



## Teacher's Update 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Welcome to this *MONSTER* edition of the Head Teacher's Update and my first one for this year! I recognise that some articles may be "out of date" but I still wanted to recognise the superb achievement of our young people. Please find a mixture of important information and celebration of our fantastic community below.

Our Senior Leadership Team has changed recently with a permanent team taking over after Easter. Currently our Senior Leadership Team until Easter is:

Name	Position	Year Head Responsibility
Mr. A O'Doherty	Head Teacher	Whole School
Mrs. L-A Baird	Depute Head Teacher	S2 and S6
Mrs. S Connor	Acting Depute Head Teacher	S3 and S5
Mr. F Seywright	Acting Depute Head Teacher	S1 and S4
Mrs. A Haskett	Acting Senior Development Officer	Transition (current P7)

We have moved to a Year Head system for improved targeted pastoral care of your child. The House system is still in place and your first point of contact regarding your child has not changed and is the Pupil Support Leader of their house.

House	Pupil Support Leader	Working Pattern
St. Andrew	Ms. G Kelly	Monday – Friday
St. David	Mr. K Fey Mrs. G Kelly	Monday Tuesday – Friday
St. Margaret	Mrs. D McKillop Ms. J Greenhorn	Monday – Thursday Friday

## Parent Council Meeting Dates

As we start to move away from COVID restrictions we wish to build and grow the Parent Council, an important part of our community. Please see the meeting dates for the Parent Council below and join us as we support and influence the direction of St. Augustine's RC High School. If you cannot make any of the meetings but wish to be involved, please contact the school.

Day	Date	Time	Location
Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup> February 23	1800 - 1930	St. Augustine's
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup> March 23	1800 - 1930	St. Augustine's
Thursday	27 <sup>th</sup> April 23	1800 - 1930	St. Augustine's
Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup> June 23 (AGM)	1800 - 1930	St. Augustine's

We have re-launched our use of [Class Charts](#). This is an application that allows parents/carers and learners to track their participation and engagement in school. This is a key communication tool in celebrating the wonderful impact that our learners attain in our community.

We will send out your individual codes so you can access the information that staff are sharing about your child. We thank you for your support and hope you find this an easy tool to use that keeps you updated about your child. If you have any queries or issues, please contact the school.

As part of this system, I will have a hot chocolate with the stars of the week each Friday! This first meeting happened on Friday 20th January, although no drink, apologies! Congratulations to these learners and their efforts in school since the start of term, keep up the great work!

Magizh	Isai
Elma	Miah
Mija	Cibuka
Imogen	MacDonald
Rodrigo	Meireles
Onom	Sarker

Please find a contents list with links to the relevant paragraphs:

1. [Formal Assessment Results and Next Steps](#)
2. [Celebration of 2022 Attainment](#)
3. [Senior Prize Ceremony Sept 2022](#)
4. [Apology to Lucas Solway](#)
5. [Coursing Info](#)
6. [Reminder of Extra Curricular sports on offer](#)
7. [Cost of Living Support](#)
8. [Attendance – Important Info](#)
9. [Rugby Update](#)
10. [Anti-Bullying Information Session for Parents/Carers](#)
11. [Armistice Remembrance](#)
12. [Inclusion Update](#)
13. [Construction and Build Environment Challenge](#)
14. [Poppy Art Display](#)
15. [Enterprising Maths in the Lothians](#)
16. [Developing the Young Workforce Update](#)
17. [Career Ready Students and Mentors](#)
18. [Scottish Child Payment Information](#)
19. [Reading Schools Core Award](#)
20. [Advent Prayer Service](#)
21. [Mission Christmas 2022](#)
22. [Holocaust Survivor Visit](#)
23. [A Rising Football Star?](#)
24. [Senior Netball](#)
25. [Industrial Action: Parent and Carers Consultation](#)
26. [Equalities Update](#)
27. [The Store](#)

## 1. Formal Assessment Results and Next Steps

[back to top](#)

Well done to all our learners in S4/5/6 for completing their formal assessments before the Christmas holiday. Results to any assessments undertaken are currently being shared with the young people. We are collating the results and deciding on presentation levels for the May diet of examinations. This will be shared with parents/carers by end of February.

For now, here is a reminder of the support on offer for subject areas. A huge thank you to staff who volunteer to provide these sessions on a regular basis.

