



St. Augustine's  
Catholic Primary School

Hardy Avenue  
Weymouth DT4 0RH  
Tel: 01305 782600  
E-mail: [office@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@staugustines.dorset.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs. Emma Berry



Summer 2 Newsletter 2022

Dear Parent/Guardians,

As we near the end of an academic year, it is vitally important that the children are recognised for their holistic talents. The children have made a tremendous amount of progress this academic year - spiritually, emotionally, socially and academically. You, as parents and guardians, should feel incredibly proud of them as they really have made some substantial gains and are a credit to you!

### Catholic Life

It has been such a wonderful, busy term at school and we have had so many liturgical events to celebrate:

#### Monday Morning Liturgies

Every Monday morning we have continued to celebrate whole school liturgies and every class has been actively involved in leading a part of this collective act of worship. It has made us so proud to see our children pray, sing and listen to the Gospel message in such a respectful way with our Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues being integral to our weekly gatherings.

#### Mini Vinnies

We thank the children in years 5 and 6 in our 'Mini Vinnies' team who have given up their Thursday lunchtimes throughout the year to consider ways we can care for others and put our thoughts and ideas into meaningful action. They have been instrumental in so many ways:

- Helping with our Harvest celebrations, preparing food to be distributed to the local foodbanks.
- Leading prayer groups for the younger children to attend.
- Leading our Ukrainian aid appeal by helping collate and pack boxes with essential products to be taken to Ukraine.
- Organising and helping coordinate our Walk Against Hunger Lenten Appeal for CAFOD.

We are so proud of our young people and the way they live out the gospel message in their everyday lives. They truly are excellent role models for us all.

## Masses and First Holy Communion

During the month of June, we celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi with a whole school Mass and invited our Year 3 children to lead this joyous celebration.

Some of our Year 3 children also received the sacrament of communion for the 1<sup>st</sup> time on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June at St. Joseph's Church. It was a lovely day and the children showed great reverence. This was such a happy event as they had been preparing with their catechists in the parish since last October.

This week we celebrated our Leavers' Mass and again, it was a joy to see our Year 6 children taking the lead and worshipping with respect.

## Parish Website

Please be aware that we are part of the Our Lady, Star of the Sea Parish which covers the Weymouth and Portland areas.

The parish has a new website which gives you more information about our catholic community including mass times:

[www.weymouthandportlandrcchurch.org.uk](http://www.weymouthandportlandrcchurch.org.uk)

## Parish September Celebration

As shown on the right, the parish is holding a celebration day in September. The school have been asked to sing, so please try to keep this date clear in your diary.



## Thank you to Father Anthony and Deacon Geoffrey

We thank Father Anthony for his support since joining our parish last October. It has been a pleasure to work with him in strengthening the school-parish links and we appreciate the way he has worked hard to help staff in deepening their knowledge of the catholic faith and has worked on developing positive relationships with our children and their families. The children have greatly appreciated his lively, humorous and relatable stories during his homilies and we thank him for making our Masses so vibrant.

We thank Deacon Geoffrey for continuing to work closely with us all at school and to help with the pastoral care of our children. It has been lovely to welcome him back this academic year and have his support with the Mini Vinnies team.

## Curriculum

### Reception Class

All children have worked hard in all areas of the curriculum and thrived as a result. On July 7<sup>th</sup>, the children enjoyed a Reception Fun Day! They engaged in a range of activities including hat making crafts, a talent show involving singing, dancing and drumming. They also had a picnic lunch, played parachute games and engaged in Forest School activities. Staff were delighted with their positivity



and resourcefulness during all their learning. It was a special day that we hope the children will remember for many years to come!



## Year 1

Year 1 have had a very busy year and have enjoyed studying many areas of the curriculum. This half term they have designed, made and evaluated their own t-shirts using printing techniques. The children (and Staff) then modelled their own t-shirts in a style inspired by the artist Yinka Shonibare. It was great to see all of the children's creative ideas and we hope that they can keep them to look back on and remember their time in Year 1.

The children have also been learning about Kenya in Geography and in music they decided to look at some African styles of music. The children learned the call and response song Che Che Kule and then they created their own call and response songs as a class and in pairs. The class enjoyed performing each other's great songs.



See some photographs from the fabulous DT creations:



## Year 2

Year 2 has really enjoyed learning about the circle of life this term and a lot of the children's learning has been based round this. In English, the children spent a lot of time familiarising themselves with the class texts (The Tin Forest and Monkey Puzzle) and writing their own stories based on them. The children can probably still recite large chunks of these stories! The class have been working hard on improving their vocabulary and punctuation, and are now more than ready to show off their writing skills in Year 3. In Maths, the children have been measuring length, height, weight, volume and temperature. They have been improving our written calculation methods, working on their times tables (try testing us on our 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s) and using all of their mathematical knowledge to solve problems.

In RE, the class have been learning about Judaism and Islam. For Judaism, the children looked at the Shabbat. Jews observe a day of rest to commemorate God resting on the seventh day after he made the world. They do this weekly and it begins on Fridays when the sun goes down. For Islam, the children learnt a little about the five pillars that Muslims follow during their lives. They also learnt about what happens when a baby is born into a Muslim family.

