

St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy

Benton Road, Ilford, Essex. IG1 4AS

Tel: 020 8590 5223 Fax: 020 8503 8344

email: admin@st-aidans.redbridge.sch.uk

website: www.staidansacademy.org

Headteacher: Mrs Victoria Campling (BA Hons)



Monthly newsletter: November 2025

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

Dear Parents/Carers,



The month of November started with All Saints day where we prayed for those gone before us and we are reminded we are all saints if we are following in Christ's footsteps.

Remembrance Day:

Our Year 6 GIFT team led us in a beautiful remembrance service on the 11th. We respectfully held a minute's silence together in prayer. Each class presented a Poppy letter spelling out the words Lest we forget remembering those gone before us which was then displayed in the garden.

Anti-bullying week – Odd socks:

We had fun wearing odd socks for the day to show our differences and how we are all unique. The theme of Anti-bullying week was 'power for good' and we focused on how we show respect and kindness to one another in many ways. Respect is also one of our school values so the children know the word very well and are excellent at showing respect to others, this is often commented on by visitors to the school about our children.

Hooks!

Each half term the children begin a new theme in their curriculum. Your child's curriculum newsletter was shared with you which outlines the theme and how the subjects link together. To start each theme, we have a hook to engage and immerse the children into the theme. For example, Yr 6 experienced being evacuees and Yr 2 received a letter from King Charles himself! The hooks have been exciting ways to support the children's understanding, we look forward to the next ones in January.

Curriculum enrichment:

As part of our new curriculum is the inclusion of class trips and experiences to enrich their knowledge and understanding. This month some Yr 6 had the opportunity to participate in the first Trust Football tournament and achieved 3rd place! Yr 2 went to Hainault Forest to look at habitats and go on a bug hunt, they also visited the farm animals too.

Jubilee celebration day:

At the start of the year our Pope declared the Jubilee year as Pilgrims of Hope. St Aidan's wrote their pledges as what our hopes will be. Together we have learnt the song and prayer and focused throughout the year of how we can be pilgrims of hope for those in need. The jubilee celebration was a national day led by CAFOD to celebrate and come together united in prayer. We will be creating a tree of hope in the main hall to continue to grow our prayers of hope.



OPAL Award:

As you know we had our final audit this month for OPAL (Outdoor play and learning) and we were delighted to achieve Gold award. St Aidan's provides an excellent and inclusive play opportunity for all children. We are now an exemplar school to others and will support other schools on their journey. We continue on our own journey continually developing play.

Please enjoy articles from the children:

Nursery, Noah's Ark, Reception, Yr2 (Lilla & Joanne), Yr 6 (James & Margaret)

Have a blessed Advent season - *Mrs. Campling*

Diary dates

1/12/25 – Advent reconciliation service at 9:15am
Catch up Flu spray
2/12/25 – Non-uniform day bring a bottle or packet of wrapped sweets

4/12/25 – Yr 1 parent phonics meeting at 3:30pm

9/12/25 – Christmas Bazaar 3:30-5pm

11/12/25 – Christmas dinner & Jumper day

12/12/25 – EYFS/KS1 Nativity at 10am

15/12/25 – KS2 Christmas story at 10am

16/12/25 – Yr 6 Class trip

18/12/25 – Rock Steady concert 9:15am



The season of Advent begins this Sunday, the season of preparation and expectation. Our Advent wreath will remind us each week of the hope, peace, joy and love as we await the birth of Jesus.



Uniform and personal belongings

Sadly, we have so many lost items every day due to them not having names on them. Please ensure that every item that belongs to your child is clearly name labelled. This includes water bottles, scooters, gloves etc. Lost items cause distress and create a large amount of lost property that is eventually disposed of.

Parent/Teacher consultation day

Monday 5th January 2026

We have parent meetings with the teacher throughout the day as our inset day.

Bookings will be via parentmail from Monday.

Please bring your child to the appointment with the teacher as it is an opportunity for them to share their work with you. It is equally important for your child to discuss their progress with their teacher.

If you have more than 1 child then please book an appointment with each teacher for your children and allow time in between appointments.

Please note school is closed to pupils that day, pupils return to term on the **6th of January**.

Christmas dinner & jumper day

Thursday 11th December

Wear a festive jumper/top with their school uniform along with any accessories for our exciting Christmas meal!

Please ensure you have selected your child's meal on parentmail.

Christmas events

9th Dec – Christmas Bazaar 3:30-5pm

11th Dec – Christmas dinner & Jumper day

12th Dec -EYFS & KS1 Nativity at 10am
Parents/Carers welcome – booking only

15th Dec – Ks2 Christmas story at 10am
Parents/Carers welcome – booking only



St Aidan's News!



