



ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

DEVELOPING THE WHOLE PERSON

Ref: Parental Bulletin

6th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

We have had a busy first week back after half-term, the sun has tried to shine but the Autumn colours this year are wonderfully strong and so we are powering forwards towards Christmas! Last night we ran our virtual Sixth Form Open Evening – we streamed two excellent videos displaying the heartbeat of our school and over the next fortnight, we will be filming more videos to explain to current and prospective students, the foundations of our A Level and BTEC subjects. Should you wish to understand more about our Sixth Form, please click [HERE](#):

The Y10 students have been sitting their assessments this week – they achieved this in a mature and exemplary manner, so well done to them. From Wednesday, the Y11 students will sit their assessments and so the very best of luck to them.

Covid-19

I would like to make you aware that some students have been away from school earlier this week as a student had tested positive over half-term. They are all now back in school as their self-isolation period is complete. We have also had a member of staff who has tested positive and consequently other staff members are now self-isolating. We have been in close contact with LORT – Local Outbreak Response Team who have advised that no students are required to self-isolate as the member of staff has not been in direct contact with them, as outlined by the Public Health guidance. The staff members will be carrying out live lessons from home.

Please continue to keep a close eye on your child's health symptoms checking temperatures daily. Students who show any symptoms must **NOT** be in school; I thank all parents who have followed our guidance on this to date. We continue to work with the Local Outbreak Reaction Team (LORT) regarding any concerns that both parents and ourselves have with regard to Covid-19.

Stonepits Lane, Hunt End, Redditch B97 5LX Tel: 01527 550400
Email: saints@sta.lourdesmac.org.uk www.st-augustines.worcs.sch.uk

Principal - G T O'Connor BSc (Hons) NPQH

A Christ centred learning community committed to the development of the whole person.

St Augustine's Catholic High School actively promotes equality, inclusion and accessibility; please let us know if you require assistance.

Part of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Company – Company Number: 90644850



New Guidance from DofE regarding Lockdown from 05.11.20 – 02.12.20

The school continues to closely monitor and follow all guidelines coming from the [DofE: Education and Childcare Settings – New National Restrictions from 5 November 2020](#). Their focus is, “being at school is vital for children’s education and for their well-being”. As a consequence, our aim is to ensure that all students, in all year groups, remain in school full-time. The two major changes are for face coverings to be worn in corridors and communal areas which we have been following since the return to school in September, together with restricting visitors in school. Again, we are adhering to this.

Saints Award

The Saint Augustine’s Award is being launched over the next fortnight; it is a new award that recognises students who push themselves out of their comfort zone and go above and beyond to make the world around them a better place. There are three levels to the award and each with its own prize and recognition over the year.

The award assesses students in the following areas and each term students can be assessed for the award so they can build up to Gold over the course of the year.

- Love of learning
- Responsible Citizen
- Independence
- Confidence
- Contribution to the wider world

Students will have a set of tasks to complete to be signed off for each of the 5 areas e.g. ‘plan and deliver a collective worship on a topic of your choice’, ‘co-ordinate a fundraiser event for a charity that helps the most vulnerable’ etc.

Many of the activities compliment the DofE and so students who are doing these awards will have a head start for the Saint Augustine’s award. Students who achieve Gold for The Saints Award will have their DofE costs funded as part of their reward. The vision here is to provide students with a chance to thrive and be actively doing good at a time when opportunities for young people are constrained by situation we are all in with Covid. The standard of the award is high and the activities included are based around the skills that UCAS and employers always seeking.

Live Mass

Fr Tony will be celebrating Mass at 4.30PM every Sunday from this weekend which will be live-streamed (no congregation). The link for this Mass is : www.eventcast.uk/live *(Please note type the link into the browser – don’t use a search engine)*

Foodbank 2020

Next week Mrs Waite is launching the annual Christmas foodbank campaign. A Collective Worship will follow next week with input from a member of the Redditch foodbank team. We will be communicating the campaign in a sensitive manner as we are very aware of how difficult circumstances are, particularly this year. We would be grateful if you are able to support with the following items (with long shelf life dates if possible):

Tins of soup, vegetables and meat (no baked beans)

Jars of sauces all types

Pasta, noodles and rice

Squash, Juices, long-life milk

Tea, coffee, sugar

Special treats for Christmas - chocolates, biscuits, mince pies

Cereals

Other sauces, salt, pepper

Immersive Reader Support for SEND

There is a function on Office 365 called Immersive reader which supports students to read whilst working in school or at home online. The system can read text aloud, the font type/size can be changed, a coloured background can be added and it allows students to look up any unknown words. Please see the user guide attached.

Vacancy: [Clerk to St Peter's School Governors](#)

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



G T O'Connor BSc (Hons) NPQH
Principal

Attachments:
Immersive Reader

NOTICES

Schooldays in Bromsgrove (STA school uniform provider) is temporarily closed until 2nd December however online orders and deliveries are still progressing.

www.schooldays-bromsgrove.co.uk

sales@schooldays-bromsgrove.co.uk

Operation Christmas Child 2020 - Christmas Shoe Box Appeal for Children Overseas

The collection date for boxes this year is **9th—16th November**. They can be taken to Christ Church, Matchborough. During this pandemic, an idea could be to do a box online using the following website:

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ - simply choose which age and gender to pack for, select from a range of gifts, add a personalised note or photo, make your donation and this will be packed and sent for you.