



St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

"I called you by your name, you are mine." Isaiah 43

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Kent

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Newsletter

12 January 2024
Our school value this term is:
Be Honest



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break. On behalf of the staff and myself, I would like to thank you for your kind cards and gifts at the end of last term.

Attendance

"From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child. #AttendanceCounts"

Attendance is a high priority at our school. It is important that the children have good attendance to support their well-being, attainment and progress. The Department for Education is in support of excellent attendance in schools for all children and it is clear in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 that good attendance is a crucial part of safeguarding.

Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing.

We know that sometimes children cannot come to school because they are really unwell, however Medical advice is clear that children with mild illness will often be well enough to attend - for example if they have a cough, or cold, without a temperature. The NHS guidance [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) is designed to support parents in their decision making about mild illness.

I also ask that whenever possible routine appointments are made for outside of school hours. All absences must be reported to the office before 8.55am.

The school day begins at 8.55am. Children arriving at school after this time must report to the school office; children will be marked in the register as late. Children arriving after 9.15am will be registered as an unauthorised absence.

As Headteachers should only grant leave of absence in exceptional circumstances, a leave of absence will not be granted for the purposes of a family holiday. Therefore, if leave of absence is taken it will be recorded as unauthorised absence and referred to the Attendance Advisory Service where a Penalty Notice Warning may be issued.

Please refer to [Working together to improve school attendance](#) for further information.

Thank you for your continued support.



Severe Weather

We will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice. If we do experience severe weather resulting in hazardous and unsafe conditions, we may have to take the decision to close our school (a decision which is never taken lightly).

Once a decision is made to close, we will post a message on our school website and send a message to parents/carers via ParentMail (text and/or email). We will update the school website regularly to keep parents and carers informed about arrangements for the following day.

If our school is open, but you feel that local conditions where you live will mean the journey is not safe for your child, please contact the School to report the absence in the usual manner. Our teachers will assign learning on to our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) for the children to complete if our school is closed.

Class of the Week Year 5

This week, Year 5 learnt how to make planets out of a balloon and paper mâché, it was part of our Memorable Experience. We had a brilliant time making different planets and we enjoyed researching lots of information. We got lots of different colours to match our planets actual colour that we noticed from our research.

There are 8 planets altogether. Their names are: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Fun fact, Saturn is the least dense planet in the solar system.

It was a really fun week! Written by Sadie, Jude, Franky and Charlotte



Class Attendance

Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
96%	99%	97%	96%	98%	97%	97%

Well done to Year 1 with 99% attendance this week!



Birthdays

Children who have celebrated their birthday this week

Rosie	age 9
Sienna	age 6
Polly	age 9
Isaac	age 9
Willow	age 5
Emmery	age 9
Margot	age 7
Lucas	age 9



Dates for your diary

- 19 January Year 6 Library visit
- 26 January Year 6 Library visit
- 2 February NSPCC Number Day
- 9 February Last day of Term 3
- 12–16 February Half term break
- 19 February Inset Day—Children not in school
- 20 February Children back in school Term 4 begins
- 6 March–12 March Book Fair
- 8 March Year R Assembly
- 21 March Easter Enterprise—Years R, 1 and 3
- 26 March Years 3 and 4 Easter Reflection
- 27 March Years 3 and 4 Easter Reflection
- 28 March Last day of Term 4
- 29 March–12 April Easter break
- 15 April Children back in school Term 5 begins

Book of Excellence

The children have received their certificate in assembly

Year R	Liam and Tifemi
Year 1	Lara and Aksho
Year 2	Joshua and Davina
Year 3	Hayley and Adam
Year 4	Mia and Tsitsi
Year 5	Charlie and Iris
Year 6	Alfie and Pelumi



National Free School Meals

Thursday 18th January is Census day and The Contract Dining Company have produced this special Dinosaur Day menu.



The number of Universal Free School meals taken by Years R, 1 and 2 on this day will have a direct impact on our funding.

If your child is in Year R, 1 and 2 we would encourage your child to take a FREE school dinner on this day.

If your child is in the Juniors payment can be made through ParentMail.

Mathletics

Year 1	Evelyn
Year 2	Rome
Year 3	Nathaniel
Year 4	Sasha
Year 5	Lara
Year 6	Francesca

WOW Year 2



House Points

St. Patrick

6043

St. George

5302

St. Andrew

6707

St. David

7685

