



St Aidan's Catholic Primary School

'Come in and learn with Jesus; go out and serve with love.'

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Acting Headteacher: Rachel Lalor

Friday 15th November 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

[Please read our full newsletter here](#)

It was great to see everyone in spots and ears raising awareness for Children in Need today. Huge thanks for the donations made in school today. I know that many of you are also donating directly using your phones this evening during the Pudsey Bear fundraiser.

Our Year 6 children led the school beautifully in a service of Remembrance at 11.00am on Monday 11th November. The whole school observed a two minute silence and reflected on the bravery of those who have fought for their country. Year 6 shared the poem 'In Flanders Fields' which inspired the original poppy appeal and read some of their own wonderful poetry as well as reflecting on their own commitment to promoting peace throughout their lives and the wider world. Thanks to everyone who bought a poppy this year and to the Year 6 parents who came to share in the service on Monday afternoon.

As you know, Poppies are worn as a show of support for the Armed Forces community.

[Click this link for more information about the symbolism of the poppy](#)

Year 5 have been enjoying their swimming lessons this week. After a few 'first day nerves' on Monday they have been swimming like fish! Well done.

On Monday next week we will be sending home a QR code for you to sign your child up to the Caterpillar Reading App. Caterpillar is an online tool that has been created to effectively develop reading for pleasure. It does so by achieving the following 4 principles, proven to be vital in developing intrinsic motivation to read.

- Encourages active engagement with books
- Creates a community that celebrates reading
- Motivates through success without risking failure and demotivation
- Helps to create reading experiences that are child-led

It is really easy for children to use. Please see below for further information and look out for the letter next week.

Next Friday, 22nd November is 'Friday Funday' in advance of Youth Sunday on the Feast of Christ the King. See below for details.

Following the information sent last week regarding the Wellbeing Hub, please see below for further information and this month's focus.

Well done to the children who received a Maths Award for effort and skill in Maths lessons. They are on our Maths 'Wall of Fame' in the Key Stage 1 hall. Congratulations to everyone who received a Headteacher's Award this morning.

Christmas Lunch in school will be served on Thursday 5th December. Children are invited to wear their Christmas Jumper on that day.

After school on that day we will hold the annual festive Wellbeing Stall. Children (The Wellbeing Elves) have been very busy already, crafting Christmas gifts and ornaments, and packaging sweets to sell on the day. Chief Elf (Mrs Walker) uses all money raised to fund further projects for the wellbeing group. The children love setting up their shop and learning about business enterprise as well as having lots of fun. I know that you will support them as well as you have in the past!

To help us get ready for Christmas Jumper Day, the School Council are organising a Christmas Jumper stall in order to avoid landfill waste and to promote recycling. Please donate any festive jumpers which have been outgrown since last year. Simply hand them to Mrs Redpath at the Nursery door any morning next week. **Hopefully, we will have enough to make a stall for people to take a jumper and make a donation next Thursday – 21st November – straight after school. We will organise another collection of used jumpers in January to be ready for next year!!**

Don't forget the Christmas market at St Columba's on 23rd November.

Please see Diary Dates for dates and times of our Christmas Nativity Performances.

I am hoping to be able to share our Ofsted report with you by the end of next week!

NB: Please update your contact details as soon as you change phone number/email address.

In the newsletter this week:

- *Attendance*
- *Statements to Live By*
- *The Wellbeing Hub*
- *Love Reading: Caterpillar App/Reading Challenge/Author Visits*
- *Youth Sunday*
- *After School Clubs/North Tyneside Free Sessions*
- *Asda Cashpot for Schools information*
- *Year of Prayer – November: For those who have died*
- *Keeping Children Safe – Parent Guide to Snapchat*
- *Keeping Children Safe – Safeguarding Team/Policy*
- *RE Curriculum Plans – Autumn Term*
- *The Wednesday Word*
- *PTA*
- *Feeding Families – How to Collect your Shopping*
- *Cost of Living Support for Parents*
- *Connect Mental Health Support*
- *School Lunch Menus*
- *Wallsend Children's Community*
- *Dates for the Diary*

If you have any queries about any of these items, please get in touch via the school office.

Best wishes
Ms Lalor