



## St Aidan's Catholic Primary School

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

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Headteacher: Rachel Lalor

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents & Carers

[Please read our full newsletter here](#)

We were enormously proud of our Year 6 pupils attending the Holocaust memorial event at North Tyneside Council Chambers last Friday. Our pupils spoke eloquently and with passion in front of a large audience of over 200 invited guests. The children then led the school Celebration of the Word on Wednesday – many thanks to the parents who came to share with them on Thursday. The children love to see you in school. See below for details of the HMD event itself.

Also last week there was a focus on **Safeguarding** with KS2 children attending **Safetyworks** – built like a film set of metro stations, shops and homes to guide children through various aspects of Health & Safety and stranger danger as well as road safety. The **NSPCC** also delivered sessions to the children in school on the **NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Programme**.

**Year 5** attended a performance of *Weird* at Newcastle's Theatre Royal yesterday. The show is a reimagining of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* with the witches as a girl band, The Weird Sisters. A bit like 'Six', the show about Henry VIII's wives. The children were lucky enough to attend this premiere run of what looks like it may be a huge hit. They said it was absolutely brilliant!

Our pupils in **Year 4** will begin their sacramental preparation programme on Sunday with the launch Mass for their First Holy Communion and Sacrament of Reconciliation preparation at Our Lady & St. Aidan's. Please remember them in your prayers. A reminder to the parents of the group preparing that the after-school catechism sessions begin on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

Thank you to everyone who completed the Wallsend Children's Community survey last week. So far, we have had the most responses from any school! If you have not already completed the survey please take a couple of minutes to follow this link [Wallsend Children's Community Parent Survey](#). The survey explores the experiences of parents and carers in Wallsend, focusing on your well-being, views on learning and education, and financial situation during these challenging times. Your feedback will help local schools and organisations improve support for families in the area.

**There is a meeting for families of child with SEND – or who are trying to access SEND Support – with Deborah Mordain – from The Parent Carers Forum – next Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 9.00am in KS1 Hall. You are all very welcome. It would be helpful if you could Seesaw your child's class teacher if you intend to come so that we have an indication of numbers – (to make sure there are enough biscuits!).**

Next week our **Year 5 & 6** pupils will attend the residential activities centre at **High Borrans** as part of their extended **PE curriculum**. There is an exciting week planned for the children of caving, climbing and canoeing as well as a host of other activities. **Huge thanks to Mrs. L. Alexander, Mrs. Nicholson and Miss Stock – and their families – for giving up their evenings and overnights to take the children. It is very much appreciated.** The children in Y5/6 who are not attending High Borrans will be taking part in lots of activities based closer to home.

As I mentioned last week, **2026 is 'The National Year of Reading'** and there are already lots of reading activities for you to get involved in with your children both at home – and more to come in school. Please see our **We Love Reading** section below to see what the children have been doing – and to **access a great (absolutely free!) reading resource for home called Authorfy**. Sign up to this for hundreds of reading activities and author interviews.

**Next week, as part of the Year of Reading is National Storytelling Week.** See our reading section for details.

A reminder of the advance notice that this year's **World Book Day** (5<sup>th</sup> March) will not be 'dress up in costumes or pyjama's' but simply '**wear comfy clothes**' **Children will be making hats and costumes in school on the day – so please don't buy anything new!**

**Advance notice of the date for Parents Evening: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March from 2.30pm. Booking details nearer the time.**

These newsletters will hopefully keep you up to date with what is going on in school week by week and also direct you to useful organisations and suggestions to support your child's education and development. **Please check your Arbor and Seesaw Apps regularly for information from school. The Arbor system is now being used by all schools in Bishop Bewick CET and does work slightly differently from our previous messaging systems. Newsletters are sent to your Arbor account and uploaded to our website every two weeks.**

Our attendance figures are really low in the local and national league tables once again! Please contact us if you are having difficulty in getting your child to school when they are well due to parent/carer or sibling illness.

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

In the newsletter this week

- *Curriculum – The Arts this week*
- *2026 National Year of Reading – National Storytelling Week Reading in School this week*
- *NSPCC Speak Out: Stay Safe*
- *MHST Updates*
- *School Council Collection of Tubs and Jumpers*
- *RE Spring Term Curriculum Plans info for parents*
- *Faith In Action – Holocaust Memorial Day Information*
- *Faith In Action – Peter Rabbit Trail*
- *Attendance*
- *Statements to Live By & Catholic Social Teaching*
- *Catholic Social Teaching*
- *Support for Families/Clubs in our Area*
- *The Wellbeing Hub*
- *Love Reading: National Year of Reading – Authorfy Link – Children in School*
- *Caterpillar App*
- *Keeping Children Safe – Parent Controls on Android devices*
- *Safeguarding Team in School*
- *The Wednesday Word*
- *PTA*
- *Feeding Families – How to Collect your Shopping*
- *Cost of Living Support for Parents*
- *Connect Mental Health Support*
- *School Lunch Link*
- *Admissions Information*
- *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