



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 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

[Please read our full newsletter here](#)

As you know, Ofsted visited St Aidan's on 22nd and 23rd October 2024. We are delighted to announce that we have received our report and can finally share it with you. A copy was sent to you earlier today. If you have not received it please see below for details.

It has been another busy week in school. Our Year 1, 2 and 6 children went to meet famous authors and listen to them reading their books and talking about how to become a great writer. Year 5 also changed their books at Howdon library on Thursday.

Year 2 attended Mass across at Our Lady & St Aidan's and Year 4 led the school beautifully in Celebration of The Word this week. Thank you to parents who attended.

I am pleased to tell you that every time a class has left school this week, a member of the public has stopped staff to comment on the excellent behaviour and manners of our children (even the bus driver who collects children from lots of schools commented on wonderful manners). They have all done you proud this week!

On Monday we sent 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. Thank you to all of you who have signed up already! Lots of books have already been added by children. Thank you for your support in promoting a love of reading for pleasure. **Please remember the November reading challenge needs to be completed by the end of next week. We already have several signed off!**

Sunday is The Feast of Christ the King which means that the first Sunday of Advent is next weekend. See below for details and information about today's 'Funday Friday' activities.

If you have not already done so, please sign up for the Wellbeing Hub using the details sent two weeks ago.

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. The Well-being Elves have been very busy already, crafting Christmas gifts and ornaments, and packaging sweets to sell on the day.

The PTA are organising a Christmas postal service. Please send in your child's cards for the class, simply signed but not addressed, and the PTA will make sure that the cards are delivered. Post boxes open on 2nd December and last post is Friday 13th December.

A special mention today for Zac Finnigan who is a pupil in our Reception class and has a rare syndrome called '22q.11'. The Max Appeal charity who supports people and families with 22q.11 spend November raising awareness – and on 22nd November every year buildings and landmarks up and down the country are lit up in red. This year the Millennium Bridge over the Tyne will turn red for Zac!

Once again, a 'Name the Teddy' competition is being organised in order to raise funds for research into this extremely rare syndrome. The School Council will be in touch next week with details of how to enter.

I received a lovely letter from our Mini-Vinnies asking if they could organise a fundraising bake sale in school **next Wednesday** afternoon. See below for details.

Don't forget the Christmas market at St Columba's tomorrow!

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

Please see below a message from the school council about Christmas jumper donations.

Please note that school will be closed to children on Friday 29th November for staff training.

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

In the newsletter this week:

- *Ofsted*
- *Attendance*
- *Statements to Live By*
- *Faith In Action – Mini Vinnies Fundraiser*
- *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 Helping your child with Spending & Saving*
- *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