

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: October 2025

Follow us on twitter: @staidansrcprim1

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

Dear Parents/Carers,



Our Gospel's this month have reminded us all about acts of kindness and the word 'Thank you' with how powerful that word can be. How saying thank you shows love and care and the reminder of the power of prayer. Pray little and often and whenever we want not just when it is our set school prayers each day.

Young minds mental health day:

Hello yellow! Miss Williamson led us in an assembly about Mental Health and well-being, a topic that is a priority in our curriculum and ethos of our school. We learn about emotions and strategies to support ourselves each day. Wearing yellow highlighted our support and the yellow cakes at the end of the day were an added treat!

Black history month:

As part of our Black History Month celebrations, the focus was 'Standing firm in power and pride' we centered the theme around "I Have a Dream. This theme invites pupils to explore hope, equality, fairness, and kindness, inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s iconic speech. Each class used a different creative medium such as song, art and role play. We finished off the month with an exciting African drumming workshop where every child had their own drum creating rhythms and beats.

Month of Mary:

October is the month for Mary our Mother and learning the prayers of the rosary. The children learnt to say the Hail Mary prayer using Makaton and how to pray using the rosary.

Class trips:

Year 3 enjoyed a wonderful trip to Colchester Castle this month for their topic on the Romans. The trip gave them the opportunity to immerse themselves in what life was like in the Roman times. They went underground into the vault and crawled through the tunnels together.

Year 4 went to the Ragged Museum to experience a Victorian classroom in action with writing on slate and sitting at wooden desks. The class trips are wonderful opportunities to support our curriculum and the children's understanding.

Staff update:

We said goodbye today to Mrs Skipper, Ms Walsh and Mrs Bhashir our Midday Assistants. We thank them for their loyal and loving service to so many children over the years and wish them all the best for the future.

Please enjoy articles from the children: Nursery, Callum (Yr2), Alyssa, Julia, Kyra-Rose, Favour & Ibrahim (Yr6).

Have a restful half term break, God bless you all and your families,

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

3/11/25 – School returns at 8:45am

7/11/25 – School photos

11/11/25 – Remembrance service at 10:50am
parents are welcome to join

10-14/11/25 – Anti bullying week ‘power of good’

19/11/25 – New Reception intake open morning 9:30am

25/11/25 – OPAL parent play 12-1pm book a place

1/12/25 – Advent reconciliation service at 9:15am

Prospective parents open morning

**Wednesday 19th November
9:30am**

If your child is turning 4 years old by the 31st August 2026 and you are applying for a Reception place then please join our open morning.

Contact the school office to speak to admissions and book a tour:

**0208 590 5223 –
admin@st-aidans.redbridge.sch.uk**

PE days

Mondays – Yr2 & Rec

Wednesdays – Yr5 & Yr 1

Thursdays – Yr6

Fridays- Yr 4 & Yr3

All children should wear their PE kit on the allocated day for their class.

PE Kit school uniform:

- St Aidan's school tracksuit or plain black tracksuit (Unbranded)
- St Aidan's blue polo shirt or plain blue
- Trainers
- Or black PE shorts

Please ensure all items are clearly labelled.

Christmas events

Save the dates upcoming events:

9th Dec – Christmas Bazaar 3pm-5pm

11th Dec – Christmas dinner & Jumper day

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

15th Dec – Ks2 Christmas story at 2pm
Parents/Carers welcome – booking available soon



Our school outfitters are:

Lucilla school wear
180 Cranbrook rd, Ilford, IG1 4LX



[St Aidan's Catholic Primary School - Lucilla Schoolwear Ltd](http://www.staidans.redbridge.sch.uk)

Orders are made online or via telephone and can be delivered or click and collect.

X3 items are branded:

St Aidan's V-neck jumper/cardigan

St Aidan's school tie

St Aidan's book bag/rucksack

All other branded items are optional extras such as the blazer or tracksuit.

Packed lunch

School meals are free for all Primary aged children so I advise you to take up on this opportunity. The menu offers a variety of options along with a salad bar and fruit bar.

If you choose for your child to have a packed lunch please be reminded of the requirements:

- Grapes must be pre-cut not whole
- No nuts this includes chocolate items/spread
- No crisps
- No fizzy drinks
- Lunch provided in a labelled lunchbox

Please support with healthy options for your child as the food plays a huge part in focus, attention and behaviours.



