



St. Augustine's RC High School

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of St. Augustine's



We are midway through a busy half term and it has been a privilege to celebrate the many successes that our pupils have achieved.

Our Year 11s have just completed their mock GCSE examinations and have conducted these with an excellent attitude to their learning. This period is a pivotal time in their academic journey, and we are committed to supporting them to achieve their best. Please do keep out Year 11s, and their families, in your prayers.

I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of high levels of attendance and punctuality. These are essential for academic success and personal development. Every day of learning is vital, and regular attendance ensures that pupils do not miss out on valuable lessons and activities that contribute to their overall progress.

This week, Pope Francis announced that Blessed Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati, two young Catholics beloved for their vibrant faith and witness to holiness, will be canonised during two Jubilee celebrations dedicated to young people. These celebrations highlight the importance of youth and modern-day sanctity in our faith.

This newsletter gives an insight into the many achievements of our pupils, I do hope you enjoy the read.
Wishing you a restful weekend,

Mrs Hunt

Important Dates

27th November – Year 11 Blood Brothers Trip

28th November – GRAB auditions in the school hall (3.30-5.00pm)

2nd December – Year 11 Mock interviews

9th December – School Carol Service at 7.00pm

10th December – Senior Citizen's Party

20th December – Mock Results Day for Year 11

20th December – Early Closure at 12.15pm for Christmas Break



Tesco Stronger Starts Initiative - Help Us Create a Sensory Garden for Our Students

We're excited to share that our school has a fantastic opportunity to win up to £1,500 from the Tesco Stronger Starts programme, which will help us build a sensory garden for our SEND pupils. We are asking for your support to help us make our vision a reality.

How can you help?

We are asking all parents, guardians, and friends of our school to support us by participating in Tesco's blue token scheme. When you shop at Great Harwood Tesco or Market Street Colne Tesco, you'll receive a blue token at the checkout. By placing your token in our school's section, you'll be directly helping us secure the funding for this much-needed sensory garden.

The more blue tokens we collect, the better our chances of winning up to £1,500 to make this project possible. Every token counts and we would be incredibly grateful for your support.

This sensory garden will greatly enhance the wellbeing and learning of all our students, and we're eager to bring this vision to life. With your help, we can create a space where our children can thrive emotionally, socially, and academically.

Thank you for supporting our school and helping us provide the best possible learning environment for our students.

Let's work together to make this project a success!



School Uniform

We are pleased that our pupils are regularly complimented on their appearance. Our rules on uniform and appearance have evolved over time and are strongly influenced by the feedback we get from parents who set high standards at home and like to see these being reinforced at school. They want their children to go to school dressed in an appropriate way and they support our emphasis on respect for the dignity of young people. In turn, we value the strong backing we get from parents over uniform matters.

Our uniform is compulsory and must be worn correctly by all pupils at all times in school. Every child admitted to the school has been given a place on the clear understanding that their parents or carers accept and comply with our policies.

Pupils in year 7-10 must now wear their burgundy v-neck jumpers under their blazers.



Book Buzz

Pupils in Year 7 were thrilled to receive their Book Buzz books this week from the English department. The scheme from Book Trust allows the pupils to select a book of their own from a list of carefully curated titles to encourage greater engagement with reading for pleasure at home. Happy reading, Year 7!



Senior Citizens Christmas Party – Donations Required

In December, we hold our annual Senior Citizens' Party for members of the local community. Do you know someone who would enjoy attending?

Please contact the school via email (info@sarchs.com) if you have an elderly relative who would like to attend, then an invitation can be sent out to them. This is to be done by Friday 29th November at 12.00 noon.

Our special guests are treated to an afternoon of carols, musical performances and bingo.

Each year there is a wonderful hamper raffle, we are appealing for luxury food items for the prize (no nuts). If you would like to kindly donate, please drop off items at the school office.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE ST. AUGUSTINE'S

Christmas Party

HOSTED BY OUR YEAR 11 PUPILS

10th December  Start 1.15 PM

(PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 1.00PM)

RSVP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON 01254 823362

BRING THIS INVITATION WITH YOU TO GO INTO A FREE PRIZE DRAW!

We can't wait to see you!



Year 11 Mock Interviews

Our annual year 11 Mock Interviews take place on Monday 2nd December. Thank you so much to the local businesses and education providers who have offered their time to support this important pupil experience.

It is such a valuable and enjoyable experience that will give our Year 11 pupils an insight into post-16 life.



