

The end of another term – a long and eventful one! Much to celebrate and much to look forward to!!

### School Improvement, work towards achieving objectives in the School Improvement Plan

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- 1 WILF ('What I'm Looking For') widely used in lessons and the children know it tells them how to be successful
  - 2 Children have child-friendly (word) targets in Maths and English
  - 4 TASC – Ts and TAs trained, all classes using the principles of TASC to inform their approach to learning, especially in Science
  - 5 Dyslexia and EAL training for T and TAs has taken place, methods are incorporated into lessons
  - 6 New resources in KS2 are improving phonics teaching, improvements in spelling age test results show promising progress; new grammar tests shortly to be released which will direct teaching; carousel of activities taking place to compliment guided reading sessions
  - 8 Science 2 year cycle being used, monitoring and moderation planned for Term 3
  - 9, 11 Implementation of new RE scheme going well; moderation of RE assessments highlighted the depth of knowledge required for the children to succeed and the types of questions that needed to be asked to provide the children with the opportunities to shine
  - 10 St. Augustine's hosted a highly successful and creative Cross-Cluster day for G+T artists, able sports children and scientists excelled at other schools
  - 12 Challenging targets have been set across the school, entered onto the electronic system and are being used to track children's progress
  - 13 Teachers track progress of children on tracking sheets; new style PPM meetings appreciated by teachers as they focused holistically on provision for their classes to enhance progress
  - 14 Road Safety Officers patrol Wilman Road and speak to children about travelling safely in cars and on foot
  - 15 e-safety policy updated and sent to Governors for review; future work planned for e-safety week in February; staff handbook updated
  - 18 RE leader coordinates and reviews assessment and moderation process; English and Maths Leaders undertake planning scrutiny and direct teachers to produce a dedicated weekly English plan; Maths and Science leaders scrutinise all English books and ask teachers to allocate time for children to respond to next steps
  - 19 Governors begin to visit school to fulfil monitoring duties
- Buildings and Premises – pedestrian pathway widened and extra room much appreciated by parents, people rarely walking down entrance drive now; new gate and fence has improved security; radiators replaced; roof insulated over 5/6 classroom; domes insulated; sink replaced; hall is decorated; yellow edges maintained; noticeboards installed; planters and plants brighten up the front entrance; PTA have bought a stage and a 'Slam Dunk' goal for the playground, a fort, role-play boards, and games benches will be installed shortly

### Learning and Teaching

Lots of learning opportunities for children and adults alike .....

Yrs 5/6 were treated to a day of traditional values and expectations when a strict Headmistress from 'History off the Page' visited to run St. Augustine's as her Victorian school providing them with a Stunning Start to their Victorians topic

Yr 5 had a taster day St. Gregory's to experience a range of experiences – Science, PE, Food Tech and the Library – it gave them a great insight into Secondary life.

Squash lessons continue for a Yr 5 class in school and later in the Sports Centre

Yr 6 and staff returned from their residential trip wiser and wearier!

Past pupils and staff from St. Gregory's came to school to run a Maths Challenge for our Yr 4 children, they enjoyed working together to solve the problems ... "it didn't matter if we got it wrong, it was more important to try"

In KS1 and KS2, the children celebrated their Marvellous Middles by sharing their learning with friends and families. In KS2 visitors were encouraged to comment on posts with positive feedback ...."Their pride and enthusiasm was clearly evident," quote from a Parent Governor.

'Enact Solutions', a drama company from South East Water, visited KS2 with a lively and enlightening show about water conservation, this enhanced the Water Cycle topic in Science

Our sports teams have done really well, especially our Girls' Football Team who won our local tournament and went on to represent West Kent in Dover

Yr 3/4 found out about lots of animals from the Rain Forest when Zoolab visited for their Amazon Marvellous Middle

We supported Children in Need by wearing something spotty and collected £201, collected £203 for CAFOD with cake sales in KS1 and 2, and our poppy sales raised £82 Harvest Mass was a joyful celebration, a bumper crop of foodstuffs was sent to St.

Augustine's Church

KS2 G+T sports children were put through their paces when they experienced a range of activities and training from a Triple Jump Kent Champion with other Tunbridge Wells children at Claremont School.

