

# St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy

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Headteacher: Mrs Victoria Campling (BA Hons)



**Monthly Newsletter April 2024**

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*'Together we enjoy Learning, Achieving, Sharing and Praying. Let Jesus Love shine through in everything we do.'*



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after the Easter break it is always lovely to see the children skipping through the gate again and filling the school with laughter. We welcome our new families and children who have joined us in Nursery this term, the children are settling in so well to school life.

We also welcome Mrs Golding to our staff team this term covering class 6Da, the children have made her feel very welcome. A busy term ahead so please do note the dates for your diaries, remember all dates can always be found on the school website for your information.

### **Australian visiting Headteachers:**

We had the pleasure last week of welcoming a group of Australian Headteachers to St Aidan's to show them an English Primary school and for them to learn about our education system. They were delighted to meet our pupils and thought they were amazing, a credit to St Aidan's. They presented us with kind gifts of beautiful traditional story books, a boomerang and aboriginal art as a memory of their visit. Our Year 6 tour guides – Becky, Nathan, Inaaya and Merlyn were excellent ambassadors, well done.

### **Class trips:**

It is always a wonderful opportunity when the children can be offered the experiences of learning outside of the school in the wider community. Class 3/4R enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Science Museum allowing the opportunities to explore. Other children had the opportunity of a basket ball skills camp teaching them new skills and drills which they loved! Some of our Year 6 children enjoyed a visit to a Secondary school as a taster day to see what it is like in the day and life of a secondary school pupil, the canteen was the favourite part!

### **May the month of Mary:**

Throughout the Month of May we pray and think about Mary our Mother by learning the prayers of the rosary. See the Catholic Social teaching newsletter for the prayers to say at home.

We will be holding our May procession at the end of the month to pray and give thanks to Mary our Mother by laying flowers.

### **First Holy Communion:**

Please do inform the school office if your child is making their First Holy Communion this term in your parish church so we can celebrate within the school family.

### **Journalists:**

Please enjoy the children's articles this month – Patrissia (3/4R), Becky (6Dw), Enya (6Dw), Franco (6Dw), Sithi (6Dw), Kei'Arne (5D), Zoha (5D) & Avin (5D)

Kind regards, *Mrs. Campling*

**Please ensure all your contact details are up to date with the school office and inform them of any changes. Please ensure you have provided emergency contact details for your child. Thank you.**

### Diary dates

6/5/24 – School closed Bank holiday

8/5/24 – Phonics Yr1 parent meeting at 3:30pm

13/5/24 – Yr 6 SATs week

20/5/24 – Yr 5 Class trip

22/5/24 – May Month of Mary procession in the prayer garden at 9:15am Parents welcome

23/5/24 – Yr 6 citizenship event

24/5/24 – Olympic athlete visit  
End of Half term at 3:20pm

3/6/24 – School closed – Staff inset day

4/6/24 – School re-opens at 8:45am

### May procession

May the month of Mary

22<sup>nd</sup> May

We ask for each child to bring in a flower to be laid for Mary our mother during the May procession prayer service.



### School Uniform

As we transition to the Summer uniform please ensure you check the uniform policy on the school website before purchasing items.

<https://www.staidansacademy.org/school-information/uniform/>

Shoes – Plain black school shoes (not trainers or boots)

Bags – St Aidan's book bag (EYFS & KS1) or rucksack (KS2)

Long hair must be tied back with plain black, brown, maroon hair ties or the school bow.

Hats – St Aidan's hat/sun cap or plain



Thank you to the parents who completed the play survey this week. The children completed their surveys in school.

We had our first development day with the Opal lead this week which included an audit of the play space for the children.

We have exciting developments in store for the play space for all children over the next few months and this will be an on-going project of development over the next few years.

Our aim is to provide excellent play opportunities for all children every day. Play is large proportion of a child's day and supports physical, mental, social and emotional health and developments.

To make this successful we also require your help and support too as parents. You can help by supporting, encouraging and celebrating the enjoyment of play. We also will regularly ask for donations of certain items throughout the year so look out for our donation station requests!