<b>Day</b>	<b>Dept</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Who for?</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Monday	Science	Biology	1530-1630	N5 Bio	Sc3	Dr R McMurray
	Languages	Spanish	1530 – 1630	N5/ H	ML3	Ms Murtagh
Tuesday	Wellbeing Hub	Homework Club	1530 – 1630	S1-3	W/being Hub	Mrs Whyte
	ESOL	Polish	1308 – 1350	GCSE	ML2	Mrs Zamarlik
	Mathematics	Maths	1530 – 1630	S4 at N5	M1	Miss Dove
Wednesday	Wellbeing Hub	Homework Club	1530 – 1630	S1-3	W/being Hub	Mrs Whyte
	Art & Craft	Graph Comm	1530 – 1630	S4	Graph Comm 2	Ms Greer
Thursday	Art & Craft	Design & Manuf	1530 – 1630	S4	Graph Comm 2	Ms Greer
	Languages	BGE Lunch Club	1308 – 1350	S1-3	ML3	Ms Murtagh
	Performing Arts	Drama Club	1308 – 1350	S1-6	Drama Crm	Ms Crawford
Friday	ESOL	Polish	1315 – 1415	GCSE	ML2	Mrs Zamarlik

### Scholar

In addition to our own support, help can be found online. On such support is SCHOLAR for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher students. Please see a guide to accessing this resource below:

The [Learning with SCHOLAR](#) video is for learners of National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher subjects, explaining and demonstrating how to access and use SCHOLAR to support learning and revision.

### Learning with SCHOLAR video

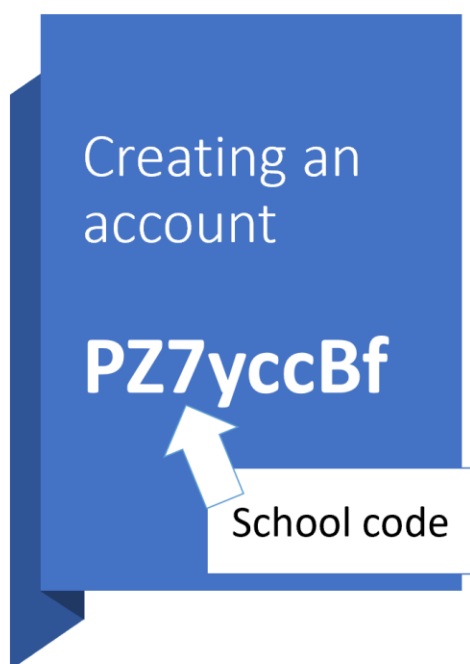
This video, for learners of National 5, H and AH subjects, has been divided into the following sections:



- [What is SCHOLAR?](#)
- [Do I have a SCHOLAR account?](#)
- [How do I log in to SCHOLAR?](#)
- [What if I can't see all my courses in SCHOLAR?](#)
- [How can SCHOLAR help?](#)
- [How can I find what I need to work on in SCHOLAR?](#)
- [What are the tests for in SCHOLAR?](#)
- [What if I can't work on SCHOLAR online?](#)
- [Where can I get help with SCHOLAR?](#)

### Achieve

In addition, we have also engaged in another online support called "ACHIEVE". Please [click here](#) to access this resource.



- **ACHIEVE can be accessed on your iPad or computer**
- Visit <https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/>
- Sign up with your office email and a safe password
- When prompted enter the St Augustine's High School code: **PZ7yccBf**
- If you have any issues with creating an account, please go to Mr Gillies' classroom (Computing Room 02)

### 2. Celebration of 2022 Attainment

[back to top](#)

A huge congratulations to the following learners on their success last academic year; they have demonstrated the level of excellence we strive for at St. Augustine's RC High School:

#### ***Attainment for 2021-2022***

S4: *Grace Mc Walter; Thea Nicolas; Jeffthan Ofosuhene; Mia Vilamzir*

S5: *Aleksandra Fedorowska; Katie Hardie; Grace McGinley; Perseus Law*

S6: *Ariuna Walker; Alicia McKinely*

### 3. Senior Prize Ceremony Sept 2022

[back to top](#)

We had the Senior Prize Giving in September 2022. Congratulations to all of our people on their success. A thank you to Father Francis for being our guest of honour and distributing the awards. Please find a few selected highlights from the event:



Achievement Winners



House Captains



S4 Award Winners



S5 Award Winners



Sports Award Winner

#### 4. Apology to Lucas Solway

[back to top](#)

My sincere apologies to Lucas for leaving him out of the celebration of the Junior Awards last Summer. Lucas Solway achieved the UKMT Mathematical Challenge Gold Award and was best in school! Well done.

#### 5. Coursing Info (message from Mrs Connor)

[back to top](#)

Course Choice 2023-24 - Pupils in S4 will commence course choice activities in school from this week. Copies of the course choice booklet, options form and a more detailed presentation for parents/carers have been made available to you. S5 and S2 pupils will commence course choice activities after the mid-term break.

