

# **IN OUR SCHOOL...**

Where everyone is special...

Issue 18: April 2025



## **Welcome to April's out of this world edition of In Our School**

This term, our school grounds have welcomed an absolutely fabulous new addition. A one of a kind piece of art that has lit up our playground: 'ST. AUSTIN'S IS OUT OF THIS WORLD' by Liverpool born and bred artist, Paul Curtis.

Paul is a Liverpoolian artist specialising in street art and large murals. He came to public attention with his very first piece of street art, "For All Liverpool's Liver Birds" (aka The Liver Bird Wings), which became a massive hit with locals, tourists and many famous faces too.

Since 2017, Paul has created more than 250 public pieces, across the UK, with most of his work found around Merseyside and Wirral. His work is well-known and sells all over the world.

He has received many accolades including: UK record holder for largest painting ever by a single artist; in 2024, Liverpool had its first-ever indoor street art exhibition, which was held at The Royal Liver Building, "In One Place", that focused solely on Paul's work; and he was also voted Merseyside Artist of the Year 2020.

Mrs Hickey said, "Spring term did not get off to a good start! In January, after the terrible weather began to fade, we commissioned Paul to begin a masterpiece for us and we are delighted with the end result."


We think that you'll agree that it's out of this world!


# Messages

## Mrs Hickey


### A spring term to remember at St. Austin's


As spring breathes new life into our surroundings, St. Austin's has been buzzing—quite literally! This term has been packed with unforgettable experiences, joyful moments, and learning adventures that have stretched from our classrooms to the outdoors, and even as far as Chester Zoo.


 **Beehives: Learning from Nature's Architects:** Our pupils have been enthralled by the world of bees during our STEM week. Our Instagram pages are full of close-up photos as our hives come to life once more, allowing our children to observe these tiny yet mighty creatures at work.

 **Break the Rules Day: A Spirited Success:** Who said rules are made to be broken? For one day only, our pupils embraced their mischievous sides in the most heart-warming way. Break the Rules Day, a fundraiser with a twist, saw children don wacky socks, wear crazy hair and hats indoors and show off a tattoo or two. The laughter was contagious!

**Hispanic Week: ¡Olé!** We immersed ourselves in the language, cuisine, art, and music of Spain. Completing the week with our Hispanic performances across the school. I would personally like to thank parents/carers for their kind words and emails following what was an outstanding week.

 **Cross Country Champions:** We are immensely proud of our cross-country team, who not only showed grit and determination but also brought home the girls' championship trophy! The team trained hard, cheered each other on, and demonstrated the true spirit of sportsmanship. Their achievement is a testament to their perseverance and the guidance of our fantastic PE staff.

 **Forest School: Learning Without Walls:** Our Forest School continues to be a cherished part of our curriculum. This term, children assembled shelters, learned to identify trees, and worked as a team. These sessions have fostered resilience, creativity, and a deep respect for nature.

 **Lent Walks: Stepping with Purpose:** In the reflective spirit of Lent, our pupils participated in CAFOD Lent walks. These quiet, purposeful strolls offered moments for thought and gratitude while also raising funds for local and overseas charities.

This term has reminded us all of the strength, compassion, and curiosity that flourish at St. Austin's. Whether it's through running a race, walking for a cause, we continue to thrive as a community.

Here's to more adventures ahead in the summer term!

**By Mrs. Colette Hickey, Head Teacher**

# **Hispanic days and performances**

## Hispanic days and performances light up St. Austin's

This year, St. Austin's performed spectacular Hispanic performances. Well done to all!

In Nursery, they tried their best and worked as hard as they could in exploring different colours in the rainbow. In Reception, Y1 and Y2, they did an amazing job and we were left speechless! Their teamwork was wonderful and their commitment was faultless. Years 3 and 4 also did a tremendous job, their songs were joyous and positive and you could really see how hard they had all worked including their teachers. Y5 created a musical and the theme was Matilda. We had main characters like Trunchbull, Matilda, Bruce Bogtrotter and many more. Y6's performance was so colourful and full of summer fun – they really brought out the Spanish weather! It made us feel like long summer days had finally arrived.

