



Welcome back to the first Spring Term, I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and restful break.

The weather is noticeably colder as we start this term so please make sure your child has a **named coat in school** and named gloves, hat and scarf if they wish.

PTA News

The children all had an exciting start to this term with a visit from **M&M Productions** and their pantomime of **Sleeping Beauty**. It included a modern twist and pop songs which the children recognised and sang along to. The children all thoroughly enjoyed the lively performances and joined in with the audience participation expected from traditional pantomimes!

The PTA very kindly offered to pay for the majority of the production, asking parents to donate £1 towards the cost if they wished. **Thank you for all the donations received** and to the PTA for their contributions, it really was a fantastic way to start this term!

Staffing News

- We had some exciting news just before Christmas that Mrs Torki, TA in Phase 3/4 has safely delivered twins. **Mrs Torki gave birth to a son**, Salah who weighed 6lbs 5 and **a daughter**, Amalie who weighed 5lbs 13. Congratulations to the Torki family!
- This week **Miss Leveridge** has joined our office team. Miss Leveridge will be working in the office with Miss Barclay. We welcome her to St Augustine's.
- We are still looking to **recruit a part-time Midday Meals Supervisor**, 1.5 hours a day, five days a week, term-time only, starting in January 2017. 11:50am - 13:20pm. If you would like to apply please collect a paper application from the office.

Our Community

We received a lovely letter this week from Peter Querstret, part of the Welfare Team at St Augustine's Church thanking our Reception children for the beautiful Christmas decorations they made for the Christmas Day Dinner. The Parish welcomed 66 guests to the dinner and they all appreciated the children thinking of them by creating the decorations.

Children in Years 5 and 6 also sent in some handmade Christmas cards for the church to display in the hall for the Christmas Dinner, these too were greatly admired.

Lastly Peter thanked us all for the socks, gloves and hats sent for the homeless which, with the arrival of this cold weather, will be gratefully received.



Governor News

We are still welcoming parents and carers' comments on two points raised in the latest version of the Governors' Newsletter: Our **Education in Personal Relationships Policy** and the **review of our school uniform**. Please send us your comments via email to: office@st-augustines.kent.sch.uk or by letter.

Faith Celebration

This morning we held a special Epiphany Mass to celebrate the start of the New Year, the end of the Christmas festivities and the arrival of the wise men to baby Jesus. The children all sang their hymns beautifully, what a wonderful way to welcome in the New Year. Thank you to Father Ed for celebrating the Mass and to all the parents and carers who were able to join us.

Change to the Start of the Day

From Monday we will be trialling the children coming into their classrooms slightly earlier for registration. The playground gate will continue to open at **08:45**. From **08:50** (five minutes earlier than present) children are expected to go straight into their classroom for registration at **08:55**. The playground gates (and registration) will still close at **09:00**. If your child arrives late he/she should come through the main entrance and parents/carers must complete the book in the reception area. Children should then make their

General and Reminders

- A reminder that the deadline for applying for a school place for your child to start in Reception in September 2017 is **Monday 16th January**. This is also the deadline for handing in our **Supplementary forms A and B**. These should be completed by the member of clergy at your place of worship. Evidence of your child's baptism or commitment to your faith is also required by 16th January. Online applications should be made via: www.kent.gov.uk/ola before 16th January 2017.

own way to their classrooms unless they are in Reception when they will be taken to their classroom by a member of staff. We will trial this routine until Easter. Please see full explanation on Parentmail. **A reminder that no child should be left unattended at school before the school gate is open.**

- **Headlice** – please check your child’s hair regularly (we recommend weekly) and if headlice or their eggs are found, please treat as necessary before returning your child to school.

Club News

All clubs or lessons delivered by outside providers resume next week such as Tuesday morning Judo Club, Thursday morning Dance Club and Music lessons. Please have the necessary kit and instruments needed for these sessions in school on the required day.

SATs Information

Parents and Carers of children in Year 6 will have received a letter at the end of last term inviting them to attend our **SATs Information afternoon/evening on Tuesday 10th January 2017** at either 15:40 or 18:00. This is your opportunity to chat to your child’s class teacher, view past papers and collect your child’s personal Maths and English study guides. We urge you to come along if you are able.

Extra Curriculum Activities

- Children in Years 5 and 6 have been invited to take part in a very special school trip to Warner Bros. Studio to tour the making of Harry Potter. The trip is due to take place on Tuesday 21st February. The **deadline for payments and permissions** is by **Monday 16th January**, after this date if we have not received enough voluntary contributions, the trip will have to be cancelled. Payments and permissions should all be done online via your Parentmail account.
- Mrs Liddle, our PHSE Leader, has booked a series of **First Aid courses** for children in Years 3 - 6 through St John Ambulance. As these courses are being delivered by an outside company there is a charge involved. The permissions and payment for this course has been set up on Parentmail, please search for the payment items in your account to give your permission for your child to take part.

Coming Up...

- Tuesday 10th January - Year 6 SATs Information afternoon - 15:40.
- Tuesday 10th January - Year 6 SATs Information evening - 18:00.
- Monday 16th January - Payment and permission deadline for 5/6 visit to Warner Bros. Studio - Harry Potter Tour. (Payment by Parentmail).
- Monday 16th January – Deadline for Primary School applications for a place in Reception September 2017.
- Tuesday 31st January – 5/6 St Mark Class Assembly – 15:00.
- Monday 6th February – Years 3 and 4 First Aid Course.
- Tuesday 7th February – Years 5 and 6 First Aid Course.
- Tuesday 7th February – 3/4 St Peter Class Assembly – 15:00.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Culture

Since the start of the academic year we have raised **£489.00 for Save the Children, £386.20 for Children in Need and £33.00 for Saint Martin in the Field**. Mrs Southall, our Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Leader, wanted to pass on how enormously proud she is of all the fundraising we do as a school; thanks to our generous families and community. Thank you for your continuous generosity and support. Our fundraising efforts for Term 3 will involve a Maths Fun Day being organised by Mrs Carew, our Maths Leader, to raise funds for the **NSPCC**. We will also be holding some cake sales throughout the term to support Mr Green (Oliver, William and Eddie’s dad) running the London Marathon for **Hospice in the Weald** and Mrs Martin who worked in the school office, also running the London Marathon but her chosen charity is **Unicef**.

Congratulations to our Award Winners

- Attendance Ted: **R St Helena** and **5/6 St Patrick**
- Punctuality Pete: **R St Rose** and **3/4 St Peter**
- Tidy Classroom Award: **St Teresa**
- Lunchtime Award: **Dillan** (St Helena) and **Rebecca** (5/6 St Patrick)

CAFOD Prayer inspired by this week’s Gospel:

Matthew 2:1-12
God of love, guide us to do what is right and to use our gifts to change the lives of others for the better. Amen.