Likewise, we hosted an Able and Enthusiastic Art Day here, organised and run by a very talented team of our Teaching Assistants, which was hugely creative and much appreciated by visitors, they commented on how welcoming, helpful and inclusive our children were.

Also, our able scientists visited St. James' to watch demonstrations and carry out their own investigations; they were very enthusiastic about their chemistry experiments!

Yrs 1/2 visited Bore Place, an organic dairy farm, to link with their Yum-Yum topic – they particularly enjoyed making pancakes!

Teachers and students from St. Gregory's treated Yr 4 to a 'Murder Mystery' afternoon to work out clues and help them with their Literacy skills – a teacher was murdered with a rolling pin!

Yrs 5/6 walked to Woodbury Park Cemetery to collect data on different aspects of Victorian life, they were fascinated by the patterns and names on the tombstones.

A mobile police station with KCC Community Wardens and Safety Staff talked to parents outside school about safe parking and then talked to children about road safety, particularly emphasising the Green Cross Code.

### Staff

We have enjoyed welcoming into our community two new teachers this year, Mrs Carew in 3/4C and Miss Phillips in 4P and two new Teaching Assistants Mrs Archer in 1P and Mrs Ferry in KS2. We will be saying goodbye to Mrs Sullivan in 1/2SL at the end of term; she will be pursuing her career as a Reception Teacher at a school in Tunbridge Wells. We are very pleased that Mrs Rayner, a newly qualified teacher, will be joining us in the class in January and job-sharing with Mrs Oubridge.

### Staff Training, Courses attended

Dyslexia and EAL training

Finance Briefing, Funding Forum

Finance Forum

SVFS

Governor Training – Ofsted readiness

Governor Health and Safety

NQT training

Child Protection

Child Protection and e-safety  
Looked After Children training  
EIS data on new Foundation Profile  
Mentor training  
Foundation Stage – New profile and data entry  
RE Coordinators training  
Sport training  
Literacy, several including High Achievers, Grammar and Comprehension

### Children and Parents

We were very heartened by the warm response we received from St. Augustine's Parish after the children led the Christ the King Mass  
Many of the children are enjoying a range of clubs, from Art to Spanish and Maths to Singing, offered by Teachers and Teaching Assistants  
The PTA has held very successful events .... Race Night - a flutter and a chilli supper, Film Night and a wonderful Christmas Fayre which raised an amazing £3,300!! Still to come is the children's Christmas Disco. The PTA are investing lot of their funds into installing new playground equipment – stage and benches, slam-dunk basketball post, a wooden fort, role-play boards and games benches. We're very grateful for all the fun and funds they provide for our school community.

Number of children in school .....

We have 2 spaces in school (Dec 2012)

EY 45, Yr 1 45, Yr 2 45, Yr 3 43, Yr 4 46, Yr 5 44, Yr 6 45 (313/315 children)

Movement of children since September 2012 ....

Leaver 4 children, 2 x Yr 3 (MQ, TW), 1 x Yr 4 (GD), 1 x Yr 5 (NC)

Starters 6 children, 1 x Yr 2 (OS), 2 x Yr 4 (VS, ILC), 1 x Yr 5 (RA), 3 x Yr 6 (NP, VLC, CI)

Attendance - currently very good at 95.9%

### Dates

Wed, 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Tinsel and Teatowels, KS1 Production at 2.00pm Followed by staff shared tea with new Headteacher
Thurs, 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Tinsel and Teatowels, KS1 Production at 2.00pm
Fri, 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Quantum Theatre 'The Big Drip' for KS1 and 2
Fri, 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Children's Disco, 5.30 – 6.30, 7.00 – 8.30pm
Tues, 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Parties for EY, KS1 and 3C Christmas Lunches for KS2 (not 3C)
Wed, 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Hey Ewe, Early Years Production at 9.15am
Thurs, 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Parties for KS2 (not 3C) Christmas Lunches for EY, KS1 and 3C
Fri, 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	KS2 Christmas Celebration at 9.30am
Fri, 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Christmas Chocolate Raffle, 1.30pm

A special and heartfelt thank you from me for all the encouragement you've shown to me whilst I have been at St. Augustine's. I have some treasured memories of my time here, most of them you've shared with me; and when times have been tough you've been there

to support and help me. I will remember your friendship as I enter a new phase of my career with great fondness.

Mrs Mann