



JUNE 2016—NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Thank you. At this time of year I have the opportunity to say thank you to all of the staff who work so hard on behalf of the students in St Augustine's High School. Every day I see staff, teaching and non-teaching, going that extra mile in supporting and caring for the students. I am very grateful to them all and I know from the number of conversations with parents and letters I receive, that you agree with me. So a special thank you to them all.

I would also like to thank all our parents for their support throughout an extremely busy and successful year.

Staffing. As we start the term in August we will be welcoming a number of new staff. These have not as yet been allocated to us but I know you will welcome them to our community. I am sure they will all enjoy their time with us. Congratulations to Miss Murray who has been appointed Depute Head Teacher in St Andrew's High School, Kirkcaldy. We wish her good wishes and success in her new post.

The recent few weeks have been very busy with our Awards Ceremony, Leavers' Ceremony, S6 Prom, P7 Induction days and of course our Olympics—all of which were excellent occasions.

Inevitably, during the holidays, your thoughts will turn to purchasing new school uniforms. Please bear in mind the school uniform policy outlined on page 7. I know young people can try to persuade parents to buy trainers, hoodies, designer gear etc but please resist the pressure put upon you and stick rigidly to the school uniform policy. This will help us enormously with security and in matters of health and safety.

I wish everyone, pupils, parents and staff a relaxing and enjoyable holiday—however you choose to spend it.

Michael McGee
Head Teacher

HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR THE SCHOOL

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising a free donation for St Augustine's? There are nearly 3000 retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva and Sainsbury's, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to St Augustine's to say thank you for shopping with them.

It's really simple and doesn't cost you anything. All you have to do is:

- **Go to easyfundraising.org.uk**
- **Search for St Augustine's RC High School, Edinburgh as the cause you are supporting**
- **Sign up for free**
- **Get shopping** – your donations will be collected by easy fundraising and automatically sent to St Augustine's.

It couldn't be easier! There are no catches or hidden charges and St Augustine's will be really grateful for your donations. Thank you for your support.

St Augustine's Parent Council

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tues 21—Thurs 23 Jun
P7 Induction

Wed 22 Jun
P7 Induction Parents Evening
7.00pm

Thurs 30 June
Non Uniform
End of Term Service
12.00 finish

Mon 15 & Tues 16 Aug
In-Service—Staff only

Wed 17 Aug
Pupils resume

Thurs 8 Sept
UCAS Parents
Evening 7.00pm

Thurs 15 Sept
Parent Council 6.00pm

Mon 19 Sept
Holiday

Thurs 29 Sept
Community Mass 7.00pm
St Catharine's Convent

Thurs 13 Oct
Parent Council 6.00pm

Mon 17-Fri 21 Oct
Holiday

Mon 24 Oct
In-Service—Staff only

Tues 25 Oct
Pupils resume

Thurs 10 Nov
Mass of Remembrance 7.00pm

Thurs 22 Dec
End of term service
Non-uniform

**Fri 23 Dec 2016—
Fri 6 Jan 2017**
Holiday

Mon 9 Jan
In-Service—Staff only

Tues 10 Jan
Pupils resume

ADVANCED HIGHER MODERN STUDIES VISIT TO HMP SHOTTS



The Advanced Higher Modern Studies class with Mrs Aitchison spent the day at HMP Shotts collecting information for dissertations and essays. After a very informative presentation from two prison officers we were given a tour of the prison where we saw the workshops and educational facilities.

We were surprised at the positive attitude of the prison officers towards the inmates and also how modern the building and facilities were. Hopefully we will not be returning any time soon!

*Natalie Aiyegbusi, Shauna Queen
& Emily Hay*

St Augustine new Sports Young Ambassadors appointed!

Well done to Adam Mclean, Zara Mason, Mhairi McLaughlin and Justin Lipinski on becoming the new **Young Ambassadors** for sport for the school!!

Also well done to Niamh Gillis and Amy Woodcock for becoming the 1st new *Apprentice Sports Young Ambassadors* in the school! They will go for their 1st training Edinburgh YA day on 24 June at Meggetland and meet all the YA who have been appointed and learn more about the role and what they can do for the school and the cluster. If you see any of them please say well done. They will all get new Edinburgh Young Ambassador's tops and a pin badge.

This team will be lead in the newly formed Sports Committee which will also include Eva Laing and Joyce Chakonda.

This should make for a great year ahead for sports and for helping PE and Mrs Damen Active Schools!



