

St Augustine's Newsletter

August 2026



Dear parent/carer,

Welcome back everyone!

I hope you have all had a lovely Summer. I am delighted to report that all children have settled in so well and are really enjoying school.

I am delighted to be providing my first newsletter as Head Teacher of St Augustine's Primary School & Nursery. I would like to thank pupils, staff, parents and the parish for the very warm and kind welcome I have received, and for your patience as I settle into a new school and nursery.

I am looking forward to building up positive partnerships with all children, families, staff and the wider community. I plan to issue a monthly newsletter to help you with your own planning around school life.

Please use this as a reminder of what is coming up and I know you will be keen supporters of all that we seek to accomplish. As with all planning, we will try our best to ensure events run as planned. However, please note that, at times, things can change. We will always aim to notify you as soon as possible if any changes are necessary.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to the Meet the Teacher event for you to get to know me in addition to your child's classroom teacher. I will also take this opportunity to gather views about the work of our school and nursery.

Many thanks,

Mr S Duffy

ST AUGUSTINE'S STAFF TEAM 2026/2027

Teaching Staff

Mr Duffy	Head Teacher
Mrs Elliott	Depute Head Teacher
Miss Jamieson	P1 - Room 1
Miss K Ross	P1 - Room 2
Mrs Thomson	P2 - Room3
Miss G Ross	P2/3 - Room 4
Miss Molloy	P3 - Room 7
Mrs Gillooly	P3/4 - Room 8
Miss Murphy	P4 - Room 13
Mrs Ewing	P5 - Room 15
Mrs Elder/Mr O'Dowd	P5 - Room 16
Mr Docherty	P6 - Room 12
Mrs Longyear	P6/7 - Room 9
Mrs Drummond	P7 & Principal Teacher - Room 10
Mrs O'Donohue	Non-Contact Time - PE, Health & Wellbeing, P3 (Tuesday)
Mrs McGlone	Non-Contact Time - PE, Attainment Teacher, P7 (Friday)

Early Years Staff

Mrs Rooney	Early Years Lead Practitioner
Mrs Baillie	Early Years Keyworker
Mrs Collinson	Early Years Keyworker
Miss Chisholm	Early Years Keyworker
Mrs Gilmartin	Early Years Keyworker
Miss Reilly	Early Years Keyworker
Miss Cameron	Early Years Support Worker
Mrs Quinn	Early Years Support Worker

Office staff

Mrs McGurk	Snr Clerical Asst
Mrs Turner	Clerical Asst

Learning Assistants

Mrs Cartwright	Learning Assistant
Miss McShane	Learning Assistant
Mrs Gribben	Learning Assistant
Mrs Ward	Learning Assistant

Janitorial Staff

Mrs Redmond	Janitor
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SCHOOL VISION & VALUES

It has been my privilege to hear from the children about our patron St Augustine. I have been spending some time referring to the Latin, 'Tolle Lege' meaning to 'take up and read'. This statement has formed the basis of getting to know the children both in their lives and in their learning. Together we will shape the school vision for what is to come.

At weekly assemblies, children will revisit the school values of Apply, Learn, Achieve, Together in Faith and each class will have a class charter adhering to these values.

If your child is not following the school values and being disruptive you will be contacted by a member of the Management Team to discuss.



POLICY & PROCEDURE

Please read the following information very carefully so that you are up to date with our procedures.

- Parents are **NOT** permitted to enter the yard in the mornings.
- P1 parents can collect from the gate at the Infant yard at **3.00pm promptly**
- P2 - P3 parents can collect from the main gate in the yard at **3.00pm**
- P4 -7 pupils can walk home on their own and can use either gate
- Breakfast Club **8.15am** start. Children can enter via the main reception.
- Cashless - The school encourages parents/carers to sign up to utilise the [IpayImpact](#) online system. P1-5 are entitled to free school meals including breakfast.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thank you to everyone for your co-operation in ensuring the children are in school uniform. They all look very smart and are a credit to yourselves.

