



St Augustine's Academy Newsletter

26th June 2026



Headteacher's Message



Lyfta and Our School Our World

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,



As you are all very aware, this week has been incredibly hot for everyone and we have all been trying to find ways to keep cool in the summer sunshine. In the pictures above, you can see children enjoying dipping their feet in water and eating ice lollies to cool down, which one of our parents very kindly provided. You can also see our Reception children enjoying being sprinkled with a hose.

Next week, the temperature is set to cool down a little but it will still be very warm. Remember to keep on bringing water bottles and sun hats to school and putting on your sun cream.

Enjoy the sunny weekend.

Best wishes,

Amanda Howes
Headteacher



This week we met Catherine in Uganda who is a boxer. Throughout her career, she has learnt to be resilient and to persevere to achieve her goals and dreams.

In the picture below, you can see our Reception children. Through perseverance with their writing, they have become better and better and are now ready to face the challenge of Year 1!



Free School Meals and Universal Credit

From September, every child whose parents/carers are in receipt of Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals. Please follow the below link for more information.
<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2025/06/expanding-free-school-meals-what-parents-need-to-know/>

'Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.' Matthew 5:16



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Celebration

CONGRATULATIONS to the following children.

Our Stars of the Week are...

Year 1 – Jessica
Year 2 – Denis
Year 3 – Aria
Year 4 – Paige-Anthony
Year 5 – Ella-Louise
Year 6 – Sabina

Our 'Lyfta' Pupils of the Week are...

Year 1 – Sofia
Year 2 – Lois
Year 3 – Emmett
Year 4 – Abel
Year 5 – Charlie
Year 6 – Riley



Our Vocabulary Velociraptors are...

Year 1 – Lily
Year 2 – Eleora
Year 3 – Alma
Year 4 – Harley
Year 5 – Kajetan
Year 6 – Kaysie-Mae



Our Attendance Bear Winner is...



The House Point totals this week are...



355



342



326



350

My Smile Presentations



How proud our Reception children are of their My Smile certificates. Well done all of you!

Vocabulary Velociraptors

1  curling	2  American football	3  padel	4  pickleball
5  bowls	6  cycle speedway	7  Formula E	8  fencing
9  skittles	10  footgolf	11  croquet	12  wheelchair basketball

In Vocabulary Velociraptors, we learnt the names of 12 more unusual sports. Can you name them all?

Diary Dates

WB. 29th Jun.	Vocabulary Velociraptors – FIFA World Cup Week Lyfta – Jasmin in Somaliland – Finland to Somaliland
Wed. 1st Jul.	TRANSFER DAY 3:30pm – 4:00pm – New Teacher Meetings (A chance to meet your child's new teacher for next year.)
WB. 6th Jul.	Vocabulary Velociraptors – Swimming Week Lyfta – Jasmin in Somaliland – Finland to Somaliland (Week 2)
Tue. 7th Jul.	2:45pm – Year 3 JSax Performance

Sometimes we have to change diary dates due to circumstances beyond our control. Please keep checking the school diary regularly for updates.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1 STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS

It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond swiftly in emergencies and provide first aid when needed.



2 LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS

When going to a new environment, it's important to research the local area and make children aware of safety signage before entering the water. If visiting the seaside, make sure children are always supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, so they're knowledgeable of where and when they can enter the sea.



3 STOP AND THINK

Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards could be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as, "Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects?" Make sure children know never to enter water from a height, as what lurks below could cause serious injuries.



4 CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE

Even on hot days, water can be deceptively cold. Tragedies strike when young people experience cold water shock. Never let children enter water quickly; instead, ensure that they enter slowly and carefully to allow their bodies to adjust to the temperature or exit easily if needed.



5 INFLATABLE SAFETY

Although inflatables may seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further out from shore and into more dangerous water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in spaces like appropriately managed swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.



6 SUPERVISION IS KEY



For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently; therefore, anyone supervising them must maintain constant watch in case they get into difficulty.

7 DON'T GO TOO FAR



When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth. Share advice with them such as only entering water up to a standing depth, and in the case of visiting the beach, swim parallel to shorelines. This will allow a child to stay in control and get out of the water easily.

8 KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED



For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor spaces and bathrooms tidy after playtime. This includes removing water from paddling pools after use and turning them over, returning lids to hot tubs and taking toys out of baths, so all water can be fully drained from the tub.

9 FLOAT AND CALL 999



If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should try to float on their back, stay calm, and call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should dial 999 or 112 immediately, then shout to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back, and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

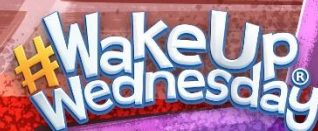
10 TEACH WATER SAFETY



Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated in school on water safety. Use RLSS UK's accredited programme, 'Water Smart Schools', which offers free lesson plans and resources on how to be safe on, near and around water by following the Water Safety Code.

Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water, safely. Water safety education provided in schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.





Can you spare a few hours a week to become a reading helper at our school?

We are working with Coram Beanstalk, a charity that recruits and trains volunteer reading helpers who can commit to an afternoon a week to come in to school. As a reading helper you will support at least 3 children on a one-to-one basis outside of the classroom environment. You will be sharing and talking about books, helping them to grow in confidence and develop a lifelong love of reading.

