


# St Augustine's RC High School

Newsletter  
12th May 2020



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Dear Families,

The news from the government over the weekend sees secondary schools remaining open only for children of key workers and vulnerable pupils for the time being. We expect details of when school will open for Year 10 in the coming weeks and in the meantime the remote working via Microsoft Teams will continue.

Following a request from a number of parents who asked if it was possible to oversee the work that the children are doing online, we have enabled a weekly *Assignment Report* which you should have received on Sunday that lists the assignments that pupils have been set and whether they have been “turned in” or not. While we hope that you find this feature useful to see what work has been set, the fact that assignments have been “turned in” is no guarantee that the work is of a high standard and we would encourage you to check work when you can, along with any feedback that is being given. We are also aware that a number of children are “handing work in” via email which is perfectly fine but will not be recorded on the Teams page. Families should not worry about this and school staff are aware that many children are working very hard and completing work without it being recorded on Teams. This is simply a tool to help families keep on top of the work that is being set.

We are currently reviewing the volume of work that pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 are completing and trying to ensure the balance between setting sufficient work to allow pupils to keep up the routine of school, while not overwhelming children (and families) with too much to do. Pupils are being sent a questionnaire to assess their workload and we would encourage you to talk to your child about how they are coping before they reply to school.

Year 11 pupils have been sent a document that outlines the approach of various local colleges to the transition work that can be undertaken prior to next academic year. A copy can be found here: [https://www.sarchs.com/files/pupils/Transition\\_advice\\_post\\_16.pdf](https://www.sarchs.com/files/pupils/Transition_advice_post_16.pdf). We have also enrolled Year 11 pupils on the BeReady platform which allows them access to employability courses (2 per week) and pupils have been sent a joining email (<https://learn.bereadygroup.org/login/index.php>). We would ask families with Year 11 pupils to gather together any text books and school equipment and keep them in a safe place until such time they can be safely returned to school.

Year 10 pupils will not have their usual Work Experience week that was scheduled for June. We are therefore making next week (18th—22nd May) Virtual Work Experience week with all Year 10 pupils being enrolled on the BeReady careers and job skills courses. A number of pupils have signed up for the DEC Pavilion Challenge and this will take the place of the BeReady courses. This will also give pupils the opportunity to catch up on any work that they have missed and teachers can be emailed with any questions or concerns throughout the week.

The summer term is usually as busy time for transition with a range of activities aimed at welcoming Year 6 pupils in preparation for a new start in September. While we face uncertainty over the ability of pupils to visit school, we are preparing a new section of the website that will provide information for pupils and families about what life is like at St Augustine's. Families of Year 6 pupils will receive links to relevant materials once they are available. In the meantime, we are working to ensure that when school does re-open for more pupils, we can ensure a safe environment for everybody who attends.

*With Best Wishes, Mr. Wright*

# WELLBEING CONCERNS

At St Augustine's we really care about pupil wellbeing, so if there are any worries or concerns it is essential that these are shared with an adult. Urgent concerns must be shared straight away. There is now a link on the front page of the school website to report concerns. Mrs Baldwin, the School Counsellor, will usually respond within 2-3 days.



## Stay positive, keep learning

5 tips for children and families learning and living through social distancing



### STICK TO A ROUTINE

Keep getting up and going to bed at set times. This is **ENORMOUSLY** important for your **mental** and **physical** health.



Plan your days with time for **work** and **play**. This will help you to stay **positive**, calm and productive.



### MAKE TIME TO BE CREATIVE

Paint. Write. Bake. Play. Dance. Make.

Take time to **discover** new talents, or nurture old ones.



Find out what things the adults in your home can do and learn from them, or use the internet to discover and learn new skills. The **possibilities** are endless!



### LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Tablets and computers are going to play a huge part in your learning, but don't let yourself become a **screen zombie!**



Be mindful of how you use screens and try to take lots of breaks.

Here are some tips:

1. No screens an hour before bed.
2. See if your device has a focus mode or other way to shut off addictive apps.
3. Do as many things in the real world, as you do in the virtual!



### GO OUTSIDE, STAY ACTIVE

Spending time in the **sunlight** is essential for wellbeing.

Make time **everyday** to be outside. If you have a garden, use it. If you don't, take walks with your family wherever you can safely.



Staying **active** is also really important. **Getting moving**, little and often, will help you keep fit, boost your mood and build your strength.



### TALK, SHARE, BE GRATEFUL

The next few months will be challenging, and it's normal to have some worried feelings.



**Talk** to family and friends. **Share** how you feel and if you are able to, listen to others too.

If you have relatives or neighbours that are isolated, arrange with a grown up to call and check in. **Stay in touch** with friends and family via post, telephone or email.

**Be grateful** for each other. Now more than ever.

# kooth

**Free. Safe. Anonymous.**

Kooth is an online Mental Health platform for young people. **Need to talk?** Chat to our friendly counsellors.

Articles & Advice   Live Chat   Live Forums

<https://kooth.com> go!

Kooth offers advice on the go. We're by your side when you need us most.

available in your area

## Uniform Supplies

While our suppliers' shops are currently closed, school uniform can still be ordered online and details of how the stores are dealing with the current situation can be found on their websites.

Gray's (Blackburn, Clitheroe) <https://graysschoolwear.co.uk/>

Ribble Valley Supplies (Clitheroe) <https://rvsschoolwear.co.uk/>

Whittaker's (Blackburn) <https://www.whittakersschoolwear.co.uk/contact/>

**Exercise Books** - We understand that pupils may be filling exercise books in certain subjects. If this is the case any book will be fine (e.g. purchased from supermarket) or contact school to collect a new book.