In DT, the children designed, made and evaluated their own enrichment toys for monkeys and marsupials. They were inspired by their class trip to Monkey World. Finally in Science, the have been



looking at the environment and learnt more about how to look after what we have, linking with all our work on Laudato Si. The children even did a litter pick around school - luckily they didn't find very much!



### Year 3

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July, Year 3 went to the beach to link with their 'All About Me' topic. It was incredibly hot, but the children coped admirably in the heat and they all had a wonderful time. The children began their day by carrying out a 10 minute traffic survey at the roundabout by Asda - they managed to spot over 60 cars, several vans, lorries, bikes and even a bus! They then made their way to Weymouth beach, where they carried out a number of activities:

- plotting Weymouth's landmarks on a map
- beach 'eye spy' - trying to find something for every letter of the alphabet!
- beach scavenger hunt
- sketching the Dorset coastline
- sandcastle building competition

Here are some of their memories of this special afternoon:







## Year 4

Year 4 have been particularly busy and have thoroughly enjoyed their time in and out of school. They started this half term by completing the multiple tables check and then the children were whisked off on their residential to Minstead. The children thoroughly enjoyed their time at Minstead as they became 'eco warriors' during their stay and returned with a renewed sense of accomplishment and independence. As part of the National Curriculum, all of the Year 4 children have been attending weekly swimming lessons at Weymouth pool. Not only did they conduct themselves beautifully on the walk to and from the swimming pool, but they also made good progress with their swimming. Many of the children can now swim 25m, which is a statutory requirement before they leave primary school - well done Year 4!







## Year 5

Before half term, Year 5 went on their residential trip to Leeson House and had a marvellous three days learning lots of new skills such as orienteering and bush craft skills. Since then, the children have had a taster day at All Saint's C of E Secondary, which was a lovely opportunity as they were able to conduct experiments in the science laboratory and make a key chain in the Engineering room. The children also thoroughly enjoyed their sailing experience with Year 6. The children teamed up to embrace the challenge of sailing a small dinghy without capsizing and getting eaten by a shark! You will be pleased to hear that all children and adults returned to school safely!

Within the classroom, the children have continued with their Space topic and have composed and performed a space piece of music, created Art space collages and finished off a great book called 'George's Secret key to the Universe', all of which helped the children learn many new space facts.



## Year 6

Year 6 have had a wonderful final half term both in and out of school. Last Monday the children excelled themselves and entertained the other six classes with a rendition of 'Madagascar'. They then went one step further on Tuesday and wowed the parents with their acting, dancing and singing. We were so proud of how the children committed to the practise and performance. Special thanks must go to our director, choreographer, singing, coach and prop/costume designer Mrs Ayles for all her hard work and ability to transform uncut diamonds into polished gems. In addition, thanks to Mrs Smith and FOSA for manning the refreshment stall and providing tea and coffee to the audience.

Without catching breath, Year 6 then embarked upon Primary College. The children had the opportunity over three consecutive days to take part in a whole host of different workshops and activities. It has been so lovely to see how the children have risen to the task, embraced different challenges and stepped out of their comfort zones during the week. It has also been so nice to hear such positive feedback about our children from the college staff and how they have conducted themselves on and around the campus. They were a real credit to St. Augustine's and truly lived out the gospel values in their words and actions.

During the children's final week, they are as busy as ever. The children led a beautiful a Leavers' Mass yesterday which will be followed by a Leavers' assembly and to 'round' it all off Year 6 have challenged Year 5 to a rounder's match. May the best Year (6) win!



## House Winners

Well done to both Yellow house and Blue house for their triumphant success in accumulating the most house points in the spring and summer term. They enjoyed some strawberries and cream in a most civilised manner on Tuesday afternoon!





### **KS1 Playground**

We are very excited to announce the official opening of the KS1 playground last week. Miss Mayes enjoyed opening the playground with the school council. Next year, we hope to focus on re-lining the infant playground and re-tarmacking and re-lining the junior playground.



### **Sport**

St. Augustine's have had huge sporting success this academic year, with all sporting teams representing the school beautifully in many disciplines- cross country, netball, tag-rugby and football. Considering that we are viewed as a small school due to our size, we certainly have a big sporting personality!

St. Augustine's definitely finished on a high as the school football team won the Chesil Cup on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June. The football team, comprising of mostly Year 5 children, participated in a Year 5/6 football tournament held at Budmouth Academy. The team went into the tournament after a series



of defeats, but in true St. Augustine's style with pure grit, determination and resilience they won five out of the six teams they played. The superstar team tactfully out played St. John's, Bincombe Valley, Holy Trinity, Southill and Chickerell! An absolutely fabulous result- may their success continue!



I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all the staff for their hard work throughout yet another difficult and challenging year. St. Augustine's is truly blessed with the most hard working, talented staff I have had the pleasure of working with. Thank you all so much for putting your absolute all into all that you do, the children are extremely lucky.

Finally, I would also like to wish all of our leavers- staff and children all the best for the future and thank you for your time with us- may you continue your journey and prosper in all that you choose to do.

Have a fabulous summer and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Emma Berry  
(Headteacher)