Our curriculum

This year we have revised and renewed our school curriculum to suit the learning needs of our pupils.

Our new exciting curriculum is now theme based where the subjects are linked together to allow for deeper knowledge and understanding.

We are currently developing the subject areas on the school website but the curriculum overviews can be found for each year group so you can see the curriculum for your child for the year.

<https://staidansacademy.org/curriculum/>

More information will be shared next month on the themes for each class.



Water bottles

It is really important that your child has a water bottle at school each day to keep hydrated.

Please ensure:

- Plastic bottle (metal bottles not permitted)
- Water only
- Name labelled clearly

Winter ready!

All children should have a coat with them every day as we go outdoors as much as possible.

We also advise a pair of wellies so they do not spoil their school shoes and then access all outdoor areas in their play and learning.

Please ensure all items are name labelled.



St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy



**Nursery spaces available
for 3 & 4 year olds to
start immediately.**

15 hours – morning- 8.45 – 11.45am

or afternoon -12.30-3.30pm,

30 hours – full day available- 8.45 – 3.30pm

Monday – Friday

Please call or email us for more information;

Tel: 020 8590 5223

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

St Aidan's News!



Noah's Ark

Newsletter



St Aidan's Catholic Primary Academy

October 2025

This month in Noah's Ark

Welcome to the second 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.



Black History Month

As part of our Black History Month celebrations, the children took part in an exciting African drumming session. They loved exploring the different rhythms, feeling the beat of the drums, and joining in with the lively music — it was a wonderful sensory experience that everyone enjoyed!



Happy Diwali!

Thank you Kiaan and family for our Diwali gifts, Kiaan enjoyed sharing with his friends.



This week, the children in Noah's Ark enjoyed celebrating Diwali — the Festival of Lights. We explored the bright colours and patterns of Diwali by creating our own Rangoli art in a variety of sensory ways, using coloured rice, sand, and flower petals. The children also moved and danced to joyful Diwali music, exploring rhythm and movement through sound and light. Together, we learned that Diwali is a time to celebrate love, light, and togetherness with our families and friends — a perfect reflection of the caring community we have in Noah's Ark.



Firework art

Notices



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

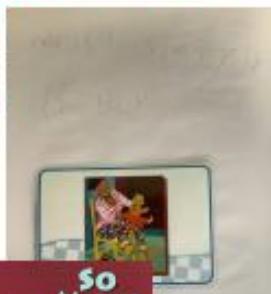


Keep an eye out for the next stay and play date for next half term!

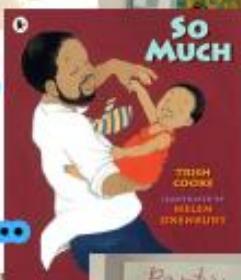


As colder weather approaches please remember to send in coats and wellies.

Classroom Moments



We have
been
reading.....



Practise at home guide

Word of the week
"want"

Sign it: **Hear it:**

Learn it: An activity to try at home:
Present a highly preferred item or activity (e.g. a toy or a book). Use their Makaton sign or symbol for 'want'. Wait for the child to respond or then encourage them to make a choice by reacting, looking, sign, symbol/gesture... anything to be assessed.

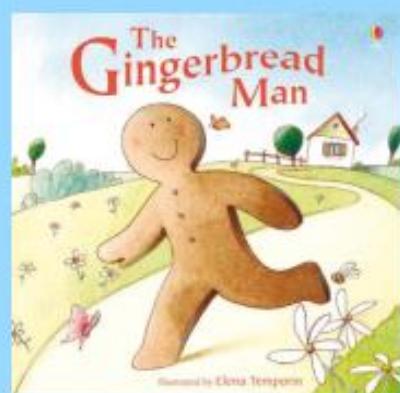
Write it: Use a pen to make marks or trace the word

want

Teacher's Note

We've started our exciting new Core Words sessions! Core words are the small but powerful words we use most often in everyday life — words like go, stop, like, and want. Each week, we focus on one core word through fun, sensory activities, using Makaton signs and visuals to help the children understand and use the word in different ways.

This week's word was "want", and the children have been practising using it to make choices and express what they would like! Families will also receive an information sheet each week to help support learning the word at home.



