



Welcome to the last HT update for this academic year! As Summer arrives, I want to thank you for your support and co-operation in working together with us for the best interests of your child. We look forward to continuing our partnership in 2023-2024.

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SQA Exam Results - August Re-coursing Service (Parents of S5 and S6 Pupils only)

For some of our young people, SQA results may mean that they will need to look at re-coursing and choose a different subject(s) or change the level of their subject. To help with this, we are offering pupils the opportunity to come in to school before we officially start back in August.

By using the Parent Booking System, you will be able to book a 10 minute appointment (for them) with their Pupil Support Leader to discuss re-coursing. Parents/Carers do not need to attend but can if they wish. You will receive a letter with more information before this date.

Appointment Date: Monday 14th August

Appointment Times: 13:30-15:30.

1. Staffing Update

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This year has provided a number of significant challenges in terms of staffing at St. Augustine's RC High School. I am pleased to announce that we have recruited a number of positions with some staff already started and some to join us in August:

Position	Staff Member
Depute Head Teacher	Mr Frew
Depute Head Teacher	Mr McLauchlan
Pupil Support Leader (St. Bernadette's House)	Ms Souness
Curricular Leader English	Ms Davie
Curricular Leader Modern Languages	Mrs Moore
Home Economics Teacher	Mrs Porteous
English Teacher	Ms Collins
English Teacher	Mr Lewry
PE Teacher	Ms Birrel
Biology Teacher	Mr Marr
Maths Teacher	Mr Conroy
Craft, Design and Technology Teacher	Ms Taylor
Computing Science Teacher	Ms Valouktsi
ESOL/English Teacher	Ms Wright

2. Attendance Reward Day!

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Well done to all our young people who have achieved over 95% attendance this year. You are giving yourselves the best chance of succeeding at school but simply making sure you are here! We celebrated this success last Friday (23rd June) with a "special assembly"!

3. Reports Schedule for 2023-24

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Dear Parent/ Carer,

We are always striving to support your child in achieving their potential in terms of attainment at St. Augustine's. To this end we are changing the way we report on your young person's progress for this year (August 2023-June 2024).

Currently you receive one tracking report, one comments/ attainment report and one parents' evening.

Over the course of the next session, you will receive 4 tracking reports, which will include grades for effort, behaviour and homework, as well as two "next steps for improvement" (NSI).

You will also be invited to attend one parents' evening.

As this is a change from our current system, we welcome any feedback at any time throughout the year. We will also do a review/ consultation at the end of next year.

Please remember you are always welcome to contact us regarding your child's attainment at any point of the school year.

4. Global Citizens at St. Augustine's

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The Equalities Committee collected the heritage countries for most of our school population and placed this on a map of the world, which can be [found here](#). We will seek to add to this next session with our new arrivals of S1 and share this on our school website. 🤗🙌👍

When you see the spread of countries you get a sense of just how special an opportunity exists at St Augustine's. All this untapped potential to learn about other people and places.

Have fun exploring....

5. Well Done to Kenisha Jain!

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We are writing about the incredible efforts of Kenisha Jain S2 / 2M2 who recently raised £103.40 in a bake sale to support a charity providing aid for the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria. Her selfless actions and compassion are truly inspiring.

Despite her young age, Kenisha organized and led the charity bake sale, demonstrating remarkable leadership and dedication to the cause.

Well done Kenisha for all your efforts in this charity endeavour, we at St. Augustine's are very proud of you!

6. Appropriate footwear on the Astro

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Please note we have noticed a few injuries to our young people who play football on the Astro without any shoes on. We wish to stress how this significantly increases the risk of injury and should not happen. Thank you for emphasising our message with your child.

7. [Congratulations to Grace McWalter!](#)

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One of our senior pupils Grace McWalter applied for a Nuffield Research Placement earlier this year and she has been successful in gaining a place for this summer at Ocean Winds in Edinburgh. Grace is an aspiring engineer and sought this out herself.

Future Offshore Wind Farm Operations and Maintenance Vessel Strategy

For this placement, the student shall: - review vessel types for offshore wind, including future concepts - review and assess vessel capabilities against weather data to predict operational working hours - determine transit times for Ocean Winds UK projects from a selection of ports identified by the candidate, to optimise operational strategy.

Congratulations Grace!

8. [Corstorphine Connections Project Update](#)

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(message from Active Travel Team, City of Edinburgh Council)

Dear member of the Corstorphine Connections stakeholder list,

I am contacting you to provide an update that following phase 1 implementation the Corstorphine Connections trial is due to start this Wednesday 24 May.