Former pupil, Scottish artist and designer Gabriella Marcella shows off her monumental murals at Tramway, Glasgow, as part of Pehchaan; Art from Another India, which showcases a collection of North Indian art, featuring folk art, textiles and contemporary art. The show runs until from 18—31 July.

Goodbye to S6 Leavers

Friday the 3rd of June saw us say goodbye to our 2016 Leavers here at St Augustine's RC High School. There was a fantastic turn out from pupils, parents and staff and the ceremony, led by Monsignor Duffy, was a lovely occasion which celebrated our young people's time here at St Augustine's. Thanks to all those who attended and helped to make the afternoon such a joyous one.

We wish all our leavers well!



SOUNDS LIKE SOUND BUSINESS PRACTICE

St Augustine's RC High School could be "taking the high road" to the charts this summer!

Sixteen pupils from the S3 Enterprise class have formed their own record label (1, 2 Auggie's Crew) to put together a twenty track compilation of the best of Scottish music.

Entitled "**The Sound of Scotland**", it features a unique blend of traditional and contemporary material including a stirring live performance of "500 Miles" by X FACTOR finalists The MacDonald Bros plus a rock version of the "Flower of Scotland".

The project is a great way for youngsters to learn the basics of business practice while having fun. Already it is attracting the attention of the media as well as retailers including HMV in Scotland who have agreed to stock the album.

The album is available for sale within the school at £2 and in shops around £2.99.

For further information please contact the school on 0131 334 6801 admin@st-augustines.edin.sch.uk



British Youth Championships 2016



Congratulations go to Mhairi McLaughlin (5D1) who in the past few months has achieved great success in Fencing whereby she has achieved the following:-

- 3rd in the Edinburgh Open in March
- 5th in the Birmingham International Open at the end of March. This was particularly impressive as she was 5th in a field of 61 - the Scottish Open competitions usually have an entry list of 15-25.
- 3rd in the Glasgow Open in April

As a result, Mhairi went up from a senior UK women's foil ranking of 73 in September 2015 and 41 in March 2016 to 16th in April 2016, although she is currently ranked 19th.

In addition to her senior results Mhairi won the Under 16 Girls Foil competition at the British Youth Championships, which was an amazing result. In addition to these fantastic achievements Mhairi is now the Girls Under 17 Foil Scottish Youth Champion following the Scottish Youth Championships at the weekend.

These are tremendous successes that Mhairi has achieved it highlights the success that you can achieve with dedication and hard work. Well done Mhairi!

JUNIOR AWARDS CEREMONY

On Thursday 2nd June, the school was delighted to welcome back former pupil, Lord Pentland, a High Court judge and Chairman of the Scottish Law Commission, to present all our Junior Award winners with their certificates for attainment and achievement.

It was a fantastic night, and it was great to see so many parents and extended family members come to see all the wonderful successes our young people have enjoyed this session. There were also 3 musical pieces from the choir and we are indebted to Mrs Barry for accompanying her daughter, Miss Barry who was the conductor of the choir. The whole event again highlighted the positive outcomes that all of our young people can achieve with hard work and determination.



Well done to everyone who received an award and a special thanks to Lord Pentland, for returning to his old school to speak to all our young people about his life at school and subsequent career in the legal world. It shows what can be achieved at St Augustine's if you work hard! A wonderful evening was had by all!

S5 Convenor's Challenge 2016

On Friday 10 June a team of 4 S5 pupils from St Augustine's competed in the Edinburgh Convenor's Challenge. The team members, Justin Lipinski, Erin Sutherland, Adam Mclean and Mhairi McLaughlin competed against 12 other schools and worked extremely hard throughout the day as they pedalled, paddled and plotted their way across the city.

The Convenor's Challenge was designed to encourage teams of school pupils to develop strategies that will enable them to complete a series of activity challenges. Developed and delivered by the Sports and Outdoor Learning unit.

The aim of the challenge was to complete a range of challenges around the city:

- Activity Challenge, where competitors must complete a physical, outdoor challenge
- City Challenge which was a series of information-gathering challenges designed to test competitors' navigation and observation skills
- Super Summit Challenge, where the aim is to get to the top of as many of Edinburgh's seven hills as is possible.



The team from St Augustine's completed 3 activity challenges- Orienteering at Corstorphine Hill, a water based challenge on the Union Canal and Abseiling at Blackford Quarry.

They completed 26 City Challenges and also managed to reach the Summit of 5 of Edinburgh's "Seven Hills" covering a total distance of 39km - 35km of which was on Foot!