Our next story!

Nursery newsletter

October 2025

This month in Nursery

This month Nursery have been exploring Black History ! We have learnt about lots of different influential people, through play and exploration.

The 6888th

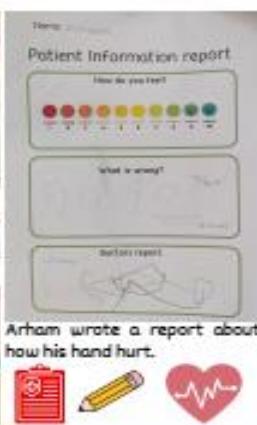


We listened to the story of the 6888 Central Postal Directory Battalion, how they were tasked with sorting two years worth of post in just three months! we made our own postcards then sorted them, next we delivered them to classrooms around the school.



Alma Thomas

We looked at the amazing art work created by Alma Thomas, we explored how she used colourful shapes to create her pieces. We used multicoloured squares to create our own art work.



Clara wrote about how Ayaka felt unwell.



Mary Seacole

We learnt about Mary Seacole and how she opened up a hospital to take care of wounded soldiers in the Crimea. We took part in a doctors role play, seeing to peoples injuries and taking care of each other.





Mae Jemison

We read the story 'Look Up!' then learnt about Mae Jemison, the first African American woman in space!

We watched a video of her rocket - the Endeavour, take off from the launch pad and counted down 5, 4, 3, 2, 1... blast off!



We put together different shapes to make our own rockets, then used tissue paper to create the amazing fire that comes from the bottom of the rocket as it takes off.



Books

We read lots of books this month, including John Agard's 'Windrush Child.' We thought about how people must have felt leaving their home to find a new life in England.

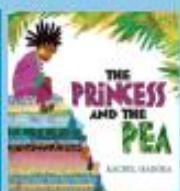
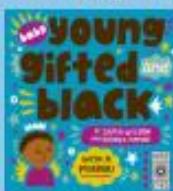


We looked at a map and found out where the Windrush ship sailed from. We looked at pictures of Caribbean food and thought we would like to try.



We watched JoJo and Gran Gran which helped us to understand what it was like to come to England on such a huge ship.

Other books we have enjoyed this month



Nursery have danced the month away, listening to some legendary Black artists. Aretha Franklin, Bob Marley and James Brown to name just a few!



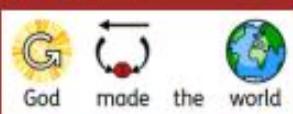
Music time!

We listened to some African drum music and had a go at tapping a beat!

What else have we been up to?



In maths we have been exploring and building with different shapes and objects. Everyone was so creative with what they made!



God made the world



In RE we have been learning about how God made everything! We discussed how God made us and loves us, and how we need to take care of one another by being kind.

We are learning that we need to be stewards for the Earth, taking care of the world around us by looking after God's creatures and recycling.

Notices

Please bring in a pair of welly boots for your child to keep at Nursery, we do not have enough for everyone and we want to make sure we can all have fun in the puddles together

Please send in a family photo so we can add it onto our community wall! The children love to see their family pictures in the classroom. Thank you to those who have already sent them in!



Playing, learning and growing together.



St Aidan's Times



ALL THE BREAKING NEWS FROM THIS MONTH

A highlight from this month has been learning about the singer Bob Marley for Black History month. He was born in Jamaica. He was catholic but ran scared to be a Rastafarian. He began to play the guitar by himself and wrote lots of inspirational songs. He wrote the word to one of his songs called three little birds.



