

11th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements of our students and to share some important updates as we head into the Christmas break.

It has been a pleasure to see students engaging with new material, developing skills, and demonstrating our core values such as kindness, integrity and curiosity. Whether through academic progress, thoughtful contributions in class, or participation in extracurricular activities, every student has played a part in making this term a successful one.

I have been particularly impressed with our new Year 7 students this term. They have settled into St Augustine's very well and the students have quickly become a part of our community. Year 12 students have also made a fantastic start to their post-16 courses, and the student ambassadors are contributing to our community and being excellent role models for our younger students.

Below are some highlights from the past half term:

Academic Progress

- Year 11 students have completed full mock examinations in preparation for their summer exams and are now focusing on applications to our Sixth Form.
- Year 10 GCSE Geography students carried out their GCSE fieldwork.
- Year 13 students completed their UCAS examinations last half term, and both Year 12 and Year 13 are preparing for mid-year exams after Christmas.
- Across Years 7–13, our monitoring of assessment and progress books shows strong extended writing, detailed feedback, and purposeful upgrade work in all subject areas.

Personal Development

- We continue to develop exciting partnerships with the Donmar Theatre and the Kiln Theatre, providing students with opportunities to take part in workshops and attend performances across London.
- Year 9 students are receiving a programme of talks from subject leaders on GCSE and vocational options.
- Year 9 and 10 students took part in another session of the National Jr NBA Basketball programme, while students in Years 8, 9, and 10 attended a regional conference at the London Stadium on improving PE opportunities for Muslim girls.
- Year 12 students have enjoyed work experience with The Society of Antiquaries and visited Magdalene College, University of Oxford, through the widening access programme.
- UCAS applications continue for Year 13, and additional enrichment has taken place through the Globe Theatre, PwC (Year 10), The Old Vic, and a residential experience at Jamie's Farm for selected Year 9 and 10 students via our partners AllChild.



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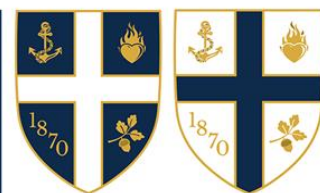
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Student Leadership

- Our Student Leadership Team has continued to champion our school ethos and values through whole-school collective worship, themed weeks, and charity initiatives including our Homelessness Appeal. This term's charitable efforts have supported Children in Need and Shelter, including a 10km sponsored walk completed by staff and Sixth Form students. Our student leaders also received external training from Unloc (Sixth Form Prefect Team), and our Peer Mentors undertook accredited training with Kidscape.

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Arrangements for the final week of term

- **Tuesday 16th December 2025** – Year 7 Christingle Service Period 1.
- **Wednesday 17th December 2025** – Christmas lunch available for all students in Years 7–13. Year 12 and 13 will attend church during Period 1.
- **Thursday 18th December 2025** – Advent church services for Year 8, 9 and 10 throughout the day.
- **Friday 19th December 2025** – Rewards Assemblies for all students. Dismissal times are as follows:
 - Years 7, 8, 9 – 12:15pm
 - Year 11 – 12:20pm
 - Years 10, 12, and 13 – 12:30pm
- **Friday 19th December** is also a non-uniform day for staff and students. We kindly ask for a £1 contribution towards Shelter. Form Tutors will collect donations during morning registration.

Looking Ahead to Next Term

We are already looking forward to another exciting term filled with opportunities. Below is a snapshot of what is planned so far:

- **Year 11** mock results assembly – Friday 9th January 2026.
- **Year 12** Mid-Year Exams – 6th–16th January 2026.
- **Year 11** Maths, Science and MFL tiering exams (targeted students) – Week beginning 19th January 2026.
- **Year 9** Options process continues.
- **Well-Being Fortnight** for all staff and students – Week beginning Monday 26th January 2026.
- **Year 13** Mock Exams – Week beginning Monday 2nd February 2026.

Parents Evenings

Thank you to all Year 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 parents/carers who attended Parents Evenings this half term. Upcoming dates after Christmas are:

- **Key Stage 3 Coffee Afternoon** – Tuesday 13th January 2026, 4pm–5pm
- **Year 7 Parents Evening** – Wednesday 14th January 2026, 4:30pm–7pm
- **Key Stage 3 Coffee Afternoon** – Tuesday 20th January 2026, 4pm–5pm
- **Year 11 Parents Evening** – Thursday 22nd January 2026, 4:30pm–7pm
- **Year 8 Parents Evening** – Wednesday 28th January 2026, 4:30pm–7pm
- **Year 9 Options Evening** – Thursday 5th February 2026, 4:30pm–7pm



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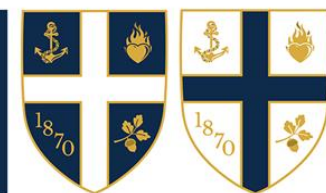
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Important Reminders

Term dates can always be found on our website, including for 2026-27

<https://www.stahigh.org/parent-carer-information-2/term-dates/>

Please note the following key dates:

- **Monday 5th January 2026** – School closed to all students (Staff INSET day)
- **Tuesday 6th January 2026** – School reopens to all students (8:45am start)
- **Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026** – February Half Term

All students are expected to return on Tuesday 6th January in full school uniform, equipped for learning. Please ensure:

- ParentPay accounts are topped up.
- No new electronic devices (mobile phones, AirPods, smartwatches) are brought into school. Mobile phones must not be seen, heard, or used.
- Any new school jumpers are plain navy blue and V-neck.
- Students wear their blazer, lanyard, and ID card every day.
- Badges, ties, lanyards, and ID cards are all available via ParentPay.

Attendance and Punctuality

At St Augustine's we place great importance on attendance and punctuality. Over the course of an academic year, we would expect whole school attendance and individual attendance to be at least 96%. The Department for Education considers anything less than 90% as persistent absence.

Our main objective is to support pupils and their families in raising attendance. We urge all parents to be mindful of the impact that school absence has on their child's learning. If your child is not in a classroom, they cannot access the learning they need to be successful.

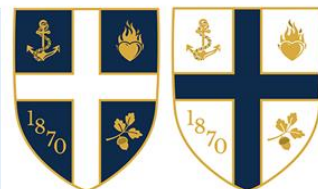
In addition to attendance, we need to work together on punctuality to school. It is essential that students leave home early enough to be at school by 8.40am and are in the right mindset for learning for the school day. Please support us by instilling in your child the importance of making their way directly to school and not to wait for friends or visit shops on their way to school, as this inevitably slows them down and often makes them late for school.

I am delighted to share with you all the success that some of our strategies are having on attendance and punctuality this term, with more than 180 students across the school joining our H.E.R.O club (**H**ere **E**veryday **R**eady and **O**n Time) and this term's overall attendance being above national for Term 1.

Finally, our entire school community from Year 7 to Year 13 have been rewarded with a total of **39,349** positive points this term which is a fantastic achievement. We will be sharing and celebrating this with the students in their rewards assemblies next week.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this term. It is a privilege to work with hardworking staff and a wonderful group of students, and I look forward to seeing their continued growth in the new year. I hope you can enjoy a restful and restorative break with your families.





Wishing you all a joyful and peaceful holiday season.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Rachel Kelly
Head of St Augustine's CE High School



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