As we start a new term, please can you ensure that you **LABEL** your child's clothing, lunch boxes, and bottles. Even though we are only two weeks into the new term, we already have a considerable amount of lost property. Where items have been labelled, it is much easier to reunite them with their owner.

Please note that children are not permitted to wear branded clothing at any time within the school.



PE DAYS

All children will get two PE slots per week. One will be an indoor session and one will be outdoor.

There is a set uniform for PE that your child should bring to school on their PE days which comprises of unbranded white polo shirt, black joggers, leggings, shorts and black sports shoes.

Your child should bring their PE kit on the following days.

Room 1 - Tuesday & Thursday
Room 2 - Tuesday & Thursday
Room 3 - Wednesday & Thursday
Room 4 - Wednesday & Thursday
Room 7 - Tuesday & Wednesday
Room 8 - Wednesday & Friday

Room 9 - Monday & Friday
Room 10 - Monday & Thursday
Room 12 - Wednesday & Friday
Room 13 - Wednesday & Friday
Room 15 - Thursday & Friday
Room 16 - Tuesday & Wednesday

SAFE PARKING

Please note the zig zags lines around our school are not drop off or pick up points and traffic wardens will issue tickets to cars parked on them.

Parking is available in the Time Capsule car park and also in the car park of St. Augustine's Church.

I would also ask that you do not park at the roundabout as this is not only illegal, but causes significant congestion at drop off/pick up times.

In the interest of the safety of all, if you are bringing a vehicle to the school, please use the designated parking to avoid the risk of accidents.



COMMUNICATION

At St Augustine's we believe that open, honest and transparent communication is essential to the school community.

There are several channels used by the school. The most important ones to follow are: -

- Our SWAY
- Class Groups on Microsoft Teams
- Our school website <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/staugustines/>
- Our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/saintaugus/>

WATER BOTTLES

We encourage children to bring a water bottle to school each day to keep them hydrated during lessons. Please note that only water is permitted.

Children should take them home each night to be washed. It is recommended that bottles be 'BPA Free' and that they are washed with soapy water each night.

The re-use of disposable water bottles is not recommended.

Children can bring metal water bottles or flasks but glass bottles are not permitted.



FIZZY DRINKS



Cans/bottles of carbonated, or energy drinks, are NOT permitted.

MOBILE PHONES

The Scottish Government has launched a public consultation on proposed legislation relating to the restriction of mobile phones in schools. The consultation is open until 17 November 2026 and seeks views from a wide range of stakeholders on future approaches to mobile phone use within educational settings.

Further information, including the consultation document and details of how to respond, can be found here: [Consultation on restricting mobile phone use in schools](#)

The schools current policy in relation to Mobile phones is that they are **not permitted**. If your child needs to bring their mobile phone, then they must drop it off at the office at 9.00am for safe keeping and it will be returned at 3.00pm.

If you need to be in contact with your child in the course of the school day for any reason, you should proceed through the usual channel, which is through the school office. We are always very happy to pass on a message or let your child know of any unexpected change of arrangements for home time.



SICKNESS AND DIARRHOEA

Please note that children experiencing these symptoms should not return to school for **48 hours** following the last period of sickness/diarrhoea.

ALLERGY AWARE ZONE

St Augustine's aims to create a greater understanding and environment which supports children who have severe allergies. We have a duty of care to everyone in our community and the key to managing severe allergy is awareness, avoidance and action. Please inform us of any medical information as soon as possible.

There are children who are extremely allergic to any kind of nuts, so I would ask you to be particularly vigilant with snacks and packed lunches.



HEAD LICE

Be extra vigilant now that all children are back in school. Once a week, take a peek!

MAKE-UP / NAILS



There has been an increase in the number of children wearing false nails which are not suitable when participating in PE and playing in the playground as they are too long and sharp. If this occurs you child will be offered an alternative to lower the risk of injury.

