



St Aidan's Catholic Primary School

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

Coniston Road, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, NE28 0EP

Tel: 0191 716 0585 Email: office@staidans.school Website: www.staidans.school

Headteacher: Rachel Lalor

Friday 16th January 2026

Dear Parents & Carers

[Please read our full newsletter here](#)

Thanks to everyone who came to the **Wellbeing Coffee Morning** this week. It was great to see so many of you in school. Our Educational Psychologist, Jill Sandeman's workshop was just fabulous to listen to. Please do pop along to the next one if you are able. Jill will also be working with staff later in the term.

Many thanks to those of you who attended the meeting about our **upper KS2** High Borrans visit. Hopefully, you now have all the information you need to prepare for the trip. If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the school office or see Miss Stock or Mrs Nicholson directly.

Year 2 led the school with real reverence in Celebration of The Word this week with a very mature understanding of their RE topic 'Books'. Thanks to all of you who were able to attend and share in this with them on Friday.

Year 6 have joined thousands of other schools this week by taking part in the **Big Schools Birdwatch** for 2026 as part of the RSPB's **Big Garden Birdwatch** campaign. See below for details of what they got up to and find out how you can get involved as families at 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.

Please take this advance notice that this year's **World Book Day** (5th March) will not be 'dress up in costumes or pyjamas' but simply **'wear comfy clothes'**. Children will be making hats and costumes in school on the day – so please don't buy anything new!

As always, we are taking part in the **NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Programme** this half term. See below for detailed information about this vital aspect of safeguarding children in education.

Some of our **Year 6 Faith In Action** Group have been invited to speak at this year's **Holocaust Memorial** event at North Tyneside Council Chambers next Friday. They have been working hard to prepare a presentation explaining their understanding of the Holocaust and our responsibility to recognise and speak out against discrimination when we see it as part of our St Aidan's Mission to **'Come in and learn with Jesus; go out and serve with love'**. Detailed information about the work of HMD can be found below.

Year 6 will visit **Safetyworks** next Wednesday as part of their Safeguarding curriculum.

Guitar and Ukulele lessons have started up again in **KS2 and both Dance Clubs are up and running again too**.

We really have been busy!

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

- *NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe*
- *2026 National Year of Reading*
- *MHST Monthly Parent Advice Link*
- *RSPB Great British Birdwatch*
- *Invitation from MHST for Parent/Carer Voices*
- *Link to Guide for parents from Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner*
- *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*
- *Caterpillar App*
- *Keeping Children Safe – Parent Guide to Social Media Peer Pressure – 'LIKES'*
- *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