St Augustine's Gazette

Friday 6th November 2026

Taught by Jesus Christ, faith, hope and love inspire everything we do. We aim for the highest standards of learning, and we look for the development of wisdom. In this way the gifts possessed by every individual can be valued.



CALENDAR

9th- 13th November: Year 11 Mock Exams
11th November: Remberence Day
16th -20th November: Year 13 Mock Exams
19th November: Geography Fieldwork Trip
3rd December: Sixth Form Open Evening

Pastoral & Well-being Notices

Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Mr J Mockett
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Mrs L Penny
Pastoral Team 01225 350001 Ext 224.
(We have streamlined our systems and now have one dedicated email address.)
Safeguarding email:
safeguarding@st-augustines.wilts.sch.uk
SEND Team Email address:
sendco@st-augustines.wilts.sch.uk

Headteacher's message

This week has been a week of remembrance. In our assemblies, we have shared a moving and thought-provoking podcast produced by Mr Snow and Miss Strange, involving a number of our pupils. It offers a personal insight into how members of our community remember those affected by the great wars of the last century. We have challenged each pupil to discover something of their own family's wartime story, helping to preserve these memories for future generations. Each has also been given a small poppy on which to write the names of those they wish to remember. Next Wednesday, we will join the nation in observing the two-minute silence at 11.00 am. Another highlight of a busy week was Wednesday evening's Battle of the Bands. My thanks to Miss Sorga and her team for organising such a successful event, showcasing our pupils' wonderful musical talent. I would also like to thank the sixth formers and staff who slept out at school before half term, in solidarity with young people experiencing homelessness in our town and to raise funds for Amber House. Throughout November, we remember those who have died and remain special to us, giving thanks to God for all they brought to our lives.

Mr Dowle

Important Notices

CAR PARKING

A polite reminder to parents to please not park in Garston Vets car park or our car park during school drop off or pick up.



ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE — SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 3rd December 2026 · 6pm – 8pm

- Talk to subject teachers
- Hear from current students
- Tour the school



Foodbank Collection

This Advent, we're once again coming together to make a difference in our local community through our annual campaign for Storehouse Foodbank in Trowbridge. Each year, our school community generously donates essential items to help local families experiencing short term hardship. We're delighted to continue this tradition of kindness, particularly at a time when we know many families are facing challenges. Please see the list of suggested items that the Foodbank is currently collecting. If you are able to contribute, students can bring donations to morning Tutor Form time and add them to their class collection. We will be collecting donations from now until Friday 4th December, giving the Storehouse team plenty of time to organise and distribute everything before Christmas. All long-life food items and toiletries are particularly welcome and very much appreciated. Thank you, as always, for your kindness and generosity in supporting our local community this Christmas.

Everyday Items That Make a Difference

Tinned stews/meatballs/curries Tins of macaroni cheese/ravioli
Tinned ham/corned beef Pasta sauces
Rice Curry sauces
Coffee Tinned/jar hot dogs
Tea Tinned veg, beans, pulses
Sugar Crisps/savoury snacks
UHT Milk Peanut butter
Biscuits Jam/chocolate spread
Tinned desserts Toilet rolls
Squash Shampoo/conditioner
Cooking oil Deodorant/soap







SCHOOL NURSE

Our Specialist School Nurse is:

Emily Davies

Providing information and support on a variety of health and wellbeing issues.

A confidential drop in clinic is held during break and lunchtime every Wednesday in the Wellbeing Room.

1:1 appointments are available for drop ins. These appointments last 30 minutes and are given to pupils that we have received referrals for either from the school; parents or the young person themselves. We can offer 6 1:1 sessions for a range of health reasons – Emotional Wellbeing; healthy eating; suspected eating disorders; self-harm; hygiene, healthy relationships, sexual health STI and pregnancy testing and safe sex.

For an appointment:

Ask your Tutor

Parents can contact the service by using the single point of access (SPA) on 0300 247 0090

SPA email address: bswchildrens.enquiries@hcrgcaregroup.com

Website: wiltschildandfamily.co.uk

Support Helpline

Following the troubling testimonies of sexual harassment and abuse documented on the Everyone's Invited website, the **NSPCC** can help on 0800 136 663 or emailing help@nspcc.org.uk

When looking to make a payment in Parent Mail please check both 'Payments – To Pay' and 'Payments – Shop' (the trolley icon). Dinner Accounts can be topped up through 'Accounts'. Stationery orders should be collected from the finance office (next to the conference room)

CHAPLAINCY NEWS



CONFIRMATION 2027 ENROLMENT

St John's, Trowbridge Parish next Confirmation preparation programme will start on the 13th April 2027 and run every Tuesday evening at St. John's Parish Centre for 7 weeks (not including half term). If your child is in school Year 9 or above and has taken their First Holy Communion you can enrol them by filling in the online form (Please note a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate needs to be emailed/given to Eve along with the registration form in order for your child to be allocated a place on the programme). The Confirmation 2027 enrolment form can be found on the parish website: https://www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk

Deadline for registration is 12th February 2027. No registrations will be taken after this date.

