



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 11th September 2026



Dear Families,
Welcome Back to St. Augustine's!

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to St. Augustine's for the start of a new school year. There has been a real sense of excitement around school as the children have returned to their classrooms, met their teachers and settled into new routines. A particularly warm welcome goes to our new Reception children and families, as well as to all pupils, families and staff who have joined our St. Augustine's community this September. We hope you very quickly feel at home with us.

As we begin this new academic year, we continue to place our Catholic faith and mission at the heart of all that we do. As a diocesan family, we seek to form Christ-centred pilgrims of hope with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice. At St. Augustine's, we live this out through our own mission: hand in hand, we listen to God's call, we learn from God's Word and we share God's love through service. We look forward to seeing the many ways in which our children will bring this mission to life throughout the year.

Thank you to our children for the positive way in which they have returned to school. It has been lovely to see them looking smart, ready to learn and enjoying being back with their friends. Thank you also to our staff, who worked incredibly hard before the children returned to ensure classrooms and learning environments were welcoming and ready for the new year. We are grateful to our parents and carers, too, for your continued support and for helping the children make such a positive start.

Over the coming weeks, we will be holding our new year group parent meetings. These meetings have been introduced in response to feedback from parents and will provide an opportunity to meet your child's staff, find out more about the curriculum and learning planned for the year, and hear about important routines and expectations. We hope these meetings will strengthen the partnership between home and school and help families feel well informed about the year ahead.

There is already much to look forward to this term, with opportunities for learning, prayer, sport, music and wider enrichment alongside the everyday life of our classrooms. Please continue to read our weekly newsletters and school communications so that you are aware of forthcoming dates and events.

Finally, thank you for the warmth and encouragement with which you have begun the new school year alongside us. We look forward to another busy and rewarding year at St. Augustine's, working hand in hand with our children, families, parish and wider community to help every child flourish.

Warm regards,
Miss McDonald, Headteacher

Office Email: sta-parents@hccmac.co.uk

Phone: 02476 596 988

Website: sta.hccmac.co.uk

Welfare: *If you need to talk to anyone about help or support please do not hesitate to contact the school.*

Email: sta_welfare@hccmac.co.uk

Phone: 02475 186 520

CONTACT INFO

Hand in hand, we listen to God's calls, we learn from God's word and we share God's love through service.

ATTENDANCE

Class Attendance

REC – 98%

Y1R – 99%

Y2B – 100%

Y3H – 99%

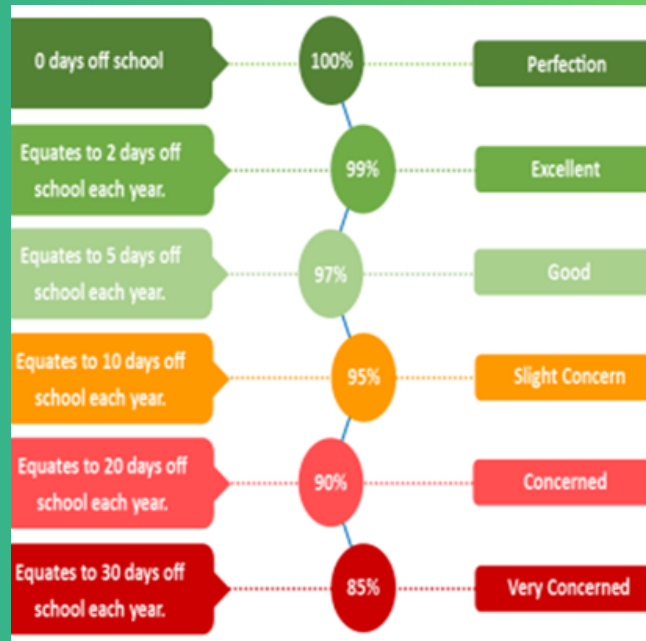
Y4R – 97%

Y4S – 97%

Y5P – 98%

Y6D – 90%

Y6K – 89%



Well done **Y2B!**

For being this weeks class attendance winner!

Did you know?

Persistent Absence

Missing 10% or more of school sessions is classed as persistent absence, which affects roughly one in five pupils.

Penalty Notice Fines for School Unauthorised Absence and Lateness

You may be aware that the law has changed regarding attendance at school. We are required to follow the guidance sent to all schools from the government. In order to ensure you are up to date with the changes, we have included a brief overview of updated penalty notice fines. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

1. **FIRST OCCURANCE** The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance or lateness (after register closes) the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days Reduced to £80 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days.

2. **SECOND OCCURANCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS)** The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term Time Leave or irregular attendance or lateness (after register closes) the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days No reduce rate will be offered.

3. **THIRD OCCURANCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCE** The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance or lateness (after the register closes) a Penalty will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' court which can be up to: £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' court can show on a DBS certificate for a parent due to the failure in safeguarding a child's education.

10 SESSIONS (5 DAYS) OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10 WEEK PERIOD A penalty notice fine will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence (including lateness after register closed) in a rolling 10 week period. This can span different terms and academic years.

We ask for medical evidence of children being poorly (doctor's appointment proof or antibiotics) so we can attach it to your child's attendance to support no fines occurring.

Afterschool Clubs

Thank you to all those who have signed up for our After School Clubs this term. Clubs begin next week.

Reminder: If your child is attending an After School Club, they should not come to school in their PE kits, unless they already have PE on this day. All After School Club kits must be brought to school in a bag. Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled so any missing items can be returned to your child. If your child is attending any football clubs, they must have shin pads, for health and safety reasons. Please keep an eye on any changes to the timetable once the sporting fixtures have been arranged next week.

