



Head Teacher's Update 20th August 2021

Welcome back to returning learners and a warm welcome to our new S1 students!!!

New Additions to Our Community

The new S1 have done fantastically well this week and settled into life at St. Augustine's. If there is anything we can do to support, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

New Pastoral System

We have moved to a Head of House system which should provide more capacity to support our learners. Every learner is a member of a House Team at St. Augustine's, please note the key members of staff supporting your child.

House	Pupil Support Leader	Head of House
St. Andrew	Ms. G Kelly	Mrs. Chrystal
St. David	Mrs. G Kelly (new member of staff)	Mrs. Baird
St. Margaret	Mrs. McKillop	Mr Dalglish

SQA Results 2021

Congratulations to all our senior learners last year who produced the 2nd highest attainment for the last five years! This is truly great, especially when you think of the disruption and restrictions in place.

As a staff we worked hard to give every opportunity for learners to succeed. However, we know that a few learners are disappointed with their results and have appealed. Please remember that the appeal process has three possible outcomes:

- Grade stays the same
- Grade is improved
- Grade is lowered

There is a booklet from SQA that provides further detail and can be found at: [SQA Appeals 2021 - what you need to know](#)

SQA Update for 2021-22

Please note this extract from an SQA update:

'The central planning assumption is that an examination diet for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses will be held in session 2021-2022. This decision has been informed by the views of stakeholders, including the National Qualifications Group, and by public health advice.'

SQA exams will take place from 26 April to 1 June 2022 with results day on 9 August 2022.

Mobile Phone Use

As we are integrating technology more and more these days we welcome the positives that this can bring. That said, we also are aware of the distractions that can happen; thus, please remember that mobile phones should **not** be out in class. We have reminded learners of this and appreciate your support in reinforcing this message.

Equalities

We have created an STA-Equalities address:

sta-equalities@st-augustines.edin.sch.uk

This means that pupils, staff and parents can email the equalities group directly with any ideas, complaints or issues. It gives everyone a recognisable contact point and should hopefully open channels of communication.

Former Pupil Success

A message from Mr Boothroyd...

Last Saturday I attended a festival production in the Traverse Theatre starring former pupil Naomi Stirrat (was Naomi Wiseman). Also, in the cast was former Drama teacher Jane Innes who was here a few years ago on long term cover.

The play is called "Still" and is a very hard-hitting piece exploring the need to confront terminal illness and death but also has moments of comedy that Naomi highlighted beautifully. It is sold out for the rest of the run although there may be returns available.

Naomi and Jane got excellent reviews in the press. The National said "Few Scottish theatre productions can boast a line-up that includes the like of superb actor and singer Naomi Stirrat....."



Young Person's Free Bus Travel Scheme

Please find an update [here](#) regarding the new Scottish Government scheme to provide free bus travel to under 22 year olds by 31st January 2022.

Standards at St. Augustine's

It was a fantastic sight to see our learners return this week, all in school uniform. Thank you for your support in this important part of our community's identity.

As a Senior Leadership Team, we will be making rounds next week to praise those learners who are in full school uniform and thank them for their commitment.



We have noticed that a few learners are wearing inappropriate footwear. Please support us by ensuring that shoes worn to school are black. The converse shoe shown here is **not** appropriate. Again, thank you for your support.

We know that some families can struggle financially, and the pandemic has exacerbated this. There is a clothing grant you can apply for to support in the buying of school uniform. If eligible, £100 will be given directly to you. Please find the online application form here:

[Apply for free school meals, milk and clothing grant – The City of Edinburgh Council](#)

If you need support, please feel free to contact Claire Gibson (Pupil Support Officer): Claire.Gibson@st-augustines.edin.sch.uk

The school uniform is:

We are aware that this uniform code needs updating, and we will consult with parents/carers and learners in September. We appreciate your support in this.

Vaccination for 16 and 17 yr olds

Please note that there will be a bus at Waverley Bridge this weekend offering vaccinations to 16 and 17 yr olds.

As you know vaccination is an important part to deal with the current pandemic. If you need support in organising a vaccination, then please contact the school.

VACCINATION BUS

Come along to get your COVID 19 vaccination at:

 Venue: **Waverly Bridge**, on the North West side, Edinburgh

 Date: **Sat 21st & Sun 22nd Aug 2021**

 Time: **11.00am – 8.00pm**

Vaccines that may be offered:
Under 40 years: Moderna or Pfizer/BioNTech
Over 40 years: AstraZeneca

WHERE'S THE BUS?





**AVAILABLE TO ANYONE 16+
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY**

A moment of reflection



God loves each of us as if there
were only one of us.

~ Saint Augustine

Have a great weekend!