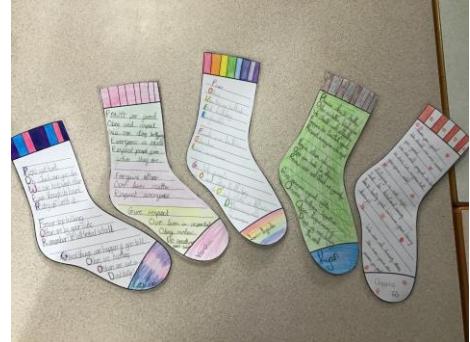
Remembrance



Year 2 Class trip



Anti-bullying week socks



Trust Football Tournament





Remembrance Day

Nursery worked together to paint small cake cases to look like poppies and then glued them onto our designated letter.



We learnt about why people wear poppies, and how it is important to remember the people who gave their lives so that we can live freely.



We attended the two minute silence with the rest of school.

Library books

We love books! Don't forget to bring in your book every Tuesday so your child can choose a different story to enjoy at home.



Making cookies

Mrs Campling gave us a pumpkin! We used it to make some cookies, we mixed the ingredients, then shaped the dough, when they were cooked we added icing.



When we had finished making the cookies, everyone helped to tidy up. We took it in turns to wash the plates and the bowls, then dry them up before they were put away. Nursery worked well together to get it all done!

RE - The Nativity



In RE we are learning about the Nativity story!

We found out that Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem on a donkey. We thought about how we could build a stable for the animals.



Then we worked to build a den for us to sit in together, thinking about how Jesus would have felt cosy asleep in the hay.



Noah's Ark

Newsletter



St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy

November 2025

This month in Noah's Ark

Welcome to the third edition of our Noah's Ark newsletter! Each month we'll be sharing a little window into our classroom, celebrating the children's learning, exploration, and achievements. We'll also keep you updated on our current topics, special events, and ways you can support learning at home.

We are so excited to share the wonderful things the children get up to in Noah's Ark.

Thank you for being part of our adventure! Miss Chambers.



Remembrance Day

As part of our whole-school project for Remembrance Day, Noah's Ark helped to create some of the letters for the phrase "Lest we Forget." The children enjoyed exploring different textures and materials to decorate their letters, which became part of a beautiful 3D display in our school garden. It was a lovely way for the children to contribute to a meaningful and reflective moment.



Baking time!



Gingerbread men



Maths



Notices

We would love to hear what you would like to see in our next newsletter.



Keep an eye out for the next stay and play date for next half term!



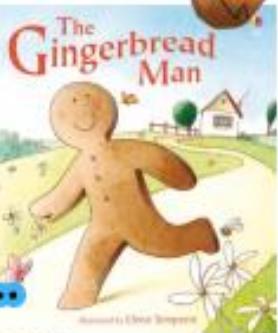
As colder weather is here please remember to send in coats and wellies.



Classroom Moments



We have
been
reading.....



Week 2



yes

Gestalt Core Words AAC Literacy
Programs

Week 3



no

Gestalt Core Words AAC Literacy
Programs

Week 4



1 / me / my

Gestalt Core Words AAC Literacy
Programs

Week 5



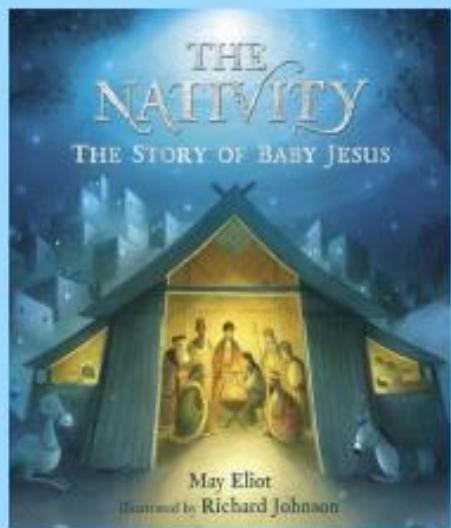
like

Gestalt Core Words AAC Literacy
Programs

Teacher's Note

This month, the children have continued exploring their Core Words through lots of fun, sensory activities, supported by Makaton signs and visuals. They are becoming more confident using their words to communicate in their own way — whether through gestures, signs, vocalisations, visuals, or AAC.

Our core words for this month were: want, go, stop, and like. Families will continue to receive a weekly information sheet to help practise each word at home, and we hope you've enjoyed exploring these core words together. We are so happy to hear your positive feedback and to see how the children's communication is growing and developing.



Our next
learning focus!

November in Reception

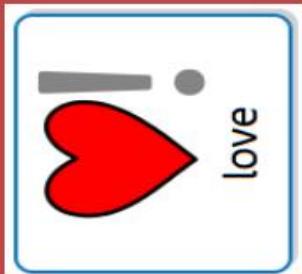
In Reception we learnt about a very special day—

Remembrance Day!