## DONATION STATION

We will have a donation station area in the playground by the back gate. Regularly we will be asking for particular items.

This month we are looking for:



**Hats/bags/scarves  
for dressing up**



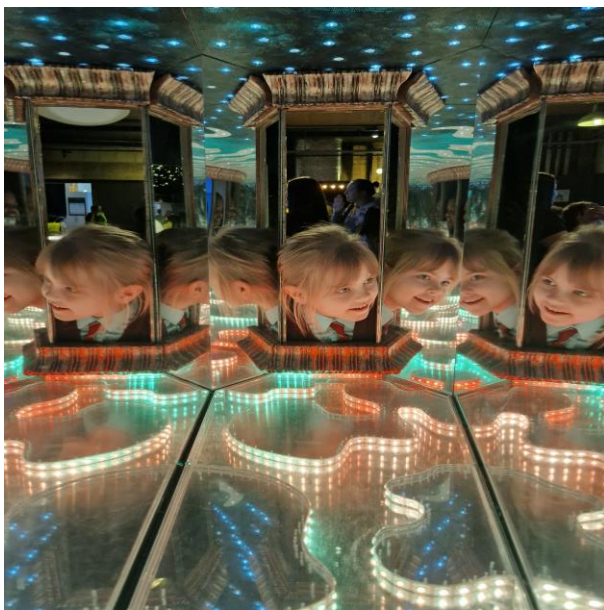
**Lego/Duplo**

Please place any donations in a bag and drop them off in the large yellow and red bins which are labelled.

# St Aidan's News!



Basketball skills camp



3/4R Class trip – The awe and wonder of the science museum!

## Science Museum

On Tuesday we visited the Science Museum. I was a little nervous at first because of the trains but I was also excited. It took over an hour to get there, we had to do loads of walking which was tiring! When we arrived one of the science Museum workers greeted us and told us where to put our bags. He then explained the rules in our first session called Wonder Lab. He said "No running, stay with your teacher and be sensible" We watched a little experiment about liquid nitrogen, which is a colourless liquid that is  $-320^{\circ}\text{F}$ . Dangerously cold! We watched it stop a bouncy ball from bouncing and freeze an egg. When bubbles were blown over it they floated. There was a colossal slide that went a great speed depending on two materials we slid on. This was because of friction. There was a special machine with string and when I put it in my ears I could hear music. After lunch we explored the space exhibit, we saw rocket ships, planets, how astronauts live, eat and sleep in space. We got to see old planes and cars from the 1900s. We saw how mail delivered and the types of furniture and technology that was around in those days. It was a fabulous experience and one of the best trips ever!

Patrissia 3/4R

# Visitors From Australia

Written by: Becky 6DW

On Friday 19th April, St Aidan's had a few headteachers from Australia and New Zealand visit. They came to see how we are getting on with our R.E.

Four Year 6 pupils were chosen to show the guests around the school. We had to show them all of the classrooms, introduce them to the teachers and show them a few books. We also had to explain and tell them about all of the displays and posters which are scattered around the school.

They also left us a few gifts for the school. They gave us two books, a boomerang, a small painting and a little koala plushie for each of the pupils that were showing them around the school.

They also told us a bit about their schools in Australia and New Zealand. Some of the things at their schools were similar to our school. They also said that they found their visit entertaining. Some pupils also enjoyed them visiting our school.

I hope we will get more visitors like that in the future.

# Year 6 transition trip

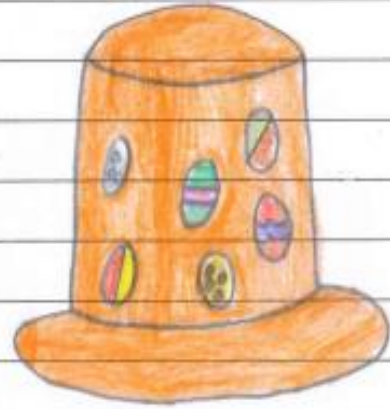
by Enya 6DW

The year 6 transition trip was really fun we talked about our worries for secondary and the things we are excited about. I was very happy to talk about them because it gave me a relief of my worries and it really boosted my confidence for year 7. There was a wide variety of workshops for us to do, first we did self-defence with a really nice teacher and it was really nice to interact with another school when we did that activity. After that we had some very exciting activities. We had creating moodboarding which was very fun because we wrote down all of our goals for year 7. Then we did some drama and we played splat which was really fun. Overall this was a really fun experience for me.