#### 6. Reminder of Extra Curricular sports on offer

[back to top](#)

Please see the timetable of current opportunities for extra curricular sports below. For further details, including how to register, please visit the school web site or click [here](#).

# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

## 2022-2023

MONDAY			
Netball (S4-6)	3.35 – 4.30pm	Mrs Williams	Games Hall
Girls' Swimming	3.35 – 4.30pm	Mrs Damen	Swimming Pool
TUESDAY			
Netball (S1-3)	3.30 – 4.30	Miss McNair	Games Hall
Girls Football	3.30-4.30	Mr Faye and senior pupils	Meet in PE then 3G pitch
WEDNESDAY			
Recreational Basketball (S4-S6)	3.30 – 4.30pm	Mrs Haskett	Games Hall
Volleyball Club recreational Water Polo (S4-S6)	3.30 – 4.30pm	Mrs Haskett	Gym
Football (S1-3)	3.30 – 4.30pm	Mr Higgins	Meet at PE then 3G pitch
Rugby (S1-3)	3.30-4.30pm	Mr Milne and SRU	Meet at Pe then rugby pitch
Fun Dance (S1-3)	3.30-4.30pm	Dance Ambassadors	Fitness Suite
Water Polo (s1-S6) code FOR-301	4.00pm-4.45pm	Stingrays club	Swim pool
THURSDAY			
Boys' Swimming S1-6	3.30 – 4.30pm	Mrs Damen	Swimming Pool
Junior Basketball (S1 – S3)	3.30 – 4.30pm	Mr Murray	Games Hall
Girls Judo (S1-S6) Code FOR-303	3.40-4.30pm	Jidel Judo	FHS Gym hall

Keep up-to-date with extra-curricular clubs on the school website



department twitter page: [@stahssport](https://twitter.com/stahssport)



11-17 YEARS

**WEEKLY BASKETBALL**

THURSDAYS 5PM-6PM  
(STARTING 27TH OCT)

St Augustines High School  
GAMES HALL

Text 07504826683 to book

SCOREscotland  
breaking barriers, changing lives

ROBERTSON Trust



## 7. Cost of Living Support (message from the local authority)



### Cost of living support

As the cost of living continues to rise, many households are finding it harder to make ends meet. We have a range of support available to help colleagues and residents. It's important to talk about money problems and signpost your team to the relevant support.

### Money counts training

Designed for all colleagues who work with residents who would like to widen their knowledge to help people in crisis. Check people aren't missing out on benefits and grants, direct people to food and clothing banks or help with debt or managing money. You can [find out more or book onto a session](#) at Money Counts Registration.

### Cost of living support web pages

We've created new [cost of living web pages](#) with information on welfare, cost saving advice and debt management support information and resources to support citizens across Edinburgh.

## 8. Attendance – Important Info

[back to top](#)

Please find a table below which shows the impact on not attending school. Thank you for your support in ensuring your child is at school as much as possible to maximise their potential. We have provided this information in a number of different languages on our website and you can access this [here](#).

**ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGES CAN BE MISLEADING  
CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:**

%		SCHOOL DAYS MISSED	OUTLOOK FOR YOUR CHILD
100%	Excellent	0 Days	Gives your child the best chance of success
95%	Good	9 days (1 week and 4 days)	
90%	Below average	19 days (4 weeks and 4 days)	Starts to become harder for your child to progress
85%	Unsatisfactory	27 days (5 weeks and 3 days)	<u><b>SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS</b></u> Harder to make and maintain friendships  Becomes difficult to catch up with work  A child with below 85% attendance can be referred to the Education Welfare Service
80%		36 days (7 weeks and 3 days)  <u><b>*HALF A TERM MISSED*</b></u>	
70%	Unacceptable	57 days 11 weeks and 2 days)  <u><b>*1 WHOLE TERM MISSED *</b></u>	<u><b>VERY SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS</b></u> Extremely difficult to catch up with work.  Increased risk of social isolation  Child unlikely to have a positive view of education  Becomes harder to succeed in mainstream education; unlikely to gain qualifications, resulting in a difficult transition to positive destination (employment, further education)  Extremely likely to impact on confidence, self-esteem and mental health  Risk of legal action against parent/carers which may result in prosecution

## 9. Rugby Update (message from Mr Milne – Sept 2022)

The following pupils took part in a rugby festival in Stirling. The girls took part in four games against Balfron High School, Stirling County, Alloa Academy and Wallace High School.

