

ST AUGUSTINE'S FEDERATED SCHOOLS

MICHAELMAS
Newsletter



We want all of our community to have equal opportunities to experience life in all its fulness (John 10: 10). We encourage all community members to “be the best we can be” in every aspect of their lives as we grow in, and reflect on, the Christian virtues of Faith, Hope and Love (1Corinthians 13).

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of this term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on all that our students have accomplished and share some important updates as we prepare for the upcoming break.

This half term has been filled with growth, learning, and memorable moments. It has been a joy to see your children engage with new material, develop their skills, and build friendships. Whether it's through academic achievements, participation in class discussions, or their involvement in extracurricular activities, each student has contributed to making this half term a successful one.

Rachel Kelly
Head of High School

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF FEDERATION

Dear Parents/Carers

As we near the end of Michaelmas term I would like to thank you for your support in helping us to achieve our school vision of Being the Best we Can Be.

As you will see in our newsletter the school community has achieved some remarkable things and these are in addition to the fantastic number of students who always try to be their best in both their academic work and in who they are as people.

As we look forward to 2025 we will continue to share exciting news from St Augustine's whilst recognising those students and families who quietly always try to do the right thing – thus making our community a special place to be each day.

Finally, I would like to say Happy Christmas and I hope you can enjoy some peace and rest during the break!

Best wishes
Eugene Moriarty
Head of Federation





YEAR 12 STUDENTS COMPLETE WORK EXPERIENCE AT MCLAREN SPRING GARDENS

A group of year 12 students attended a work experience programme at McLaren's Spring Gardens site over October half-term.

Students undertook a range of team activities including developing a green living housing estate plan with costs, building iconic London structures out of Lego and undertaking a risk assessment and method statement for a task such as cooking breakfast. Through the Belbin questionnaire they learnt about their preferred roles within a team and how it can be applied to job roles; there were quite a few "Plants" who come up with ideas.



They heard from an architect, design manager, project manager, commercial manager and sustainability manager about their roles and career paths. All the students enjoyed their time with one of the highlights being the site tour and being able to go up on the roof, to see the London skyline and speaking to some of the subcontractors on site who spoke about their roles in more depth.

The McLaren site team were impressed by the students' enthusiasm, politeness and how they presented their Green Living design and costs.

ST AUGUSTINE'S YEAR 9 CHAMPIONS OF WESTMINSTER 2024



Goal Scorers: Ervin Laci x1 and Adam Khattar x1

On a somewhat cold afternoon at Paddington Rec, our year 9s went into their final confident they could achieve what they set out to achieve at the start of the season, winning the league.

Mr Devenney said: "This game had absolutely everything, goals, quality, intensity, and aggression but I truly believe that our players show more hunger and desire to want to win and this group of players deserved everything they got today, I am so incredibly proud of them.

"Thank You for the amazing staff supporters that showed up to help our players, it truly made the difference and spurred the team on!

"On a personal note, it has been an absolute honour and privilege to work with this amazing group of players, we have been in training since September with one objective in mind, win the league "

The team won after a hard game, facing tough opponents. But this didn't deter them. They came out victorious with a stunning 2-1 win.



YEAR 10'S AND 11'S GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP TO THE RIVER WYE



Year 10 Geographers went on their fieldwork to the River Wye in Buckinghamshire on 7th November. Overall, a wonderful autumn day and many fun experiences for students to be wearing wellington boots, getting in the river and measuring the river! Some wonderful photos of students hard at work completing sections of the fieldwork! A very enjoyable day overall!



WORK RELATED (WRL) - SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES TRIP



The three-day programme at this prestigious museum consisted of 20 year 12 students taking over some of the jobs with support from the Society's team to develop employability skills and insight for the world of work. The Society was open to the public on this occasion and our students made the most of their work experience opportunity and were involved in four departments: Operations & Front of House, Museum & Collections, Programme and Marketing. The feedback from the visitors was heart-warming and very positive.

Dr Michelle Johansen (the Learning & Outreach Manager at the Society) said :The Takeover students exceeded our expectations. They were confident, personable, creative, and responsible in carrying out their assigned roles. They supported one another. They interacted well with our existing volunteer group and were polite to all staff members. They listened and took direction. I was impressed by the way they all got involved, playing to their individual strengths and interests. They also adapted well to small and larger challenges on the day (resources that didn't arrive in time, props that broke mid-performance!). All in all, it was a fabulous day. Thank you. We're already looking forward to Takeover Day 2025!



BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024

To celebrate Black History Month, the school "Reclaimed the Narrative". There were a lot of activities and talks planned with the students.

We welcomed personalities such as Michelle De Swarte, famously known from the Netflix Show "The Duchess" and BBC's "Spent".



To complete the week, the school held a special concert and show. Together with singer Grace Wanga and the students, the room was captivated by dancing and the beautiful voices.

Actress, poet and author, Maia Watkins, also took the stage and spoke about her newly released book "The Dressing Gown Poet: "Life. Loss. Love""



YEAR 8 EMERGENCY SERVICES VISIT

Year 8 students had an important visit from the emergency services. They learned about various dangers and received valuable information on how to stay safe.

The officers shared crucial facts and taught the students essential skills for handling emergencies. It was a great opportunity for our students to engage with professionals and gain a better understanding of safety in our community.

We would like to thank the emergency services for their dedication and support.



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2024

This year on Remembrance Day, school wide commemorations took place.





A 2-minute of silence was observed by the whole school community. A select group of students, together with a few members of staff and Ms Kelly laid a wreath of behalf of the school at St Augustine's Church.



YEAR 9 TRIP TO KILN THEATRE

Our Year 9 students had the opportunity to go behind the scenes at Kiln Theatre. The trip offered a fascinating glimpse into the working of a professional theatre, far beyond what the audience sees on stage.

The students learned about the technical aspects of a production, including lighting, sound and set design. They explored the intricacies of costumes and makeup, discovering how these elements bring characters to life. The group also got hands-on experience with stage management, learning how all these components come together seamlessly during a performance.

The immersive experience not only deepened their appreciation for the performing arts but also highlighted the diverse career opportunity available in the world of theatre.

It was an inspiring day and we are so proud of our students for their curiosity and engagement throughout the trip.



Have you topped up
Parent Pay for lunch
and break?

Click [here](#) for the link!

YEAR 13 BIOLOGISTS IN ACTION

The Year 13 biology students took full control as they carried out their independently planned investigations on respiration in yeast. From designing their experiments to collecting data, they demonstrated impressive scientific thinking and problem-solving skills.

The students seemed very engaged and eager to discover what their experiments will amount to. They were very happy to put their knowledge to test and see how much they can expand it.



WRL -TAKE THE LEAD PROGRAMME WITH THE OLD VIC

Fifteen year 12 students are going through their Take the Lead programme led by an educational team from the Old Vic theatre.

It includes creative, fun and engaging workshops, special events and online resources to develop five employability skills: communication, self-management, self-belief, teamwork and problem solving. Drawing on

With Old Vic's 200+ years of experience, the project will enable students to develop a set of transferable skills and empower them to take ownership over their next steps after school, whatever they may be.



YEAR 8 AND YEAR 9 SPORTS LEADERSHIP FESTIVAL

On Thursday 28th November, 18 St. Augustine's Year 8 and 9 students went to Moberly Sports Centre to deliver a sports festival to Year 4 & 5 primary school students. Our young leaders used the skills they had picked up from, their training session run by the charity SportInspired the previous week to lead groups of primary students across a range of different sports including netball, rugby, judo, tae-kwon-do, dance and boccia.

The event which has the purpose of showcasing the benefits of sport and healthy, active lifestyles to young people, hosted over 200 primary students and their staff. Our students were praised for their confidence, energy and exceptional leadership skills.



The students now have a chance to gain recognised leadership qualifications in partnership with SportsInspired and will start these in the new year.



REMINDER

Smart devices, phones, airpods, smartwatches are not to be brought to school. Mobile phones must not be seen, heard or used.

