



# St Augustine's Good News

Spring 2020



In this edition of our newsletter, we bring you a round-up of our news from the last term and some information and advice around the current situation. Whilst we may be working under different and somewhat difficult circumstances as staff, students and parents, we thought that the newsletter would be a good way of keeping ourselves informed as a community and to help us all to keep in touch.

If you have a Facebook account, please like our page for our most-up-to-date information. If you have any queries, the school office is open and will be happy to answer any questions:

staugustine@staughs.org.uk (email)

01744 678112 (Telephone)

From all of the staff at

St. Augustine's, take care, look after each other and God Bless.

## Dates for your Diary:

Good Friday- 10th April

Easter Sunday- 12th April

St. George's Day- Thursday 23rd

## Headteacher's Welcome

Dear members of the community of St Augustine's,

I write you this message with mixed emotions as we face unprecedented challenges in the coming weeks and months. As a school we have made great strides in our development. We now enter an enforced hiatus. I pray that all of our community will return unscathed when all this is over.

May God grant you blessings this Easter.

Mrs G Lynch

"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." - Pope John Paul II



## BOYS' BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

A huge congratulations to the Year 9 Basketball team who have been awarded the title of Merseyside champions. The team travelled to the Merseyside Youth Games finals at Greenbank Academy, after the winning the St Helens leg of the competition in January. Their performance was outstanding from start to finish- winning ALL 9 games before beating Rainford in the final! Huge credit must go to the students who have given up every single one of their lunch times since Christmas to achieve this. The boys have been excellent ambassadors for our school and should be as exceptionally proud of their achievements as we are.

WELL DONE BOYS!!!!!!

## **HOME LEARNING- Suggested timetable for students, parents and carers.**

<b>GOOD MORNING!</b>		Grab your breakfast, make your bed, get washed and dressed, check in with friends and family
9.00 – 9.30	Exercise time	The Body Coach on YouTube – Morning exercise for all the family. Keep active!
9.30 – 9.45	Academic planning time	Log on to school remote access ‘student share’ and plan your lessons for the day. As a guide, take a look at the subjects you would normally have on this day
9.45 – 10.45	Academic time	Start your lessons for the day
10.45 – 11.00		<b>BREAK</b> <i>(Go outside, speak to someone, take a screen break)</i>
11.00 – 12.00	Academic time	Continue with lessons set by your teachers. If you get restless or are struggling to concentrate, take a 5 minute eye break
12.00 – 12.30	<b>LUNCH</b>	
12.30 – 13.00	Chore time	Help your family with jobs that need doing around the house – organise your room and keep it clean and tidy
13.00 – 13.30	Reading	Read a book or something on line, read through set texts for English or a magazine. You could read to a younger family member
13.30 – 15.00	Academic time	Choose a lesson from a creative subject; Art, Technology, Music, Drama, PE – as a guide, check what you would normally do in school on this day
<b>FREE TIME</b>	Afternoon fresh air	Go into the garden, go for a run, walk the dog, play with a pet, do some sport remembering to follow guidelines from the Government regarding keeping your distance from others
	Social time	Electronics now allowed! TV, create something new; paint, draw, knit, try a new craft, make a model of something – help a younger family member with LEGO or bake something
17.00 – 18.00	<b>DINNER</b> <i>(Help to make dinner or lay the table and clear away afterwards)</i>	
<b>FREE TIME</b>		Play and spend time together e.g. watch a film or play a game
<b>BEDTIME</b>		Read or listen to a podcast avoiding social media, and have a good night’s sleep!

### **TOP TIPS!:**

- 1) Follow the latest government guidelines. Social distancing means you should not be seeing your friends face-to-face.
- 2) Keep yourself in a routine. Aim to get showered and dressed at the same time each day.
- 3) Remember to take breaks.
- 4) Exercise! There are lots of free links on social media. Get some fresh air in the garden or take a walk around the block – remember to stay 2 metres apart from people and avoid busy areas.
- 5) Keep in touch with friends via social media, Facetime, Skype or email. Be creative.
- 6) Document the next few weeks in a journal, diary or through photographs. You are living in a very important event in history and in years’ to come, people will want to look back upon our experiences. Keep a record for future generations to look at and learn about our experiences!
- 7) Keep informed, but limit the amount of time you spend watching news coverage and reading articles online. Perhaps, you could just watch the summaries and shorter bulletins to get the key messages.
- 8) Spread some positivity to those people in the community who are vulnerable. Do you have any elderly neighbours? A quick note through the letterbox, a card or message could go a long way to brightening someone’s day.
- 9) Focus on the positives! Spend some time making a list of all the things you would like to do or never quite get round to. Watch that film, read that book, take-up a hobby with an online tutorial – or tidy that room.
- 10) Finally, remember that this is a tricky time for everyone in the family. Support one another as best as you can, talk about your feelings and be kind to one another. Try to focus on everything you will do together as a family, once this is over.

**we're all in  
this together.**

## YEAR 11– FAREWELL, FOR NOW...

At the time of going to press, we are unsure of the current date that school will fully re-open. With this in mind, we held a Y11 celebration on Friday 20th March in case this was their last official day in school. We celebrated their hard work with a pizza delivery and some questionable dance moves in the hall– not forgetting all of the usual shirt-signing and leavers books.