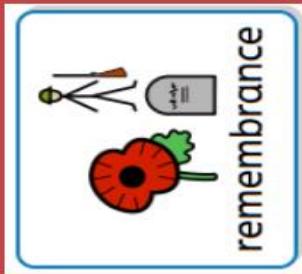
We were able to learn about how we show our **love** and **respect** to all of those who fought for us.



respect



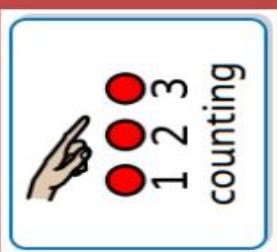
love



remembrance



We made **poppy wreaths** after learning about how King Charles paid tribute to all of the soldiers at the **cenotaph** with **wreaths**.



1 2 3
counting

We also learnt about the colours in the poppies and why they are so important. As a class we gathered **red** objects and made a red tray in honour of the symbol of red poppies! **We also used poppies in our counting for maths.**

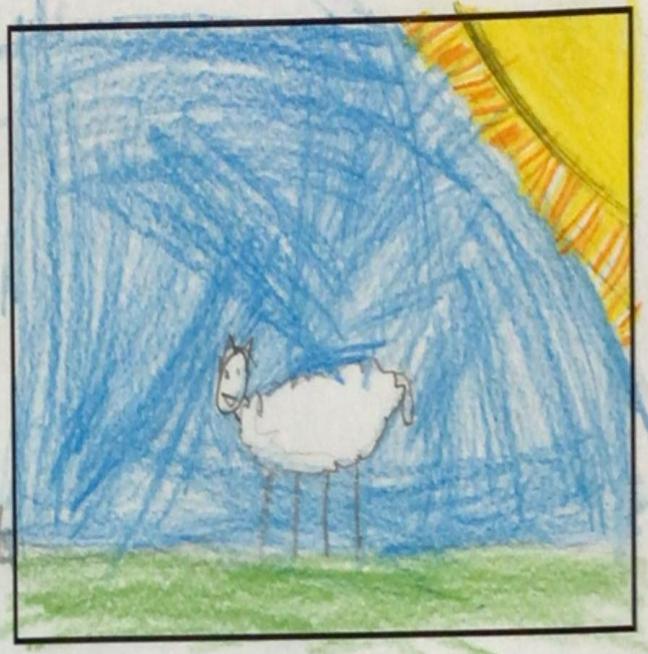


St Aidan's Times



ALL THE BREAKING NEWS FROM THIS MONTH

A highlight from this month has been when we went to Hainault forest. We went on 2 buses to get there. When we were there we went on a mini beast hunt. We found snails, millipedes and wood lice. We even saw a Heron sitting by the pond. We ate our picnic lunch out side and then got to go in the park, which was so much fun.