Young carer Halloween





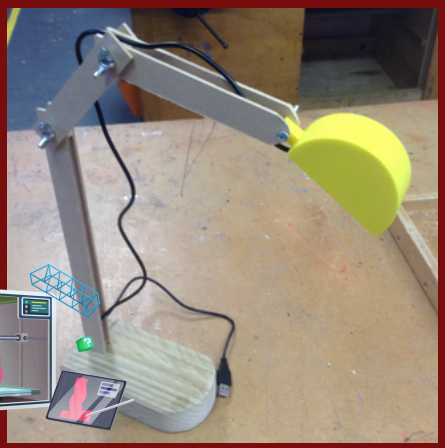


Our wonderful Young Carers have been getting into the Halloween spirit with some fantastic arts and crafts activities. During our recent Young Carers club, students have been busy creating colourful Halloween-themed decorations including, paper chains and handmade bracelets, bringing plenty of laughter and spooky fun to the group. It has been lovely to see everyone working together, sharing ideas and enjoying some well-deserved time to relax and have fun. Our Young Carers Club is a special space where students can take a break from their responsibilities, build friendships and simply enjoy being themselves. We're so proud of our Young Carers and everything they do, both in school and at home!

Miss Carter

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Below are some pictures from our Year 9 angle poise lamp project with 3D printed lamp shades. Students are having to model and experiment with linkages and think about the centre of gravity. Students are also learning skills with 3D CAD to create the shades that are then 3D printed.







Future Chef Competition

This week two of our students took part in the Future Chef competition in Swindon. Owen R (year 10) food prep and nutrition GCSE student and Mateusz (year 11). They both planned and executed their dishes superbly and the judges were amazed at their talent. Mateusz won first prize and he is now through to the Regional Finals which take place in January in Bristol. As part of his prize he has already received a beautiful cook book and has some chefs whites being personalised for him. He is also due to receive 6 hours of personal training from a chef to help guide him through the next stage. Both Mateusz and Owen were praised at how professional they were and calm in a brand new kitchen with equipment and ovens they've never used before! Below are some pictures of the food they prepared for the competition.







DESIGN TECHNOLOGY: CREATIVE COOKING

Below are some pictures of some amazing pizzas that our year 7 students made during this weeks DT lessons.





























PIZZA PARTY





BATTLE OF THE BANDS 2026



What a fantastic evening of live music, energy and talent at this year's Battle of the Bands! With six bands taking to the stage, representing students from across the College, from Year 7 right through to Year 13, alongside staff performers, the event showcased the incredible breadth of musical talent within our school community. We were delighted to welcome local band Brakelight as our guest judges. Known for their energy and unique youthful spark, they brought a wealth of musical experience to the evening, offering feedback to each band before selecting their overall winners. A huge thank you to them for supporting the event and helping make it such a memorable occasion. The competition was fierce, but it was Lemongrass (Year 10) who took the top spot, impressing Brakelight with their performance and taking the overall Battle of the Bands title! Cytolosis (Years 11–13) were our worthy runners-up, earning the audience vote and securing themselves an equally exciting opportunity. Both bands have won the chance to perform an opening slot at The Pump, thanks to the generosity of the venue. We are incredibly grateful for their support in providing such a brilliant opportunity for our young musicians. Congratulations to every band who performed. You were all brilliant! It takes courage, commitment and plenty of rehearsal to get up on stage and perform, and every group brought something special to the evening. Of course, an event like this doesn't happen without a fantastic team behind the scenes. A huge thank you to our tech crew, event team and DJs for keeping everything running smoothly and creating such a brilliant atmosphere throughout the night. Battle of the Bands is about much more than winning. It is about celebrating live music, creativity, collaboration and the confidence to get up and perform. This year's event delivered all of that in abundance. Congratulations to Lemongrass, Cytolosis and all of our performers. What a brilliant celebration of music at the College!









STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



One of our students has been selected to take part in the English Youth Ballet's performance of the Nutcracker. This is a very exciting achievement for Anastasia and we wish her all the luck! If you wish to know more about the performance the Wiltshire times have published an article available through the following link:

https://www.wiltshiretimes.co.uk/news/







INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY





KS4 Basketball – St Augustine's Show Character Against Experienced Clarendon Side

Just before half term, St Augustine's KS4 Basketball team took to the court for just their second competitive match, facing a much more experienced Clarendon side boasting several established club players, including one particularly imposing player standing at an incredible 6ft 8in!

The challenge was made even greater by the fact that St A's had no substitutes available, while Clarendon were able to rotate four players throughout the game. Despite this disadvantage, the St Augustine's team showed tremendous character, resilience and determination from start to finish.

The players never gave up, continued to support one another and demonstrated many of the values at the heart of our Lasallian Catholic Social Teaching, particularly solidarity. They worked together, encouraged each other and kept battling, even when faced with a significant physical and playing-experience disadvantage.

Although the result may not have gone their way, the team can take enormous pride in their performance and attitude. Every player was a credit to themselves and to St A's.

With only two proper matches under their belts, this experience will be invaluable as the team continues to develop. They can take plenty of positives from the game, learn from the challenge and use it as motivation to improve their skills and grow in confidence.

Well, done to all the players – you represented the college brilliantly!

Team:

Enrique R, Tawana M, Jayden M, Tobias F, Archie R

DRAMA NEWS

Watch this space each week for news about the Coram Shakespeare Schools Festival! We are very excited to be taking part this year and we will be performing at The Merlin Theatre in Frome on 11th March 2027. Ticket information will follow in January. Over recent weeks we have been performing the tricky task of casting- in accordance with festival rules we may only take 35 performers to the festival performance and we have far more keen actors at St. Augustine's than that! Casting was a real challenge as we hate to turn any keen performer away- hence those talented students who did not make the final casting will be invited to perform at our end of year drama evening and will be invited to a meeting very soon to talk about plans. In the meantime rehearsals for our abridged 'Romeo and Juliet' are apace and we will be bringing you news each week as well as interviews with cast. Alma-Ayre W in Year 7 has been appointed our 'journalist in residence'- a new role for a talented writer! We are excited about the news she will soon be bringing your way!







Family and Community Learning

Adult Literacy: Enhance Your English

Improve your English skills - The course is suitable for learners who want to improve their English language skills

Studley Green Community Centre
Lambrok Road, Trowbridge,
Wiltshire, BA14 9HA

ENGLISH

Welcome meeting
Wednesday 2 December @ 1pm

Course dates

Wednesdays - 1pm -3pm
9, 16 December, 6, 13, 20, 27 January,
3, 10, 17, 24 February

Book your place by Tuesday 1 December 2026

Contact familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk
or call the FaCL team on 01225 770478
Visit https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/
or scan the QR code

Courses are no cost to learners who meet our eligibility criteria. Learners must be aged 19+ years, have a Wiltshire postcode, and meet residency requirements. Learners must also be able to tick one of the following criteria: individual income less than £26,800 a year; in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit); be a care leaver, foster carer or carer; be a military family or ex-armed forces personnel; have refugee or asylum seeker status; have a learning difficulty or disability; be looking to work, now or in the future.

Wiltshire Council

Within our community

Family and Community Learning
Discover Opportunities - Develop Skills - Achieve Ambitions

Confidence and New Directions

Mondays, 2, 9, 16, 23, 20 Nov
10:00am-12:00pm



Make small changes for a brighter future

- Feel more confident in your daily life
- Manage stress and boost wellbeing
- Set SMART targets to achieve your goals

For bookings scan the QR code or contact: 01225 770478
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk
https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/

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Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire Family and Community Learning
Discover Opportunities - Develop Skills - Achieve Ambitions

The Achieve Programme

King's Trust

Dream of a brighter future with the Achieve Programme for young people aged 16 to 25.



- discover your strengths
- develop resilience
- gain qualifications
- build valuable skills
- meet new people
- create a plan for your future

At The Old Town Hall, Trowbridge
Market Street
Trowbridge
Wiltshire

Every Monday 10am - 3pm for 12 weeks starting 4 January 2027

Information sessions: Monday 7 or Monday 14 December at 10am

Request a place on the Achieve Programme via the QR code:

01225 770478
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk

Funded by UK Government

Wiltshire Council

Family and Community Learning
Discover Opportunities - Develop Skills - Achieve Ambitions

Free online course

Supporting My Teen to Understand Their Skills

Friday 27 November 10am - 12pm



Support your teenager to recognise their unique contribution

- Encourage your teenager to recognise their skills and qualitie
- Explore how to nurture resilience and independence
- Support your teenager to plan for their future

For bookings scan the QR code or contact: 01225 770478
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Wiltshire Council