[back to top](#)







The girls won two games and remained resilient throughout, trying to attack at every opportunity and defend often against physically bigger players. Even though they lost two games, it has not put them off playing. Many of the girls loved the experience of traveling to Stirling, speaking to other rugby players and being in “tonnes of fields” (countryside).

Our girls were stunned that some of the girls from the other teams do not have 4G, a “Big Tesco”, McDonalds or buses near them.

The players representing St Augustine’s:  
Fatou, Moira, Chelsy White, Aisha H, Chelsea M (first game), Morgan, Ciara (first game), Chelsea A, Sahara, Angel, Sohna (first game), Natalia (first game), Aisha D

Congratulations to all who took part and represented our community so well!



## 10. Anti-Bullying Information Session for Parents/Carers

[back to top](#)

Please find details on an information session regarding anti-bullying [here](#). If you are concerned for your child’s welfare due to bullying, please contact the relevant Pupil Support Leader.

## 11. Armistice Remembrance (message from Mrs Cochrane)

[back to top](#)

As part of their Caritas award, Julia Lipinksa 6D2 & Evi Bacsa 6D2 led St Augustine’s High School commemoration and remembrance events. They produced a power point for Tutor time and attended the Corstorphine War Memorial on 11<sup>th</sup> November where a poppy wreath was laid on behalf of the school community.



## 12. Inclusion Update (message from Mr Milne Inclusion Co-ordinator)

[back to top](#)



### College Visit

Our S4 pupils visited Edinburgh College, Sighthill Campus. The pupils did a tour of the campus, received a presentation from a student from the college, learnt about the process for applying and the support that can be given. The pupils enjoyed the visit and learning about the different departments.

### Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scotland and Duke of Edinburgh's Award Czech Republic visit

The Director's of DofE Scotland and DofE Czech republic visited the school. The aim was to view good practice of the Award in an Inclusive environment. During the visit, two pupils gave a presentation. Kori and Charlotte spoke about their experiences of the Award. The presentations were well received by our visitors. The boards were very impressed by their work.

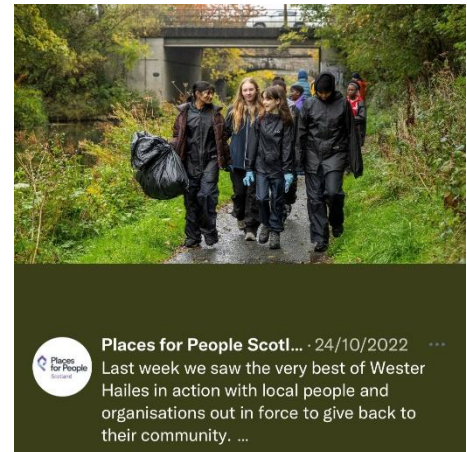


### Partnership work with Places for People

A group of pupils volunteered over the October break to take part in a community clean up. The group worked with Places for People,



Keep Scotland Beautiful, Police Scotland and TC Young. The partners were delighted with their efforts and commitment on their holidays. Places for People were so impressed that they have offered the school further opportunities, such as work experience at TC Young Solicitors and Morton Fraser Solicitors.



### Rugby v Falkirk

Our pupils played against Falkirk HS. The boys were off to a bad start when they received last minute call offs. However, the boys played the game with reduced numbers. They found it hard to get into the game as mistakes crept in. Many of our players had strong individual performances such as Kori, Lennex and Jack. They made powerful tackles and good runs. Unfortunately, they could not convert this into tries. As the game went on, Falkirk made lots of replacements and their tries flooded in. The game ended 30 (six tries)-0 to Falkirk. This game also saw Mohammed and Jack make their debut.







### Red Cross First Aid

Our DoFE pupils took part in First Aid sessions throughout the week. This included 45 pupils in our inclusion and extracurricular group. The pupils were engaged throughout and have now achieved an introduction to First Aid which will help them on their independent expeditions. Thank you to Becky McMurray for supporting the afterschool session.



## 13. Construction and Build Environment Challenge (message from Miss Greer)



The following pupils took part in the Construction and Built Environment Challenge on 12<sup>th</sup> October 22. They were all a credit to St Augustine's and attempted each challenge with teamwork and determination. Please join me in congratulating them on their efforts.

Tanvish Mamidi – 2M1  
Shehzad Ali – 2D1  
Jitesh Jitesh – 2M1  
Wijciech Wojcik – 2M1  
Lucas Solway – 2M1  
Maliha Alam – 2A1  
Emilia Wozniczka – 2A1  
Lisa Ojemudia – 2A1  
Freya-Rose Eddon – 2D1  
Sofia Chang Aguirre – 2D1



The scores between all three schools were extremely close, but sadly our Auggie's team will not be progressing into the final round. They have each been given a certificate for their participation and were praised by the college for their efforts.