School Christmas Raffle Tickets

Pupils will shortly be arriving home with raffle tickets to sell. Each pupil will receive one book. Tickets and money should be returned to the pupil services office along with any unsold tickets/books. Cash prizes are available! Thank you for your continued support.

Saint Augustine's Roman Catholic High School

Carol Service

Monday 9th December 7:00pm

Monday 9th December at 7:00 pm
Carol Service and Seasonal Refreshments
Cash or Card payment on arrival
£3.00 Adults and £2.00 Children/Concessions
All proceeds to CAFOD

Christmas Carol Service

The Christmas Carol Service is taking place on Monday, 9th December. The service will be in the school hall at 7.00pm.

Carol Service Tickets are now available at a cost £3.00 for adults and £2.00 for those under 12, payable on the door on the night of the concert. This can be paid using cash or card.

Seasonal refreshments will be available on the night and are included in the price of the ticket.



100 Reward Points – Pizza Prize!

Once pupils reach 100 reward points, they will be invited for a pizza lunch with members of SLT as recognition of their ongoing outstanding effort and contribution to school life.

This week we have almost 100 pupils celebrating this fantastic achievement! Thank you to Domino's in Great Harwood for their impeccable service and delicious pizzas!



Sporting Achievements

-Our under 13 Girl's Football teams took part in the ASFC tournament at Stanley Hub. Our A team won every game to be crowned champions and our B team came 3rd - a brilliant effort in freezing conditions!

-Fantastic performances recently from our netball teams, who played against Ribblesdale this week. Results for each year group were as follows:

- Y7 - 21-6
- Y8 - 16-5
- Y9 - 18-1
- Y10 - 28-6

-Two of our boy's football teams competed in the ESFA Cup. The Y7's won on penalties after a tough game over at Chorlton High and the Y9s won 4-1 at home to Golborne High, Wigan. Excellent results lads.

-Last week, we also saw our Y10 students showing their leadership skills as Sports Leaders for both the Primary and Secondary Athletics championships. They were fantastic ambassadors for our school!

- A great start to the cup campaign for our u14 boys' basketball team who beat a good Park High School team





FIDEI-HEREDES

Christmas Lunch

Turkey Christmas Dinner or a Vegetarian Christmas Dinner with a biscuit and drink.

Please use the online form emailed to families to specify any dietary requirements

£4 per pupil, payable on Scopay.

Deadline for all payments is Friday 29th November for catering purposes.

- December 6th - Year 11
- December 9th - Year 10
- December 11th - Year 9
- December 12th - Year 8
- December 13th - Year 7





EMERGENCY FOOD

COMBATTING HUNGER

HELPING THOSE IN CRISIS

If you need help from Ribble Valley Foodbank, contact us at:

info@ribblevalley.foodbank.org.uk
or 07849 534431

We will put you in touch with a local referral agency who will discuss your situation and supply you with a Foodbank voucher where appropriate.

More information: ribblevalley.foodbank.org.uk



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators EDUCATING CHILDREN ON SPENDING AND SAVING

Evidence shows that children's spending habits begin to form as early as seven years old. With primary schools in England not required to teach financial literacy, many young people are reaching adulthood without knowing the basics of budgeting. This guide explains how to teach young people about money in a practical way, giving them the understanding to become savvy spenders and savers.

1 PROVIDE POCKET MONEY

Giving children money – even a small amount – can help them learn to make their own budgeting decisions about how to spend or save it. Research shows that youngsters who receive pocket money are more likely to become adults with strong financial skills and significantly less debt.

2 USE A PREPAID CARD

Being able to pay by card is essential these days, with some retailers not accepting cash since the pandemic. Prepaid debit cards are available for children from the age of six, allowing them to get used to spending like they will as adults with no risk of dipping into an overdraft. Learning about money is like learning to swim – you need to get in the pool and have a go!

3 PRACTISE BORROWING

Although official borrowing is only available to over 18s, kids need to understand how debt and interest works before they become adults and are exposed to credit cards or 'buy now, pay later' schemes. For a safe means of teaching them about this, parents could offer them extra pocket money but explain that it needs to be paid back by a certain date, plus an extra couple of pounds as interest.

4 ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATION

Chatting about money and how much things cost will teach children that finance is a part of everyday life and not some "scary adult thing". Parents can involve them in budgeting for the weekly shop, for example, working together to get everything on the list while keeping the total below a certain number, letting young ones make spending decisions in a safe space can build up their confidence regarding money.