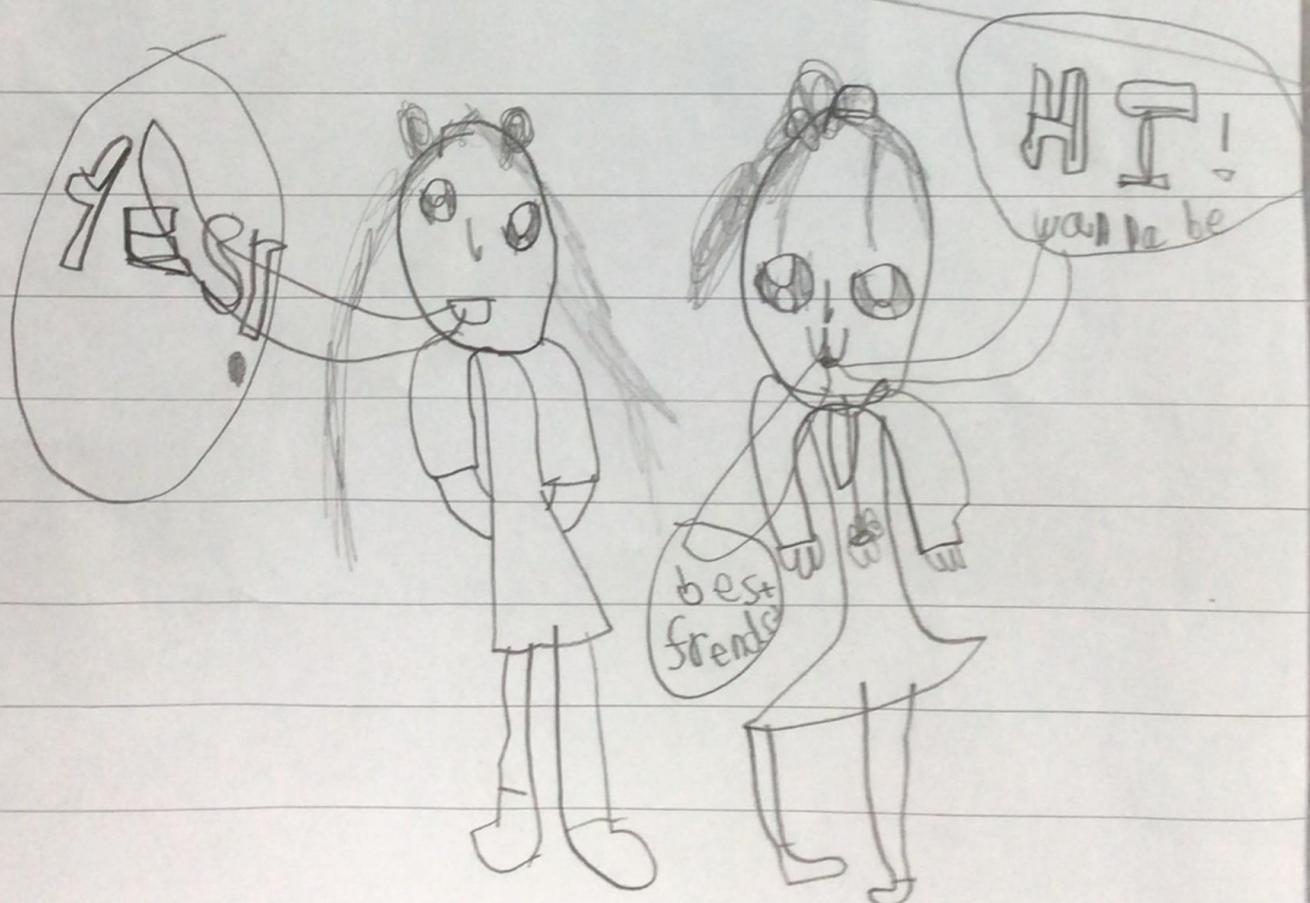
After lunch we went to the farm. We saw ponies, goats but my favourite animal was the peacock. I had so much fun there.

By Lilla

Yr 2 Lilla

Bullying week is over!
Anti-bullying week starts!
• Everyone love each other!
• Don't hurt everyone!
• Do NOT shout in class!

By Joanne



Yr 2 Joanne



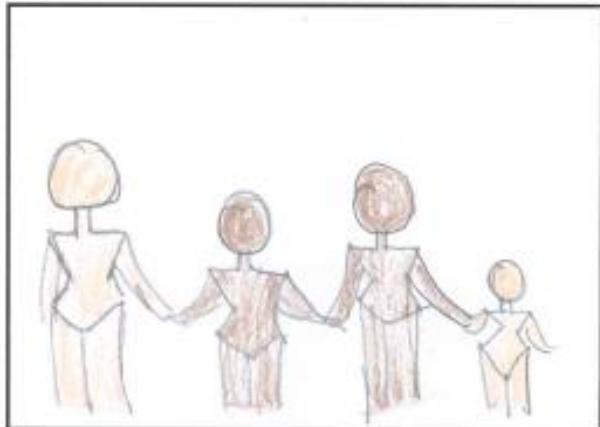
St Aidan's Times



ALL THE BREAKING NEWS FROM THIS MONTH

A highlight from this month has been PINS Assembly

The PINS Assembly was an attempt to help us be insightful about neurodiversity. Neurodiversity is when you have a special condition for example Tourette Syndrome. Being neurodiverse is not something to be sad about as we are all different in our own ways, for example we all have different cultures and races. None is perfect as we all have our own flaws, but we need to be able to



love our place, which the assembly who helped with. Thank you to the person who planned the assembly and for all those who helped.

Mengaud : 66

WHY WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL

Margaret (Yr6)

James 6G



St Aidan's Times



ALL THE BREAKING NEWS FROM THIS MONTH

A highlight from this month has been

Trust football tournament
On Thursday 6th November all of
the primary schools in the
trust took place in a football
tournament. It was a time for
us to come together and
have fun. Our school came
3rd out of 6 schools and
all of us had a great time.
We did 6 matches and here are the
scores! Match 1: 0-0
Match 2: 1-1
Match 3: 2-0
Match 4: 0-0
Match 5: 0-0
Match 6: 0-0 3-2 penalties



Mr's Camping provided
Custom kits for us
and they were very
vibrant. Match 6 was a play
off for 3rd and
fortunatly we won 3-2
penalties and I had the

WHY WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL

winning penalty! After we were
given a meal and sweets
and St Vincent got a trophy
(they won the tournament).
All of the schools did
well and I really had
a great time!

James (Yr6)