



# St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs. Emma Berry



Autumn 2 Newsletter 2021

Dear Parent/Guardians,

The children have enjoyed yet another busy half term leading up to Christmas. We do hope that you have enjoyed the Christmas productions that the staff and children have worked tirelessly to prepare in challenging circumstances.

## Catholic Life and RE

On Sunday 12th December, the parish and St. Augustine's held the Annual Carol Service. Parishioners led the readings and the school choir together with Mrs Ayles led the singing. It was a marvellous joint school and parish celebration and we thank the children, for their lovely singing and their families for their ongoing support. We also thank the Parish and Father Anthony for working with us to make it a wonderful celebration.

We give a huge thank you to Mrs Ayles, for her hard work, passion and amazing musical skills. We truly appreciate all the time and effort she gives to make these gatherings so professional and a treat for those that attend. We appreciate the way that she enables our children to sparkle and show their very best! It was such a special time and those that attended both at St. Joseph's and St. Mary's (the week previous) were given a true taste of Christmas.



As well as reinforcing our Catholic Virtues of Faith and Hope, the children were introduced to the virtue of Charity. We have celebrated the way that children in our school show charity in their words and actions as we thanked you all for your cooperation and support with Operation Christmas Child. The beautifully wrapped boxes, individual items, rolls of paper and empty wrapped boxes together with the parish made an outstanding total of 130 completed boxes this year. Thank you for sending your love to a child by way of a shoebox at such a difficult time. A huge thank you to Mrs Wilkins for organising the Shoebox appeal both at school and for the parish.



On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, the children put hope and charity into action as they came to school dressed in bright colours to remember the work of Emergency Services staff for the National 999 Heroes Day and raised money for a memorial in honour of these workers. It was an opportunity for the children to say 'thank you' for the courage and integrity emergency service staff show in their daily lives and for us to see these heroes as role models for everyone.

#### **Year 4 Samba Performance and Class Assembly**

On Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November, the Year 4 children performed a Samba groove to their parents and the rest of the school. The children spent 10 weeks in the run up to the performance practising with various instruments and became very familiar with the technical vocabulary involved. They all worked tirelessly to follow the rhythm, listen to each other and follow the non-verbal signals given by their coach to stay together and finish together. They became so good that the silence between grooves was mesmerising. Their hard work paid off and they had a standing ovation! Well done Year 4!

Year 4 then had a follow up performance in the hall for their class assembly on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December. This term, their topic was Invaders and Settlers. In the assembly, the children presented all they had learned more specifically on the Roman Empire to their audience. Together, they created and performed a dance, learned lyrics to a song and brought history to life through a

comical satire of a classroom lesson, interrupted by a true Roman legionnaire. They did brilliantly and have thoroughly enjoyed their topic work this term. Well done Year 4 and all staff involved.

### Year 3 Class Assembly

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed learning all about the Stone Age this term and have produced some wonderful pieces of work both at home and at school. Their favourite part was learning all about what Stone Age people ate and how they hunted for their food! The children performed brilliantly in their class assembly and they were very enthusiastic when learning the lyrics and actions to our two songs. We were so proud of them for how they performed- well done year 3! The children have also thoroughly enjoyed their art lessons this term and worked really hard creating dinosaur eyes. They firstly produced sketches before creating a final design and then the children made them using clay. The children worked really hard on these and produced some really effective designs. Well done for all your hard work this term Year 3.



### Christmas Productions

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December, Years 1 and 2 performed their Christmas production called 'A Christmas Toy Story.' The children were incredible and played their parts fantastically well. It was very impressive how well the children learned their lines, learned songs and actions, as well as how well they all supported each other during the performances. Thank you to the children for their brilliant performances, the staff who helped make it possible and to the parents for supporting their children with learning their lines and providing costumes. Well done Years 1 and 2.

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, the children who participated in the Choir and Drama club performed 'Cinderella Rockerfella'. The children performed magnificently well considering two main characters were unable to participate. We hope that Cinders and Buttons feel better soon and we thank the two Year 6 children who were drafted in at the last minute. Thank you Mrs Ayles and

Mrs Me-in for working hard to support the children with their roles. Thank you Mr Cook for installing the lights.

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December, the children in Reception acted out the story of the birth of Jesus. It was a wonderful occasion as everyone joyfully sang, danced and acted. A super effort by all-well done children.



### SEND Support

The Dorset Education Advice Line is operated, Mondays to Fridays 10am - 4pm during term time. The Advice Line is part of Dorset's 'Local Offer' to children, young people and families and will work alongside existing services such as SENDIASS and the Educational Psychology Telephone Line.

This service is for parents, guardians and professionals who are looking for advice regarding emerging issues for a child who might have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Parents and carers have informed Dorset Council that it can be difficult to understand SEND services and how best to support their child. Dorset Council understand that providing information and advice early is vital to helping secure the right support for any child with emerging needs.

Parents and guardians can book a 15-minute telephone call with a SEND Family Worker to talk through their concerns and issues. Appointments are booked by calling the FREEPHONE number, 0800 1404041 or online via the webpage, and they will be called back at their allotted time.

### Talking to your child about online sexual harassment: A guide for parents

To access further information and a Parent Guide please use the following link:

[https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/report/talking-to-your-child-about-online-sexual-harassment-a-guide-for-parents/?utm\\_source=16%20December%202021%20C19&utm\\_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm\\_campaign=DfE%20C19](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/report/talking-to-your-child-about-online-sexual-harassment-a-guide-for-parents/?utm_source=16%20December%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19)

Finally, from all the staff at St. Augustine's, we hope that we have added a sparkle of joy to your Christmas preparations and that you have enjoyed the children's wonderful singing on collection this week.

We would all like to wish you a 'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year' and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emma Berry  
(Headteacher)