Online safety / After School Club schedule.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 31 st Aug	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs
2 7 th Sept	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs
3 14 th Sept	Y5-6 Football	Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
4 21 st Sept	Y5-6 Football	Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
5 28 th Sept	Y5-6 Football	NO Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
6 5 th Oct	Y5-6 Football	Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
7 12 th Oct	Y5-6 Football	Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
8 19 th Oct	Y5-6 Football	Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding NO Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
HALF TERM					

PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME INTERNAL CLUBS, LED BY MR BENNETT, MAY CHANGE ONCE THE SPORTING FIXTURES HAVE BEEN ARRANGED.

THIS TIMETABLE WILL BE UPDATED AND SENT OUT TO CONFIRM ANY CHANGES.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9 2 nd Nov	No Clubs	Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs
10 9 th Nov	Y5-6 Football	Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
11 16 th Nov	Y5-6 Football	Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
12 23 rd Nov	Y5-6 Football	Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
13 30 th Nov	Y5-6 Football	Y2-6 Dance Y3-6 Coding Y4-6 Choir Y5-6 Squad Football	Y1-2 Coding Y3-5 Dodgeball Y1-6 Trampolineing	Y1-2 Football Y5-6 High 5 Netball	Y3-4 Football
14 7 th Dec	No Clubs	Y2-6 Dance Y5-6 Squad Football	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs
15 14 th Dec	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs	No Clubs
END OF AUTUMN TERM					

Breakfast Club and Wraparound Care

We are pleased to inform you that we currently have spaces available in our Breakfast Club and Wraparound Care.

Breakfast Club

7:45am – 8:30am – £3.50 per session

Wraparound Care

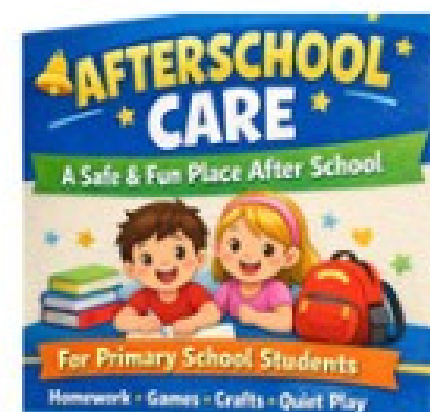
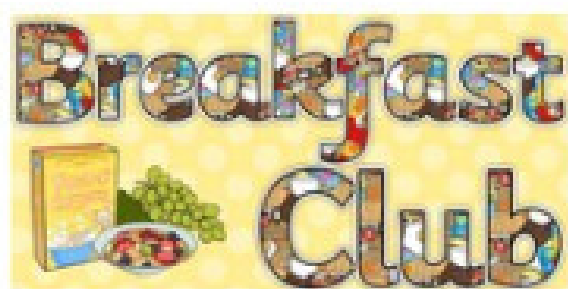
Session 1: 3:10pm – 4:15pm – £5.50

Session 2: 3:10pm – 5:45pm – £11.00

If you are interested in signing your child up or would like further information, please contact the school office.

Tel: 02476 596 988

Email: sta-parent@hccmac.co.uk



BACK TO SCHOOL

Online Safety Tips for Children

Wow, it's September already! The month when autumn officially starts and ... oh yeah, the beginning of a new school year. Every cloud has a silver lining though! Another term means new friends to make, different stuff to learn, fresh online trends to jump on and exciting new games to play on your phone, computer or console. We've compiled a list of our top tips to ensure that – whether you're going online to chat, research things or just have fun – you can do it safely.

Be cautious with your profile

Be careful not to give out too much info on your social media or gaming profiles. Details like your full name, address or school's name could all help strangers to actually find you offline. A trusted adult can help you make your profiles private – so only your family and actual friends can contact you.

Lock your devices

Taking your phone or tablet to school? Turn password protection on. It keeps your private info safe and stops anyone accessing your device without permission. Passwords should be memorable to you – but difficult for anyone else to guess. Get a trusted adult to write it down in case you forget it!

Be smart with screen time

Too much screen time, especially just before bed, can affect your quality of sleep. Losing sleep, or not sleeping well enough, messes with your concentration and energy levels. Try muting notifications so you don't get pinged late at night: you'll feel fresher and more focused the next day.

Know how to deal with bullies

Sadly there are people online who enjoy picking on other users. If you ever feel like you're being bullied online – by anyone, not just someone from school – talk to a trusted adult about it. Together, you can discuss possible steps, such as blocking or reporting the person who's targeting you.

Manage online relationships wisely

Most people in a relationship chat to their partner online. Just be mindful that once you send a pic or message (even if it's private), you no longer control who else might see it. Messaging someone you've never actually met – and who might not be who they say – is definitely best avoided.

React well to inappropriate content

When you're researching something online, there's always a chance of finding content that makes you feel uncomfortable or upset. If this happens, you can report it as inappropriate and (hopefully) get it taken down. Tell a trusted adult what happened: they'll help you decide what to do next.

Report offensive in-game chat

If you game online with your mates, you'll know things can get competitive and heated on the in-game chat. Playing against people you don't know (especially if they're older) raises the risk of offensive comments and even threats. Our advice? Find out how to block or mute those bad losers.

Learn to spot fake news

If you're looking into a topic for homework or a project, be careful not to get taken in by fake news: content that's deliberately created to mislead people. Check the story with credible sources, like the BBC or Sky News. Trust your instincts, too – if it seems too unbelievable to be true, it's probably fake.

Keep it 'real' with online friends

Everyone enjoys adding friends and followers on social media. It's important, though, that the people you interact with online really are your friends. If they're just random people you've connected with to increase your contacts, you don't know if they could be trolls or bullies (or worse).



NOS National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday