safety posters for parents, carers and children
Central Bedfordshire Council		https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers	Coronavirus – Information for Parents and Carers
Central Bedfordshire Children's Services	0300 300 8585 Out of hours: 0300 300 8123		If you think a child you know is being harmed or at risk of being harmed, please contact the Access and Referral Hub, who you can talk to about your concerns. All child protection calls are treated in confidence and you don't need to give your details

You can also find the latest information updates on the corona virus at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Please note – the school will be closed throughout the summer holiday, including all phone lines however you can still contact the school via the office email although immediate responses are not guaranteed.