5 DISCUSS THE PRESSURE TO SPEND

Whether it's YouTube ads or a hint of envy at a friend's recent purchase, spending triggers are everywhere. Encourage children to notice how clever shop design (like placing sweets at the checkout) and offers such as '2 for 1' deals entice us to spend more. Challenge them to resist impulse buys by getting them to sleep on it before deciding to spend.

6 TELLING 'NEED' FROM 'WANT'

Learning how to prioritise spending is an important life skill: the difference between life's essentials and "nice to haves" is key to budgeting. If children pester you for treats while shopping, it's the perfect time to say "That's a want. We're getting our needs first." You could show how you budget for food, electricity and so on before buying fun things.

7 ENCOURAGE SAVING

Getting children saving early can set them up with a useful habit for their adult life. Suggest that they set something aside every time they receive money and help them set a target for how much to put away, so they feel motivated to continue. For example, encouraging them to save for a friend's birthday gift can get children much more invested in what they buy.

8 SPARK INTEREST IN INTEREST

Motivate children by telling them about interest: you can describe it as a reward for saving money. Explain how everything they put away will grow over time. As an exciting example, explain that 1p doubled every day for a month would amount to approximately £10 million. Some prepaid cards for young people also offer interest; parents and carers could also add a little to supplement what their child saves and show how it works.

9 PAYING FOR CHORES

This is a complex debate with no right or wrong answer; it depends on what works for each individual family. However, it can be one of the best ways to teach children that money needs to be earned and helps to create more mindful spenders. If parents aren't keen on paying for everyday chores, they could ask the children to suggest their own ideas for earning a little extra.

10 PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SCAMS

Scams are a terrifyingly easy way to lose money, and children are generally more likely to be taken in due to a lack of experience with these financial criminals. As a minimum, make sure they're aware of the most common scams they could be exposed to – by text, email and phone, for instance. Young people should tell a trusted adult about any unexpected message or call and never give out their personal information.

Meet Our Expert

GoHenry is a prepaid debit card and financial education app with a mission to make every young person smart with money. Co-founder and CEO Louise Hill is a passionate campaigner for better financial literacy among school children and strongly believes that money management is a crucial life skill.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/spending-and-saving>

Useful Resources and Support

Useful Online Safety Websites

National Online Safety – safety guides on ALL aspects of internet use
<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/>
Internet Matters – wide range of online safety advice for parents to keep their children safe on-line.
<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Useful contacts to report a concern

If you are worried and need help, then please contact one of the following:

Tel: 0800 1111

Web:

www.childline.co.uk

childline

www.ceop.police.uk



Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community which includes a live chat with the team feature, discussion boards, magazines and helpful articles and a daily journal.



Papyrus provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person. Call 0800 068 4141 or text 07860 039967 (opening hours: 9.00am – 12.00am, 365 days a year)

SAMARITANS

Samaritans are here to listen 24/7, 365 days a year. Call 116 123 for support

Online Resources

There are apps available, such as 'Calm Harm' and 'Clear Fear' that you can download to your mobile, or if you have a tablet. These can provide useful distraction techniques for managing anxiety and thoughts of self-harm.

Useful Contacts

- The Mental Health Crisis Line in Lancashire are available 24/7 over the phone and can be contacted on 0800 953 0110
- The Well-Being Helpline is available Monday – Friday, 7.00pm – 11.00pm plus Saturday & Sunday 12.00pm – 12.00am, it is staffed by volunteers who can offer emotional support or if you would like to chat about your mental health. This helpline can be reached on 0800 915 4640 or by texting the word 'Hello@' to 07860 022846
- Hopeline UK is a young person's suicide prevention charity. They can be called on 0800 068 4141 or text 07860 039967
- www.youngminds.org.uk Information for children and young people about mental health and wellbeing. Free 24/7 crisis messenger – text YM to 85258
- <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/> advice and practical tips to help look after your mental health and wellbeing.
- www.itsgoodtotalk.org.uk Listings of local counsellors
- www.themix.org.uk The Mix's Crisis Messenger text service is available 24/7 and open to anyone aged 25 or under living in the UK. If you're in crisis and need to talk, text THEMIX to 85258 Helpline: 0800 808 4994
- www.thecalmzone.net Support for young men who are down or in a crisis. Helpline 0800585858
- <http://www.centreplace.org.uk/talkzone.htm> counselling, live chat on-line or telephone
- www.the-lookout.org.uk Support around domestic abuse for young people and families, run by Children & Family Wellbeing service.
- www.mind.org.uk/information-support/for-young-people Information and support for mental health and wellbeing issues.
- <https://mermaidsuk.org.uk> - Helping gender-diverse kids, young people and their families