From Wednesday 24 May the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) will commence and you will be able to leave your feedback about the project via links on our webpage or by mail if you would prefer.

[Corstorphine Connections – The City of Edinburgh Council](#)

Traffic Orders

3.3 Waverley Court

4 East Market Street

Edinburgh

EH8 8BG

Phase 2 of the trial scheme, which includes footway widening on Corstorphine High Street, is due to be implemented over the summer.

Our webpage also has lots of other useful information, including maps of the proposed changes and how the new street layout operates. We also have an FAQs section and details on how the scheme will be monitored.

Kind Regards.

9. [Youth Philanthropy Initiative \(YPI\) Final](#)

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(message from Mrs Doig)

I would like to thank everyone for your continued support. YPI is a fantastic programme, and the young people really enjoy it. Its success is down to the help and support we receive across the school community.

After a technically challenging, warm, competitive final.....our winning charity was Thistle Foundation.

Please congratulate the following pupils if you get the opportunity.

Thistle Foundations:

Fatou Dixon

Maryangel Nwachukwu

Princess Osafo

Ashley Szpak

Ugochi Uchenna

Congratulations to the winners but **well done to all our young people** who worked so hard to promote their local charities. A key part of our community is service to others and the charity we give. We are very proud of all of you!

10.Dangers of vaping

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We appreciate your continued support in educating our young people about the dangers of vaping. Please read [this article](#) from the BBC which gives some statistics of how dangerous vaping can actually be.

11.Message from Active Schools Manager

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(message from Jude Salmon)

I just wanted to drop you a note to say how fantastic it was to have so many of your senior pupils support the Games @ the Hub event yesterday (13th June 23) at your school. There were many senior pupils from across the city and their support and enthusiasm in delivering sessions were fundamental to the success of the day.

Please pass on my personal thanks to Tiffney, Mia, Olivia and Shallum who are the Sports Ambassadors for the school and to the following pupils who agreed to help:

Jack Borthwick

Stefan Fernandez-Velarade

Glory Immanuel-Ogie

Filip Jozwiak

Hannah Kamara

Aleksandra Kiraga

Thomas Lisek
Riley Lyell
Bogdan Malinowski
Rohey Njie
Mary-Constance Nwagulu

Jacinta Okoro
Emmanuel Olakunori
Nadia Szweda
Callum Thomson
Orson Wark

I would also like to thank you for supporting the event and for allowing these pupils to attend. They will have gained a tremendous amount of experience in being a part of it.

Congratulations to our young people in representing our school and supporting over 1000 Primary 6 learners from across the city!

12. Parents Mind Well Sessions
(message from Parent and Carer Support)

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Parents Mind Well Sessions

Mind Well sessions provide an opportunity for parents who are caring for a young person with emotional or mental health issues to gain information, support and meet other parents. Information on the upcoming Mind Well sessions are below-

Parents Mind Well -Self Harm

Date: Tuesday the 4th July 2023, 5.30-7.30pm

Venue: VOCAL Edinburgh Carer's Hub, 60 Leith Walk, EH6 5HB

Delivered by Penumbra Edinburgh Self Harm Service

This session aims to increase parent's understanding about Self Harm and offer some practical ways to help young people who may consider or display self-harming behaviour. Please book at

<https://www.carerstraining.co.uk/event/parents-mindwell-self-harm-july/>

Parents Mind Well- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) in children and young people

Date: Friday the 1st of September 2023, 9.30-11.30am

Venue: Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre, 5 Moredunvale Place, EH177LB

Delivered by Lisa Esingle (Clinical Associate Psychologist, NHS Lothian) and Clinical Fellow in Psychological Therapies (University of Edinburgh)

This session will focus on how OCD can affect children and young people and consider how parents and other family members can support young people

experiencing these difficulties. Please book at <https://www.carerstraining.co.uk/event/obsessive-compulsive-disorder-ocd-in-children-and-young-people-sept/>

Parents Mind Well- Low Mood and Depression in Teenagers

Date: Thursday the 28th of September 2023, 6.30-8.30pm

Venue: Southside Community Centre, 117 Nicolson Street, EH8 9ER

Delivered by Dr Aliénor Lemieux-Cumberlege, Clinical Psychologist (NHS Lothian) and Career Development Fellow (University of Edinburgh)

This session will focus on how low mood and depression can affect children and young people and consider how parents and other family members can support young people experiencing these difficulties. Please book at

<https://www.carerstraining.co.uk/event/low-mood-and-depression-in-teenagers-sept/>