## Lockdown Family Challenges

We had a good deal of interest in last week's challenges. Here are some more ideas for the week ahead.

### 1. Masterchef

Whether it is cooking a meal or baking a cake, we would like you to send us 4 photographs of your creation (3 photographs of the preparation process and 1 of the finished product). If you can include the recipe and any hints and tips please do so.

Send photographs and recipe information to [info@sarchs.com](mailto:info@sarchs.com) with a subject line "Masterchef".

### 2. Physical Challenge

Learn to juggle! Juggling requires coordination, resilience, timing, discipline and you will need to keep tweaking your method until it finally works. Using juggling to develop these areas can be transferred to other types of learning. Juggling is also a good exercise and is a great way to break up mental tasks (e.g. during schoolwork or revision). Photographs or video clips of juggling (or what you have juggled) are welcome at [info@sarchs.com](mailto:info@sarchs.com) (subject line "Juggle") or if you are a shy juggler just tell us how long you juggled continuously for. Please do not juggle with expensive or fragile items, especially if you are a beginner!

### 3. Celebrity Portrait

Using whatever media you like (pencil, paint, collage etc), send a picture of a well known person / celebrity to [info@sarchs.com](mailto:info@sarchs.com) with a subject line "Portrait".

**Deadlines for all three challenges: 10 a.m. Monday 18th May.**

**As well as emailing your entries you can also post your creations on Twitter (if you have it) using the hashtag #sarchschallenge and @sarchsofficial .**

*In John's Gospel 10:10 we are shown the purpose of human life is to flourish and encourage others to do the same.*

*Jesus said "I have come that you may have life in all its fullness."*

**Newsletter  
May 2020**

# #Sarchschallenge Entries

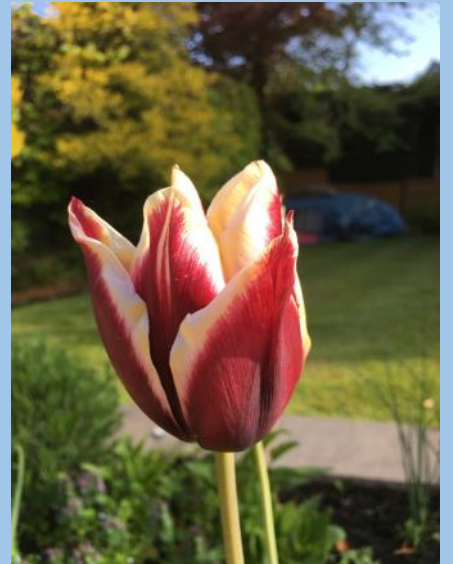
## EngArt Myths and Legends



## VE Day Decorations



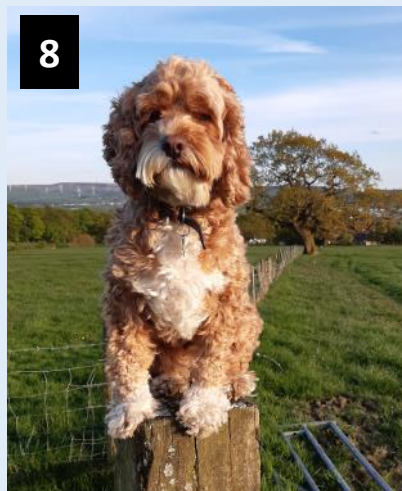
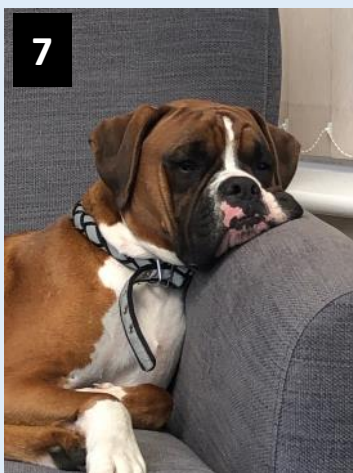
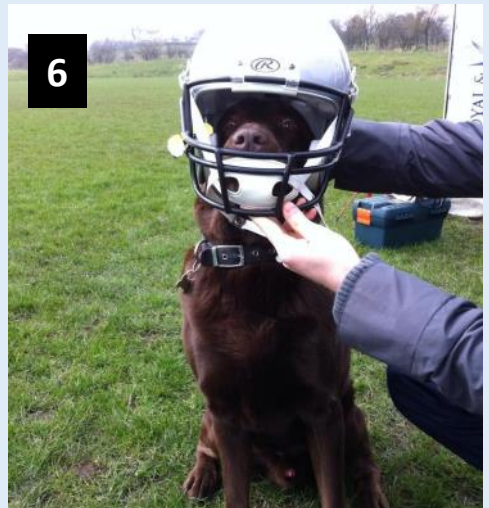
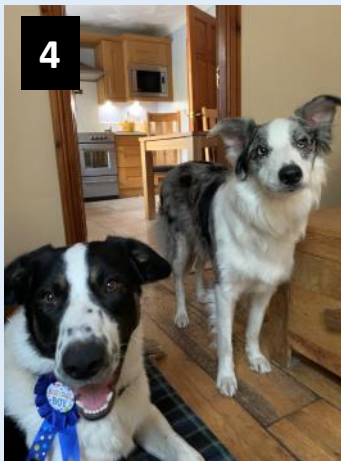
## Nature Photos



# Teachers' Pets

Can you match the pet to the member of staff?

Online entries via the school website [www.sarchs.com](http://www.sarchs.com)



Owners include: Miss Newton, Mrs Bowden, Mrs Doherty, Mr Wright, Mrs Baybutt, Mrs Boulton, Mrs Clossick, Mr & Mrs Curl, Mrs Baldwin.