#### 14. Poppy Art Display (message from Mrs Chbira)

[back to top](#)

Poppy Art Display by 1P1/1P7/1P9/2P8

The colourful background is the base for a lovely, focussed task by my S1/2 over the last 2wks, they were respectful and knowledgeable, and Creative with their skills, each designing a Poppy for the Display.



#### 15. Enterprising Maths in the Lothians (message from Mr Seywright)

[back to top](#)

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022, Miss Dove and 4 students (2 S3s and 2 S4s) competed in the **Enterprising Maths in the Lothians** competition. Our young learners did themselves, and the school, proud. They finished an impressive 5<sup>th</sup> placed school in the city. Missing out on qualification to the national competition by only 8 marks! Congratulations to the following learners for representing the school so well:

Sophie Connelly; Moira Veenboer; Cyprian Wyszynski, Daniel Kowalski

#### 16. Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Update (message from Bláthnaid Quinn DYW Co-ordinator)

[back to top](#)



This is an update from your new Developing the Young Workforce School Co-ordinator, Bláthnaid Quinn. Employed by the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, I work in partnership with school staff at St Augustine's and Skills Development Scotland to facilitate engagement between local employers and the school to inform, inspire and ultimately have young people hired. So far we have delivered and made plans to deliver:



- **Maths Week Scotland** –A BAM Nuttall female Engineering Manager and a Data Scientist have shared their career journeys with S4s and Senior phase pupils respectively. A trainee PhD Robotician from the National Robotarium [Home – The National Robotarium](#), recently opened on the Heriot Watt University campus, came along to share his career journey and aspects of his exciting research/ work including being part of a team .
- **Positive neurodiverse role modelling** – with Julie MacDonald, Development Officer for Wellbeing a virtual Autistic Women Role Models talk from SWAN [Home – Scottish Women's Autism Network \(swanscotland.org\)](#), the Scottish Women's Autistic Network was held very successfully with some girl pupils. The volunteer panel were exemplary role models, sharing their own career and life experiences openly, not hiding from the challenges they faced but giving a positive outlook to the young women as they shared their strategies for success, embracing their neurodiversity superpower! SWAN have offered follow on workshops directly to Julie offering input around understanding and embracing their autistic identity.
- **Childcare and Learning Modern Apprenticeships** providers in the city from the City of Edinburgh Council Early Learning and Childcare Academy and Carousel Training [Carousel Training](#) came in to the school to give talks about their qualification programmes and application process to pupils in S3 and S5 studying Early Learning and Childcare. Interest was high in S5 for Carousel's Modern Apprenticeship offerings.
- **Edinburgh College** are coming into S5 and S6 groupings to give a talk on recent changes in the application process for college places.
- **Edinburgh College Visits** to College campuses are also being organised an S5 grouping and S6 grouping on 9/11/2022 and 16/11/2022.
- **CVs and Interview Skills** workshops are being organised for S5s in November and tapping into our DYW key employer partner, Stantec [Edinburgh, United Kingdom \(stantec.com\)](#).
- **Speakers for Schools** [About us – Speakers for Schools](#) will be introduced to S5 and S6 pupils in PSHE classes. Speakers for Schools operates in state schools across the UK providing free practical learning opportunities and experiences across a range of programmes where the young person can expand their knowledge, develop their skills, meet employers, take part in volunteering activities and explore as many different career options and industries as wanted. Virtual work experience and careers discovery workshops will be available to the young people.
- **Enterprise and Employability Speaker:** Bruce Walker, CEO FutureX [About \(futurexlearn.com\)](#) came into talk to a senior phase Enterprise and Employability class about becoming an entrepreneur at aged 17. The class found the talk to be very energising and inspirational, with feedback from the teacher of, "He was excellent and was very inspiring for the pupils. Lots of talk about taking risks, skills needed for enterprise, social media, life skills. Business ethics."
- **Construction Skills Taster Day on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November** will be an opportunity for 20 S3 pupils from St Augustine's to take part in 25 min skills demonstrations (6 throughout the day, 9.30am to 2.30pm) and meet local construction employers to find out more about the industry. Demonstrations will include themes such as: Pre construction & design, Construction, Repairs & Maintenance, Renewables and Green technology.