13. Developing the Young Workforce – Skills Event [back to top](#)
(message from our DYW co-ordinator: Bahiya Basheikh)

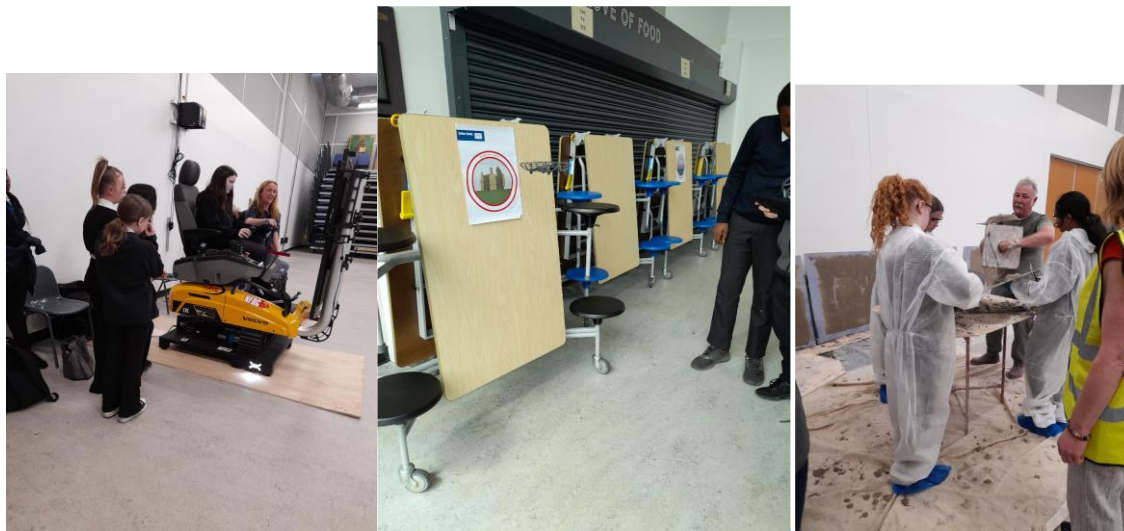
Build your Future: Construction Skills Demonstration 07/06/23

On the 07th June, 60 S2 and S3 pupils from both St Augustine’s and Forrester’s got the opportunity to take part in a Construction Skills Demonstration organised by Build Your Future. The pupils took part in activities including drone flying, plastering, and using a plant simulator. It was a great introduction into some of the roles available within the industry.

Pupils were given the chance to try flying drones as they would on a construction site to help fix repairs. After a demonstration, the pupils were taught how the cement was prepared and got to try plastering some boards. They also had a turn using the used a plant simulator as it would be used on a construction site.

Overall a fantastic event which the pupils really got stuck into! Please see some video footage of the day using the link below:

[Construction skills demonstration for St Augustine’s RC High School & Forrester High School - YouTube](#)



14. Seniors visit University of Edinburgh
(message from Mr Pullen)

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The pupils spent the day in the Chemistry labs at the University of Edinburgh where they took part in three Advanced Higher experiments. They developed their practical skills along with their ability to work together productively and safely.



The pupils also got a tour of the new state of the art facility at the Joseph Black building and got to sample a little bit of university life. They were all a credit to themselves and to the school, and they should be proud of how they acted throughout the day.

15. Successful coaching at St. Joseph's Primary
(message from Mr. Crowley, St. Joseph's Primary School)

Thank you so much for facilitating the boys to come help out at our tournament this afternoon.

Callum, Brendan, Lovell and Matthew were fantastic. They took their role seriously and worked well with the kids, a credit to themselves and SAHS.

I am a firm believer that this type of leadership opportunity is a great way to extend achieving learners and engage reticent students also.

16. Career Ready Internships – June 2023

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(message from Mrs Kelly)

Please see details below of 6 wonderful S6's who are doing a Business Internship with Career Ready.

As a group of Career Ready students, they have been superb, they are totally engaged in the process, attending all Master Classes, Events and have built up positive relationships with their mentors. They will be amazing ambassadors for our community.

I met with them and they are quite excited about their internship journeys. I know staff have also been discussing it with them and wishing them well.

Student Name	Business
Hamish Hazlewood	Diageo
Hannah Kamara	Heriot-Watt University
Fayeem Ali	HSBC UK
Shamagne Gurure	HSBC UK
Jeffthan Ofosuhene	Moody's Analytics
Ayah Jamis	University of Edinburgh

17. Placements at University of Edinburgh

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(message from Mrs Kelly)

The following S6 pupils will be taking part in placements at the University of Edinburgh over the summer break and following this will complete an assignment.