**Enya (6Dw)**

# Easter Bonnets by Franco 6Dw

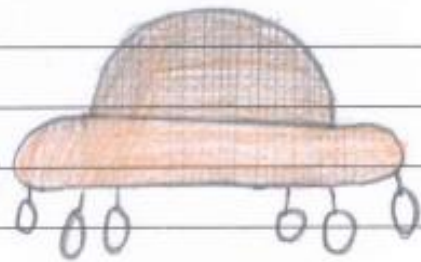
On the 28th of March, there was a competition on whoever had the best Easter bonnet. The winners were chosen by Ms Chambers and the winners were given an award.



We had a lot of fun creating the Easter bonnets and there were many creative hats. All of them had unique, special designs and looked different from one another.

A drawing of one of the hats.

One of the students said 'The Easter bonnets were very lovely but it was sad that ~~you~~ I didn't win the competition.'



Many people worked very hard making the bonnets but only a select amount of people won the competition.

In conclusion, one of the bonnets were very interesting and everyone had an amazing time.

# Gardening (Laudato Si)

by Sithi 6DW

Every class has been growing vegetables for this year. Some classes grow vegetables like carrots and beetroots. By doing this ~~was~~ we are caring for the earth and following Laudato Si, as well as helping with the school meals.



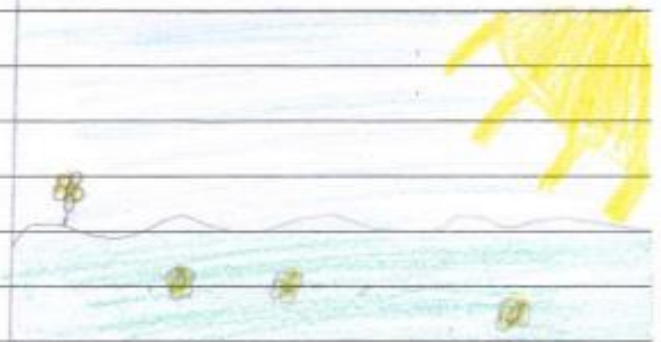
Mrs Dwyer (science lead) has encouraged everyone to take part. She also runs gardening club where students who are interested, learn about teamwork and does additional work to make our garden look beautiful and grow much more.

Let us all try and grow something at home. We are encouraging students to join gardening club and participate.

Let us all follow these simple rules: reduce, reuse and recycle to care for our environment.

Mrs Dwyer is proud of our efforts as she expressed, "It is lovely to see vegetables grow in our school."

Some of the year 6 brought plants that they grew at home. Growing vegetables are important and they include love, patience and care.





# Easter CAFOD Walk

The Easter CAFOD walk was a big parade held in the school playground in April. Everyone had to wear something purple and some even wore a full purple outfit.

As we walked around the playground we could hear happy music playing, children and also teachers were dancing along and having fun.

It was a great walk for a good cause and CAFOD helps the poor, provides shelter and food for those in need.



Kei-Arne 5D



Kei'Arne (5D)

# Easter Bonnet Day

On Easter Bonnet day there was a competition who can make the best Easter hat, mine was very creative and colourful, So was everyone else's and I was lucky enough to win, I was very excited, I got some chocolate eggs and a small chocolate bunny.



We were walking and showing our Easter Bonnets to everyone in the parade and Miss Chambers was the judge for the competition. Everyone commented on my amazing bonnet and I felt very proud of my self.

By Zoha Babar 5D

# Easter CAFOD Walk

On Easter we had CAFOD Walk it was held in the school playground, as a school we participated in the CAFOD Walk everyone had to wear a purple outfit.



When we were walking joyful music <sup>was</sup> playing and we were excited and hyped. CAFOD helps and provides the necessary care for others in need.

Avin  
5D

**Avin (5D)**