- ***Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Edinburgh, Midlothian and East Lothian are delighted to launch our second DYW Roadshow.*** The event will bring together employers, further education, higher education, and training providers with the young people in our region, particularly those with live vacancies to help them find their next step. DYW Roadshow is set to take place on ***Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November*** 2022, from 9:30am-1:30pm at the O2 Academy Edinburgh. The event will feature a range of organisations from the key sectors across the region and is free for young people, parents, and carers. All of S4 will attend this event and be bussed to it by DYW who are providing transport at no cost to the school.

Parents/ carers can attend. However, DYW would appreciate pre-registration to allow us to manage the footfall on the day. Please register by via this link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dyw-roadshow-tickets-420167009837>.

- ***Edinburgh Airport Input to Travel and Tourism National 5.*** Discussions are ongoing for integrated input by Edinburgh Airport to the National 5 Travel and Tourism qualification offered in St Augustine's to senior phase and later in the year intensively to S4 pupils. Airport employees will provide direct input from the workplace, making this qualification more relevant to the real world of work.
- ***Opportunities*** for apprenticeships, virtual work experience, external talks etc. are posted to DYW Teams channels for pupils in S4/ S5 and S6

Watch this space for updates on more DYW activity at St Augustine's!

- ***A Careers Fair*** is being planned in partnership with Forrester's High for **6<sup>th</sup> February 2023**. There has been a positive response so far to invites from employers and educational institutions such as Heriot Watt, Leonardo, etc.

# *Save the Date!*

*Developing the Young Workforce Forrester HS and St Augustine's RC HS  
Joint Careers Fair*

*Monday 6 February 2023 4.30pm to 6.30pm  
@ Forrester High School Campus*

*Meet 30+ Employers, Education Providers from a range of sectors  
Hear from Skills Development Scotland on Alternative Routes and Pathways into  
Careers*



## Meet the Career Ready Students – Masterclass 1 at Education Centre

Edinburgh Zoo – 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2022



## Meet the Career Ready Mentors

Pupil	Class	Business Mentor	Business	Role
Fayeem Ali	5M2	Anandan Tanabalan	HSBC	Financial Services
Shamagne Gurure	5A1	Samantha Scobie	HSBC	Global Project Team Manager
Hamish Hazelwood	5D2	Rachel Morris	Diageo	Brewer & Project Manager
Ayah Jamis	5D2	Alison Fitch	University of Edinburgh	Head of Marketing for College of Science and Engineering
Hannah Kamara	5A2	Camrie Hole	Heriott-Watt University	HE Careers Consultant
Jeffthan Ofosuhene	5A2	Michael Morgan	Zonal	Hospitality Technology – People Business Partner

## LAUNCH EVENT Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 1-4pm

The students attended the Launch Event at the EICC – it was a truly upbeat and interactive event.

The students met their mentors for the first time and enjoyed the Event.

They travelled into the City to attend the Event.

They have been superbly engaged in the Programme to date and are a real credit to themselves, their families, and our School Community.

Please wish them every success in the Career Ready journey.

Please see below key dates for Year 1.

## **S1 Masterclasses – Important Dates** – Students to attend all sessions

<b>No</b>	<b>Programme</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
1	Knowing the Programme/Knowing Yourself	Wedn 2 <sup>nd</sup> November at 2pm	Education Centre Lecture Theatre Edinburgh Zoo
2	Communication & Networking	Wedn 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2023 at 2pm	Virtual – room to be set up in school
3	Preparing for Work	Wedn 7 <sup>th</sup> June 22023	Venue to be confirmed

Here is a report from last year's work placement for the Career Ready students:

This week I have had the pleasure of visiting our Career Ready pupils in a variety of different industries. Our pupils are doing incredibly well in their internship and I wanted to share with you the different experiences and projects that they will be working on over the next 3 to 4 weeks:

Tamanna Begum has an internship working at Heriot Watt University in the Science Department. Tamanna's mentor took on board her interests and career aspirations by getting her 3 days work experience at the on campus medical practice. Tamanna will also be using her artistic skills to illustrate how proteins work in a book that they hope to publish and credit Tamanna's work as illustrator.

Julia Mitrosz has an internship with the bereavement support charity, Cruse. Julia has settled in really well and will be working on a training course for schools to help support staff in caring for pupils who may be suffering from grief through bereavement.

Tawana Mubaiwa's internship is with the University of Edinburgh. She is working on a number of exciting events and yesterday she was preparing for a Royal visit! Tawana has settled into her place of work very well. Her mentor has praised her confidence and helpfulness.

Fortune Egbule has an internship with HSBC. Fortune has taken on a leadership role for his first project and is taking a team through a project based on environmental and social corporate responsibilities.

He has also informed me that he realises why people drink coffee... the pupils have access to a free Costa coffee machine and Fortune has gone from never drinking coffee to having 4/5 cups a day...