Ashleigh White	Biomedical Science
Diana Balazs	English Literature
Jacinta Okoro	Philosophy
Nicola Wawrzyniak	Economics
Oluwatokepe (Tk)Adebayo	Biomedical Science
Priya Roy	English Literature
Stella Lapinska	English Literature
Zuzanna Stryjak	Economics

This is an amazing opportunity, and we congratulate them on gaining a place.

St Augustine's is regarded as a flagship school for Your Ed.

Former pupils including Rowan Wallace and Alessandra Giovanelli now feature in the promotional materials highlighting the valuable experiences they have gained.

18. Help if you can... plea from one of our young people [back to top](#)

I'm trying to raise funds to support the work my church is doing here in Scotland, especially in the way they've been helping men and women with their mental health and helping people coming out of drug addictions and homelessness. They only depend on donations and so I am raising money so that they can keep doing the incredible work they're doing. They've helped me a lot in my faith and mental health too so it's quite personal!

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to Edinburgh International Christian Church, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

If you'd like to give please feel free to do so I'd really appreciate your support, I've put the link below.

You can donate to my JustGiving page by clicking here https://www.justgiving.com/page/tifney-janis-ahaimbisibwe-1686595724168?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=one_page&utm_content=page/tifney-janis-ahaimbisibwe-1686595724168&utm_campaign=pfp_email&utm_term=d1fada9aa4f04a7da07f47749338358a

JustGiving sends your donation straight to Edinburgh International Christian Church and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more.

Thank you for your support!

19. Teen Triple P – parent course [back to top](#)

Teen Triple P groups
Teen Triple P is a positive parenting programme which is suitable for parents, step parents, grandparents and carers of pre-teen and teenage children.

Teen Triple P can help parents and carers to:

- cope positively with some of the common issues associated with raising a teenager
- build a stronger relationship with their teenager
- resolve conflict in the family
- manage problem behaviour
- help their teen stay safe.



Teen Triple P groups are run by two Teen Triple P group leaders with up to 12 parents. Groups usually run for nine weeks with:

- five group sessions which last for two hours
- followed by three phone calls or individual sessions
- then a final group session.

The groups are friendly and relaxed. The group leaders will try to meet each parent before the group starts and will always welcome everyone with a cup of tea or coffee.

During group sessions, helpful strategies are introduced through DVD clips, discussions and activities. Each parent will be given a parent workbook which contains details of each session.

Sessions cover topics such as:

- factors which influence teenage behaviour
- developing a positive relationship with your teenager
- encouraging appropriate behaviour
- coaching problem solving skills
- managing problem behaviour
- negotiating family rules
- dealing with emotional behaviour
- preparing for new or risky situations.

I feel stronger and more confident as a parent and a person.

Excellent content with varied strategies which makes the programme flexible and manageable for all.

I have found the programme very helpful and supportive, the atmosphere was very relaxed and friendly.

It's reassuring to know that we are not alone.

Quotes from parents who have attended the groups

Find a Teen Triple P group near you

St Augustine's RC High School 

Introduction Thursday 14th Sept
Session 1 Thu 21st Sept
Session 2 Thu 28th Sept
Session 3 Thu 5th October
Session 4 Thu 12th October
October week no session
Session 5 calls Thu 26th October
Session 6 calls Thu 2nd Nov
Session 7 Thu 9th Nov
Session 8 Thu 16th Nov

6.30pm-8.30pm

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If interested please visit here: <http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/teentriplep>

Moment of Reflection

I have used this quote before but find myself drawn back to it as I reflect on 2022-23.

I want to acknowledge the challenges there have been with some staffing issues which has meant a degree of instability in some faculties.

I also want to acknowledge the fantastic staff we have here at St. Augustine's and how they have worked tirelessly to support our young people through the challenges faced and deserve immense credit for this.

We have plenty of successes, some of which are highlighted in this update. We are returning to excursions and facilitating more wonderful experiences for our young people beyond our campus. We have significantly recruited permanent members of teaching staff to bring stability, experience and set a clear path to success for our young people.

Please remember that we are always here for you and your child. Our community is one built on compassion, kindness and love.

May God Bless you and your families and keep you safe this Summer while you have tonnes of fun!

**"START BY DOING WHAT'S NECESSARY,
THEN WHAT'S POSSIBLE, AND SUDDENLY
YOU ARE DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE."**

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