The team from St Augustine's came in 2nd place with a total of 8365 points narrowly missing out on 1st place by 65 points. The team thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and were a credit to the school. Well Done!

Please note below the increased cost of school meals:-

School Meals	Currently	From 2016-2017
Secondary Schools	£2.35	£2.45 Effective from August 2016

DEVELOPING EDINBURGH'S YOUNG WORKFORCE

Here at St Augustine's we are hoping to develop further business links and were wondering if any parents would be able to offer their assistance. Whether it may be coming into the school to run workshops or having pupils on extended work placement. Please could you contact Mrs Lovatt in the Business Education Department if you feel you could assist. Thank you.

DIGITAL SAFETY

More and more parents are asking how they can get support for Digital Safety. The Edinburgh Digital Learning Team have collected some of the best of these together for parents to access and these can be found here:

<http://digitallearningteam.org/digital-safety/curriculum-planners/resources-for-parents/> we would encourage you to use these to ensure you are aware of how you can support Digital Safety with your child.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE SCHOOL HAS UP TO DATE ADDRESS, TELEPHONE, EMAIL AND EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS FOR YOUR CHILD. THANK YOU



S6 Prom

St Augustine's RC High School held the S6 prom at the Hilton Grosvenor, Haymarket. The night was a great success and enjoyed by all. The night began with reception drinks where parents and guardians were invited to the venue for photographs and to see the pupils in their beautiful dresses and suits! The dedicated prom committee had worked hard throughout the year selling refreshments at parents evening, holding Christmas events and having bake sales. This hard work paid off as the committee were able to decorate the venue with balloons for the tables and also hire a surprise photo booth for the year group to enjoy! We wish all the pupils the best of luck for future!



Social Enterprise in Education Awards

On Thursday 16th June members of the S4 Enterprise and Employability class picked up their Social Enterprise in Education Award. The pupils showcased their PenPalz business and their pen pal letters at the event which generated a lot of interest from other schools and the Social Enterprise Academy.

Elaaf Ahmed, Areesha Mahmood and Chloe Hammond collected the award on behalf of the class and enjoyed a speech from the guest speaker, John Swinney MSP.

Well Done to all involved!



School Uniform Policy

Parents are asked to co-operate with the school in encouraging the wearing of the school uniform. Wearing school uniform contributes to a positive school ethos and helps avoid discrimination and reduces peer pressure to wear expensive designer clothing.

- **Black tailored trousers or skirts of a suitable length**
- **White school shirt**
- **School Tie**
- **Sensible black school shoes**
- **Blue School Blazer with school badge (for years S5 & S6)**

A black v-neck cardigan or v-neck jumper will be acceptable over a white school shirt and school tie

Ties can be purchased from the School Office

Jeans, joggers, leggings, jeggings, tracksuit bottoms, trainers and designer tops, caps and boots are not appropriate school wear (including ankle boots)

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Free name tagging of all garments. We know that name tagging is a chore, so we've taken that away by sewing name tapes into all garments, free of charge.

Simple navigation by school that only shows the products that your child needs.

Free returns. All orders include a resealable bag with a Freepost label to make returning items convenient and cost-free.

Free delivery between 3rd and 17th July.

We know that our unique website will save you lots of time, but it does require you to register your child's details, so that our Intelligent Sizing system can work its magic. We recognise that registering might be a pain so we will also give you £20 off your first order for each child you register with us.



St Augustine's Olympics—June 2016

The spirit and thrill of the 2016 Olympics started early.. not in Rio but in St Augustine's.



The Opening Ceremony buzzed with enthusiasm and we were delighted to welcome Sarah Clark a 3 times Olympian and Judo Gold Medal Commonwealth Games winner to open our Olympics.



Over the next 3 days all the pupils representing Australia, Denmark and Morocco participated in action packed entertaining, challenging, fun filled sporting, scientific, ecological, creative and team building events.



The spirit of community during the Closing Ceremony was overpowering as pupils responded enthusiastically as their efforts, skills, creativity and collegiality were recognised, with Denmark being the overall winner.

An outstanding week which truly fulfilled the Olympic Goal in St Augustine's

S6 Induction

The S6 Induction took place on Monday 13th of August in school and the day was kick started by the army taking the S6 group through some team building exercises. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed their time and their only complaint was that it wasn't long enough! The rest of the day was filled with mock interviews, signing up for committees and applying to be a member of the senior team. Monsignor Duffy ended the day with a service in the school Oratory. Staff at St Augustine's are now looking forward to working with our new S6 pupils in the coming session.