Zainab Ali is also working with HSBC. She is doing really well in her post and has taken on an individual project based on the impact that Crypto currencies are having on banks and how this could affect HSBC.

All pupils have been given the resources (IT support and laptops) to allow them to experience hybrid working. Most pupils are back in the office but may work from home 1/2 days a week if they wish.

What a truly fantastic experience this is for our young people!

Scottish Child Payment helps towards the costs of supporting your family. It's a weekly payment of £25 that you can get for every child you look after who's under 16 years of age. You'll get the payment every 4 weeks if your application is successful.

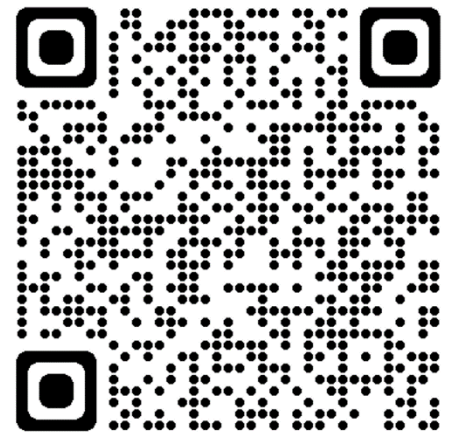
Scottish Child Payment is one of the 5 family payments you may be able to get from Social Security Scotland, along with [Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods](#).

It's up to you what you choose to spend the money on.

Scottish Child Payment does not affect any other UK or Scottish Government benefits that you, or any person in your household, currently get. If you want to know how Scottish Child Payment might affect local council allowances or grants, you can [contact your local council](#).

Only one person can get Scottish Child Payment for a child. This means, if 2 people apply for the same child, Social Security Scotland have a process of deciding who gets the payment. This is called a double claim. The process depends on the benefits that you and the other person are getting.

## Scottish Child Payment



[Scottish Child Payment - mygov.scot](https://mygov.scot)

## 19. Reading Schools Core Award (message from Ms Edwardson)

[back to top](#)

Whether a pupil always has their nose in a book or hasn't picked one up for a while, our **Bookzilla** app is here to help them find their next great read (without collecting any personal data).



Bookzilla helps upper primary and lower secondary pupils to:

- track their reading
- find personalised recommendations
- see what's been rated by their peers
- take on reading dares
- set themselves reading challenges
- find local bookshops and libraries



Find out more at [scottishbooktrust.com/bookzilla](https://scottishbooktrust.com/bookzilla), or search for Bookzilla on the App Store or Google Play

If you would like access to books, reading-related competitions, friendly chat and warmth during the Winter months and beyond why not become a member of your local library.

Mr Donnelly has application forms in the school library which you can fill out and take to the library closest to your home where they will process your form and give you your very own library card. Ask Mr Donnelly for more details.

## 20. Advent Prayer Service

[back to top](#)

Please [click here](#) to see St. Augustine's choir perform for the Advent Prayer Service led by the diocese. Our learners were a true credit to us! Well done.

## 21. Mission Christmas 2022

[back to top](#)

*(message from Mrs MacDonald Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator)*



Just wanted to say another MASSIVE thanks to you all for playing a blinder and supporting our Mission Christmas this year. [@Claire Gibson](#) and her band of elves have so far shopped for, packed and nearly finished delivering food hampers to **54 families** this year. She is also about to begin issuing the **180 vouchers (£9000 worth!)** to our young people courtesy of Cash for Kids. This is an EPIC achievement and for that, thank you all so very, very much!

## 22. Holocaust Survivor Visit

[back to top](#)

*(message from Ms Barry)*

On the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 we were lucky enough to have a visit from Françoise Robertson, a Holocaust survivor, in collaboration with the Holocaust Educational Trust. Françoise gave an incredibly moving presentation to S2 on her and her family's experiences during the Holocaust. The presentation linked in with the school vision and values, especially respect and tolerance of all religions and backgrounds.

Françoise left a very strong final message in relation to her own story and St Augustine's early life; no matter how many challenges our young people have faced, they are still young enough to make changes and reach their potential. It was a very humbling experience for all pupils and staff.

Julia Lipinska (6D2) and Adriana Fluder (6D2) are the two S6 pupils in the photo. They were fantastic helpers, especially with Françoise, and were an absolute credit to the school.





### 23. A Rising Football Star?

[back to top](#)

Freddie Owens (6D2) is a goalkeeper for Hibernian FC. He was signed in July 2021 and is continuing to be a part of the club. He trains with the academy players twice a week and has access to professional training and coaching at the top end of the club as well as first-hand experience of what it takes to be a professional footballer.