The wearing of 'make up' is **NOT permitted**. Any child wearing 'make up' to school will be asked to remove it immediately.

JEWELLERY

For reasons of health and safety jewellery should **NOT** be worn to school.

For those children with ears pierced, please note that small studs only are permitted. Children will be asked to remove all other jewellery.

NB. Stud earrings should be removed on PE days and in the case of recently pierced ears then these should be covered with tape.

WHAT'S ON THIS TERM

John Wilson Photography



John Wilson photography will be visiting the school for individual and family group photographs on **Wednesday 26th August**.

Class photographs have been taken on 14th August, these will be displayed at the front of the school and made available for purchase.

Feast of St Augustine

We are delighted that the whole school will attend 10am Mass on **Friday 28th August** to celebrate the Feast of St Augustine and the children will have a fun day in their classes in the afternoon.

Enrolment Mass for Sacraments

Alongside Father Kane, I am delighted to invite you to our Enrolment Mass for Sacraments being held in St. Augustine's Church on **Sunday 30th August** at 10am to begin this session's faith journey for our sacramental year groups P3, P4 and P7.



Meet the Teacher

You are all invited to come into school on **Wednesday 2nd September** between 1.45 and 2.45 to meet your child's teacher and find out our plan for improvement.

Please arrive to the school hall for 1.30 to get a seat. An opportunity to hear from Mr Duffy will begin at 1.45pm and then you can visit the classes around 2.10pm.

Community Learning Development

Our Community Learning Development (CLD) Worker Angela Thomson will be offering the following parent workshops:

Parent & Child Learning - Primary 1 Parent & Child

Primary 1 parents will receive a registration link via text message/email to sign up when dates and times are confirmed.

Parent Council & PTA



There will be an AGM to elect members for this session on **9th September** with the time to be confirmed. All are welcome to attend. The Parent Council & PTA are fabulous and benefit all children by running events and fund raising. I look forward to our improvement journey together.

Sacrament Information Evening

All parents of P3, P4, P7 should attend St Augustine's church on **Tuesday 22nd September** at 7pm. This will provide an opportunity to go over the dates, practicalities and highlight school/parish partnership during this special time. I am keen to support the excellent ongoing work of our parish community

School Sponsored Walk & Boom Boom Challenge

The school will take part in our annual sponsored walk on Thursday 24th September: -

P1 - P3 Sponsored Walk - morning Boom Boom Balloon - afternoon

P4 - P7 Boom Boom Benchball - morning Sponsored Walk - afternoon

Sponsor forms will be issued in the coming weeks and if you are able to help support the Sponsored Walk please contact the office as soon as possible. Your help and support are greatly appreciated.

School Improvement

This year our priorities are beginning to take shape however a full breakdown of these priorities will be shared at a later date. As we enter into a time of change in Scottish education, the school will take it's lead from upcoming national priorities and collaboration with pupils, parents and partners of our school.

- **Priority 1 - Learning, Teaching and Assessment**
- **Priority 2 - Curriculum**
- **Priority 3 - Nursery**

I look forward to the year ahead with your continued support working with all our wonderful pupils.

Mr. S Duffy
Head Teacher

Dates to Remember

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| • Wednesday 26 th August | | John Wilson - Class Photographs |
| • Friday 28 th August | 10am | Feast of St Augustine Mass |
| • Sunday 30 th August | 10am | Enrolment Mass for Sacraments |
| • Wednesday 2 nd September | 1.30pm - 2.45pm | Meet the Teacher |
| • Wednesday 9 th September | TBC | Parent Council & PTA AGM |
| • Tuesday 22 nd September | 7pm | Sacrament Information Evening (Church) |
| • Thursday 24 th September | | Sponsored Walk |
| • Friday 25 th & Monday 28 th | | September Weekend (School Closed) |
| • Monday 12 th October | | October Week (School Closed until 16 th) |