For more information or if you wish to apply, visit the website at www.corambeanstalk.org.uk/register-now or call 0207 729 4087.

Helping an ADHD Child with Homework

Helping an ADHD Child with Homework



FREE one hour online session for parents
Thursday 25th June 7pm - 8pm

Join us online to get some advice on how to help your ADHD child start and complete their homework.

Book on the PARENTS - Live Talks page
facefamilyadvice.co.uk

ADVENTURE
DISCOVER
PLAY
CREATE

HOLIDAY HQ

Junior Adventures Group

A SUMMER FULL OF STORIES

STARTS HERE

NEW THEMES EACH WEEK!

- STEM: SCIENCE & DISCOVERY
- SUMMER: SPLASH
- URBAN: SPORTS
- ULTIMATE: SPORTS
- WORLD DISCOVERY & CULTURE
- ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

Multi-Activity Summer Holiday Camp

Free Summer Holiday HAF Spaces
Secure your child's spot

Ofsted Registered



A Summer Full of Stories Starts Here!

JAG Summer Camp is a multi-activity holiday experience designed for primary-aged children, packed with variety, energy and creativity. With new themes each week, every day brings something different from high-energy games and team challenges to hands-on making and creative activities.



EACH DAY IS DIFFERENT!

A mix of fun, creative and active experiences designed around choice and variety:



MAKE & TAKE

Craft your own unique creation and take it home as a Holiday HQ souvenir! Get hands-on in our Craft Zone activities, designed to unlock creativity and imagination.



ARTS & CRAFTS



THEMED ACTIVITIES

Dive into a new adventure every day with our exciting daily themed activities!



SKILL ZONE














Skill Zone is a daily session designed to build confidence, curiosity, and teamwork through themed challenges and purposeful play.

BOOK NOW!

We understand that flexibility and affordability matter. That's why we offer a range of options to help make summer work for you.

- ✓ 48-hour cancellation policy
- ✓ Flexible bookings
- ✓ Tax-Free Childcare accepted
- ✓ Childcare Vouchers accepted
- ✓ Weekly booking discounts
- ✓ 10% sibling discount

New UK online safety measures - What's covered?

	<p>Social media</p>	<p>Restrictions on access to major social media platforms for under-16s. Platforms named by the Government which may include are TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, X and YouTube.</p> <p>✔ YouTube Kids is not currently included in the ban.</p>	
	<p>Communicating with strangers</p>	<p>Features that allow under-16s to communicate with strangers would be restricted across relevant online services, including gaming platforms.</p>	
	<p>Livestreaming</p>	<p>Under-16s would not be able to create or host livestreams.</p>	
	<p>AI chatbots</p>	<p>Romantic or sexual AI chatbots will be banned for under-18s. All AI tools must also switch off similar features for anyone under 18.</p>	
	<p>16-17-year-olds</p>	<p>Livestreaming and stranger-contact protections would be switched on by default. Additional protections are under consideration.</p>	
	<p>Platform design</p>	<p>The Government is considering measures such as overnight curfews, breaks in infinite scrolling and other design changes to support children's wellbeing online.</p>	
	<p>Age verification</p>	<p>Simply asking children to enter their date of birth will no longer be enough. Platforms will need to introduce robust checks, the exact methods are still being decided.</p>	

Scouting Needs You!



We have a growing number of Young People wanting to take part in Scouting across Dunstable, but we need more adult help to give youngsters Fun, Adventure and learn #SkillsForLife

We Need - more than 25 new volunteers, to help with

- Opening more Squirrel Dreys (4 to 6yrs)
- Our expanding Beaver Colonies (6 to 8)
- LOTS more help with the Cub Packs (8 to 10)
- Help with our ever growing Scout troops (10 to 14)
- We also need: Gardeners, tea makers, minute takers, fundraisers, media managers, cleaners, DIY'ers, trustee members, treasurers, smilers & laughers, administrators.

If you would like to help or learn more please contact us :

Dunstabledc@gmail.com

Or visit <https://dunstable.scoutsonline.co.uk>



They make all the difference. So could you.

Help young people in Dunstable, Houghton Regis and all the Surrounding Villages

scouts.org.uk/Volunteer
#SkillsForLife



Digital Skills for Beginners



NOAH.

When?

Wednesdays and
Fridays from
10:00am-12:30pm.

Starting 1st July 2026

Contact

Mail: office@lflct.com

Call: 01582 372554

Or why not drop in and
book you place today



Course content

Course is for beginners little or no experience including staying safe online, understanding AI, using smartphones and digital skills across devices, sending emails and attachments, and completing online forms.

4 Week Course

Start your journey today
The Lewsey Farm Learning Centre

noahenterprise.org



www.lflct.com





HOUGHTON HALL PARK

Open Air Cinema



Wed
29th
July
2026

2pm GOAT (PG)

Run Time: 1 hour 40 minutes

4.00pm Wicked (PG)

Run Time: 2 hours 40 minutes

Book Free
Tickets via
Eventbrite



 info@houghtonhallpark.org 