We will send further details regarding a final celebration for them in due course. We also await further details from our exam board about how the qualifications will be awarded and will update you.

### **A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO OUR CLASS OF 2020:**

*'We know some of you are gutted because you've worked because you've worked so hard to push those grades up lately, despair, your teachers have noticed you. We know you deserve to do well and we will do our best to ensure that your hard work and efforts are reflected in your outcomes.*

*To those of you who had a couple of subjects you wanted to shine in, you will still have your moments. We recognise your talents.*

*To those of you who hadn't worked as hard and wanted them to be cancelled, we know this wasn't what you had in mind. You can be relieved and worried at the same time – that's only human.*

*In a time when you should be focused on your revision and your prom dresses and outfits and the long summer ahead of you, you have faced uncertainty. We all worried as your teachers and parents too but that shouldn't be your cross to bear. We're sorry if you have had to grow up a little quicker.*

*Please rest assured that ultimately, this will not hold you back in life. You will not be forgotten. Our generation will look out for yours. Exams are one part of your education; however, resilience, character and kindness are just as important. The coming weeks will prove this to you.'*

**I** know the **PLANS**  
I have for you says  
**the LORD**  
plans to **PROSPER**  
**YOU**  
and NOT TO HARM **You**  
**PLANS**  
To Give You **HOPE** And A  
**FUTURE**  
J e r e m i a h 2 9 : 1 1

Congratulations to Mackenzie France, a former St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic High School student from the class of 2018 , who has received an offer from Cambridge University to study History and Politics.



## APPRECIATING OUR AMBULANCE SERVICE

St. Augustine's are very grateful for the work the emergency services carry out within the local community and regularly take the chance to show them our thanks. Alex, Asja & Leah delivered chocolate oranges to the Ambulance Service that they bought from money that they had made from making and selling Candy Canes at Christmas. The Paramedics were so grateful that we are thinking of them and said it will give them a real boost when they are having their cup of tea!

In addition items were also delivered to the Foodbank following kind donations collected by our pupils and parents/carers. The Food Bank Team were very grateful and thanked us for our support.



**L**Our special thanks and prayers go to all of our parents and carers who are key workers. We are very grateful for your work in the community and we are proud of you!



## LEARNING ABOUT LIFE ISSUES WITH LIVVY K

Year 9 had a performance from LivvyK who relayed an important message in relation to Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs and Mental Health. The feedback from pupils, staff and LivvyK was extremely positive.



A massive congratulations to Scarlett and Dulcie (Y7) who have achieved their Bronze Level 1 Arts Award.



Well done to Libby Cunliffe in year 10 who was very successful at the "All Stars Winter Edition Jujitsu" competition, winning two golds and a silver! Libby also works as a volunteer teaching those with additional needs.

## Community Challenge

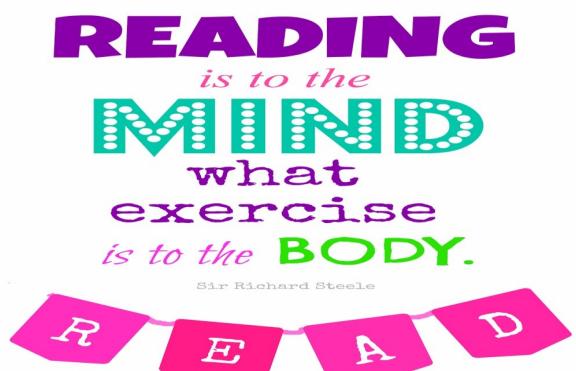
### We want to hear from you!

In each edition, we will be sharing a challenge to see what we are all doing and how we are getting on under the current circumstances.

The theme of this challenge is reading. Please send a photograph of yourself reading at home, this could be online, newspapers, reading a storybook to your younger family members or simply reading a good-old fashioned book!

Please send a photo alongside your name, year group and the title/topic of what you're reading to the school email address: [staugustine@sthelens.org.uk](mailto:staugustine@sthelens.org.uk) where they will be directed to Mrs Stirrup.

The best entries will be posted in our next edition and on our Facebook page.



### PRAYER FOR CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy,  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from  
your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT AND INFORMATION

If you have any concerns about the wellbeing or safety of your children or the children of others, please contact one of the following:

The school office: 01744 678112  
The school email: [staugustine@staugs.org.uk](mailto:staugustine@staugs.org.uk)

Childline: 0800 111 or [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

The Local Authority:  
01744 676600  
Out of Hours Team: 0345 0500  
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When this is over,  
may we never again  
take for granted  
A handshake with a stranger  
Full shelves at the store  
Conversations with neighbors  
A crowded theatre  
Friday night out  
The taste of communion  
A routine checkup  
The school rush each morning  
Coffee with a friend  
The stadium roaring  
Each deep breath  
A boring Tuesday  
Life itself.

When this ends,  
may we find  
that we have become  
more like the people  
we wanted to be  
we were called to be  
we hoped to be  
and may we stay  
that way—better  
for each other  
because of the worst.

## **VISITORS, VISITORS, VISITORS!**

**A round-up of events in this term in photos:**

- The Animate Youth Team for Year 8.
- Kevin Crooks from Carmel College for Year 10 Art and Design students to demonstrate different photography techniques.
- LJMU Absolute Chemistry for Year 11 students to demonstrate a range of revision techniques for their exams.