Freddie plays u18s and he trains with the first team when he can. He has been to Norway & France as part of the U19s squad in the UEFA Youth League and also played in goals for a Hibs Charity match with current players & legends from the past... it was a fantastic opportunity for him and everyone made him very welcome.

Well done Freddie and keep up the great work!

### 24. Senior Netball

[back to top](#)

*(message from Mrs Williams)*



A huge well done to our senior girls for participating in this years Netball Scottish Cup! They were absolutely phenomenal in every game demonstrating skill, creativity and amazing flow as team. They have been frequently commended for their game play, friendliness and team spirit. They have been a credit to the school.

We have also made Auggies history thanks to our senior boys who played our first ever Men's game v Queensferry High School this week and came away with a huge win of 28-4. Hopefully some exciting things to come from this group!



### 25. Industrial Action Parent and Carer Consultation *(message from the local authority)*

[back to top](#)

## Industrial Action: Parent and Carers Consultation

You are invited to an  
online meeting  
from 6.30-7.30pm  
on Wednesday 1 February 2023  
to

- share your views about 'lost learning'

This is a term used to describe learning that has been disrupted or missed.

- discuss solutions and supports for families.
- how actions/supports will be communicated with all parents and carers.

Please contact the Parental Engagement email account [Parental.Engagement@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:Parental.Engagement@edinburgh.gov.uk) to book a space

or if you are unable to attend the meeting please send your views to [Parental.Engagement@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:Parental.Engagement@edinburgh.gov.uk) marked with *for the attention of Marie Lyon*

## 26. Equalities Update

[back to top](#)

Here's a brief breakdown of incidents reported in August and September:

31 racist incidents reported and dealt with

16 Gender & sexuality related incidents reported and dealt with

3 ASN related incident reported and dealt with

Thank you to those of you who are reporting incidents and having restorative conversations. If anyone would like to receive training about having restorative conversations, please see Mrs Croome.

Because most incidents involve S1 and S2 we have organised whole year group assemblies. We will also be going into some practical groups to tackle the bigger issues.

We are aware we need to better promote the ways pupils can report incidents.

1. We are creating a new anonymous QR code which pupils can use to report incidents which sends responses to the Equalities committee. Once the QR code is updated, this will be on the website and available around the school.
  2. Staff Allies group. We asked for staff volunteers who felt comfortable discussing equalities incidents with young people to come forward. We now have a group of people who can be contacted by young people to discuss anything equalities related. The group consists of: Mrs. Croome, Mrs Balfour, Mr Dudgeon, Mrs Williams, Ms Greenhorn, Ms O'Sullivan, Ms Ingrid Loyra, Pupil Support Leaders and SLT.
  3. GBV group. This is a pupil and staff group who share ideas to implement ways to prevent gender-based violence. The group consists of the following staff: Mr Wooton, Ms Greenhorn, Ms McEleney, Dr Milne, De Marchis, and Mr Lee.
    - a. **We are very aware of the increase in Gender Based Violence across society and thus, our community. We are taking a whole school approach to address this.**
- Pupil Work: The Pupil Equalities Committee is up and running; once we have a consistent group, we will advertise who this is – watch this space!





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*What is it?*

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The Store was opened on return from Christmas break and is aimed at supporting families provide uniform for our young people.

It has been a great success and widely supported by our young people.

So far The Store has been funded by a generous donation of new and pre- loved clothing from the Edinburgh School Uniform bank as well as incredibly generous cash donations from staff and families.

Family donations are received by means of our recently launched "Pay it Forward Account" which can be accessed through Parent Pay.

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*How is it funded?*

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*Next Steps*

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We continue to source funding to support The Store as well as funding from the "Pay it Forward Account". We are also accepting donations from you of any new, nearly new and preloved school uniform. We would welcome any donations of school jumpers, trousers, skirts and winter coats.

If you can, please help. If you need help, please get in touch.

Tel: 0131 334 6801

email : [Claire.gibson@st-augustines.edin.sch.uk](mailto:Claire.gibson@st-augustines.edin.sch.uk)

We remember Pope Benedict XVI who sadly passed on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.



## **Pope Benedict XVI**

16/04/1927-31/12/2022

Pope Benedict XVI was the head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of the Vatican City State from 19 April 2005 until his resignation on 28 February 2013. Benedict's election as pope occurred in the 2005 papal conclave that followed the death of Pope John Paul II.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*



Finally, as the world continues to move at a frightening pace with many demands on our time and lives; I turn to this quote from St. Augustine as inspiration in my own journey to practice patience.



May God bless and keep you safe.