SCHOOL-BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

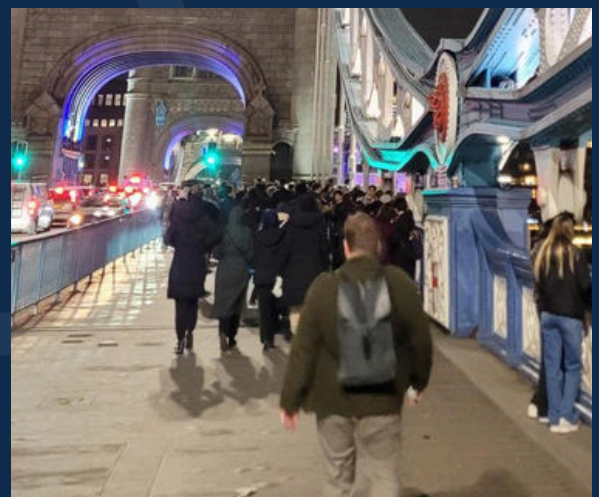
To add enrichment and values to our curriculum learning, our careers lead Mr Ydri visited our business partner – Marriott Hotel in Regents Park to enable both parties to plan jointly new work-related-learning opportunities for students to experience the world of work and develop employability skills.



The programme discussed will include visits, talks about the hospitality sector, workshops and work experience. The Head of Federation Mr Moriarty who joined the initial meeting in school is very much looking forward to the strengthening of this partnership.

10KM WALK FOR CHARITY SHELTER

45 students and 10 members of staff completed a sponsored 10km for the charity Shelter on Tuesday evening, raising money to support those living on the streets this Christmas. The sixth form students were absolutely amazing, walking with humour, chatting to everyone en route, and sharing snacks and stories





The kindness and generosity they demonstrate is testament to our school ethos of being the best we can be. We have raised over £400 so far. The generosity of St Augustine's community is always amazing! Thank you to everyone involved!

UNICEF UK RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

We are working towards becoming a UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School. This initiative is an important part of our school's commitment to ensuring that every child's rights are respected and upheld. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is based on the values of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, including equality, dignity, respect, and participation. We are excited to involve our students in this journey, where they will not only learn about their rights but will also put them into practice every day. We hope you will support us as we continue on this path. You can find more information about the Rights Respecting Schools Award at www.unicef.org.uk

YEAR 13 HOLOCAUST TALK

Year 13 welcomed Ian Coyne, tour guide for Berlin, Sachsenhausen, Krakow & Munich, for a talk on the Holocaust. Students have been studying this event as part of their A-level coursework, examining & evaluating a wide range of arguments. The students were hugely engaged, asking a range of questions to support their learning. We look forward to reading their work in due course, and huge thanks to Ian for such a fascinating & moving talk.



Students must wear
their lanyard and ID
card every day

YEAR 11'S MAGICAL TRIP TO THE OLD VIC

Year 11 students had a truly enchanting experience watching A Christmas Carol at the Old Vic. The performance captivated them all with its remarkable singing, melodic bell ringing and a touch of theatrical magic with falling snow. The atmosphere was vibrant and immersive, bringing Dickens' timeless tale to life in a way that left the audience in awe.

Students were particularly impressed by the blend of music, storytelling and festive cheer, making it a memorable highlight of the season. The show's magic reminded everyone of the joy and spirit of Christmas, creating a wonderful memory for all who attended.

School badges, ties,
lanyards and ID
cards can all be
purchased from
Parent Pay.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2025

- Year 12 will be sitting Mid-Year Exams from 7th January 2025 – 17th January 2025
- Year 11 Tiering Exams for selected students for Maths, Science and MFL exams week beginning Monday 20th January – Friday 24th January 2025.
- Well-Being Fortnight for St Augustine's for Year 7-13 – Monday 3rd February – Friday 14th February 2025

UPCOMING PARENTS' EVENING

Check your emails for more details, to sign up and book appointments

- Year 11 Parents Evening – Wednesday 15th January 2025
- Year 8 Parents Evening – Thursday 23rd January 2025
- Year 7 Parents Evening – Wednesday 29th January 2025

UNIFORM REMINDER

Please make sure that students are dressed appropriately coming to school. That means they should have a badge on their blazer and their top button needs to be done up. They have to wear their blazer and their tie needs to be done. Their shirt must be tucked in and they need to wear their navy blue V neck jumper/or cardigan.

Need a new badge or tie? [Order here!](#)

Need a new PE kit? [Order here!](#)

Uniform Check



TERM DATES



- Monday 6th January 2025 – School is closed for all students (Staff INSET day)
- Tuesday 7th January 2025 – School open for Year 7-13, 8.45am start.
- Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2025 - February Half Term 2025