Senorita Diaz, our wonderful Spanish teacher in her first year with us, is an absolutely astonishing person. She truly lights up our classrooms when she enters! Thank you and well done to her.

We hope that you enjoyed our performances and that you're looking forward to many more next year.

**By Aadhya – Y5**



**In the mood**

# **Hispanic days and performances**



**Baking in reception**



**Suited and booted**



# **Hispanic days and performances**



Breakfast club fun



Last time around for Y6

# **Rule breakers!**

## **Break the Rules Day**

It was lots of fun because we got to break the rules.

The day was planned to raise money for our school and our school council will now decide how that money is best spent.

You had to pay 50p for each rule that you broke and it was lots of fun!

We had so much fun and we'd love to do it again next year.

**By Iona – Y5**



**Ice lollies in the sun**



**Nice nails**



**Rebels**



# **Chester Zoo**



**Making new friends**

## **Y2 visit Chester Zoo**

The monkeys were the children's favourite animal as they were so funny!

The penguins were also very well liked as they were swimming very fast passed the glass. The Y2s got very excited every time that happened!

They also enjoyed watching the Capybaras in their habitats.

All of the children said that they'd love to go back.

**By Rosa and Georgia – Y5**



**Cool dudes**

# **Superfood Superheroes**

## **A super competition winner**

This year at St. Austin's, we were in for a very special treat! A company called Food for Thought hosted a selection of healthy food workshops across our school and in Y5, we created a wonderful and delicious veggie stew.

About a week after our workshop, a fun competition was announced and our job was to create a comic strip about healthy eating. We were asked to design a superhero character and they had to be 'superfood' themed.

People got very creative indeed and I was delighted to win! Well done to everyone who took part.

**By Mina – Y5**



**Mina of Y5 being awarded her prize**



# Meet the Teacher

## An interview with Mr Hughes - Reception

**What's your favourite animal?**

Honeybees.

**What's your favourite food?**

I love all food!

**What's your favourite colour?**

Barbie pink for sure.

**What's your favourite book?**

Jerusalem by Yotam Ottolenghi.

**What's your favourite sport?**

I hate sports unless you count sunbathing.

**What's your favourite holiday destination?**

Anywhere with good food and warm weather.

**Do you have any pets?**

Not at home, but at school, lots of bees.

**What do you like to do in your own time?**

I go to the cinema two or three times each week.

**By Jolene and Matthew – Y6**



# **Forest School**

## **Our forest school adventures continue**

Forest school has continued to bring lots of happiness to children across our school. It's an area in which children can learn about nature and have many wonderful experiences.

In one class, children have read fun and exciting books such as Room on a Broom and then made brooms and wands in our forest school.

Reception were reading The Gruffalo and then did activities linked to that book such as searching for creatures on a sunny day outside.

Across our school, all children have enjoyed their experiences there as it's given them time to explore our outdoor environment, get lots of fresh air and enjoy the weather.

**By Phoebe – Y5**



**Fun in the sun**



**Spring is here**



# **Forest School**



**It's all going on**



# **Lent walks**

## **Raising money for Alder Hey and Clatterbridge**

Each year, children from St. Austin's participate in raising money for causes close to our hearts by going on Lent walks and this year, all of the money raised is going to Alder Hey and Clatterbridge.

As ever, we all had lots of fun and it was a very enjoyable experience for all.

It teaches us that we're all part of one community and one world and that we have to support each other.

Well done to everyone!

**By Niamh – Y5**



**Off we go**



**Out of this world efforts**

# **Cross country**

## **Outstanding runners**

This year, our school have had some excellent results in our cross-country league.

Our Y5 and 6 girls tried their best to succeed and won the title of 1<sup>st</sup> place!

Ada of Y5 won the Kate Griffin Memorial Trophy – excellent effort Ada!

Our boys have also done very well and competed strongly in their league.

Freddie of Y6 won the Allan Roderick Award – superb running Freddie!

Well done to all for their efforts and thank you to our teachers for supporting us.

**By Stevi and Lola – Y5**



**Champion**



**Y6 girls**



**Y5 girls**