We then created fun actions to go along with the song!
By Callum

WHY WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL



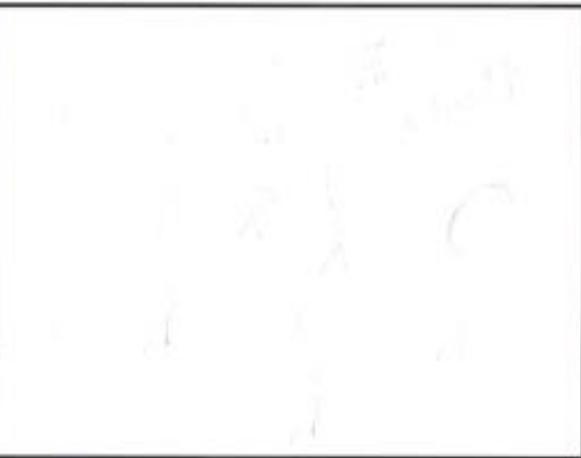
St Aidan's Times



ALL THE BREAKING NEWS FROM THIS MONTH

Alyssa EG Tag Rugby Festival
A highlight from this month has been
On the 21st of October, 5 people from year 5 and 5 people from year 6 went to a Tag Rugby tournament at Eton Manor. Everyone was super confident that we were going to win as Mrs Williamson and Mrs Higgin both our brilliant. The people year 5 were Harry, Albie, Kyron, Cao and Daniel and the year 6 were Mc Ryan, Daniel, Ibrahim and Melody.

We had a trip on a bus and it was about a 10 minute journey to the location. We got off and we had to go over a bridge over a busy road over a busy road and it didn't go stable so I was scared going like



We were walking down the road and we had to cross lots of roads and finally at the end of the road I saw the sign ETON MANOR in capital letters. When I went in, I saw a giant Rugby field that had been split into 4 small pitchs and we put our stumps near the corner.

WHY WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL

At the beginning we were scoring nothing but as we played more we got better our first goal was scored by Ryan. In the last game I didn't play the first half, the second half was intense the score was tied we were about to score but they took a point away from us. We still got a trophy for being a second place runner up.



St Aidan's Times



ALL THE BREAKING NEWS FROM THIS MONTH

A highlight from this month has been

Black History Month

This October we have had the pleasure to celebrate Black History Month. This is an honour for Black people to have this month as it's fought so much for equal rights. Rosa Parks boycotted the bus system because only white people could sit in the front. She sat in the front and she didn't care. When a white family came on the bus she didn't care and didn't move.



Rip to Rosa Parks who died on October 24th 2005

Martin Luther King was good too. His speech is how a dream. He died on 4th April 1968

WHY WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL

Julia 6G ☺

Kyra-Rose Year 6



St Aidan's Times



ALL THE BREAKING NEWS FROM THIS MONTH

A highlight from this month has been Celebrating Black History month in our schools amazing! In October it is Black History Month.

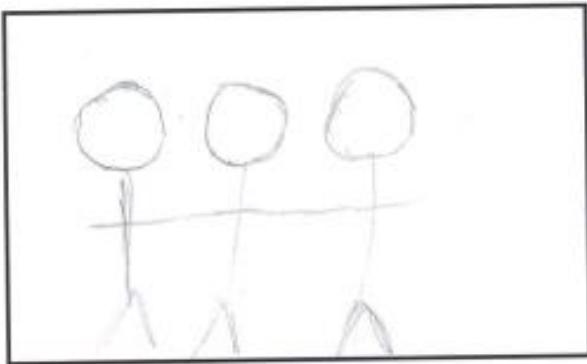
Black History Month is a time where we celebrate people who have changed history for us. People like Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman and Maya Angelou go down in history. Black people have gone through a lot but there are people who went out of their comfort zone because they knew it was not fair.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Every class has put an effort into making something to put onto display for Black History Month. My class (Year 6) wrote a poem inspired by Martin Luther King's amazing I have a dream speech.

WHY WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL

Our school teaches us to let Jesus' love shine through in all that we do. Black History Month is a great opportunity for classes to show off their artistic skills.





St Aidan's Times



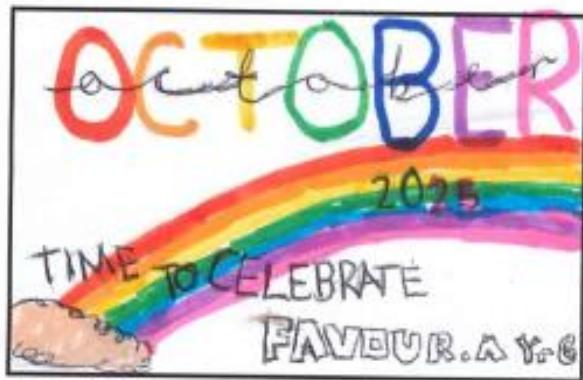
ALL THE BREAKING NEWS FROM THIS MONTH

A highlight from this month has been Black history month. Black history month is a time where we celebrate black people's history. We remember the black and mixed heroes that fought for rights. We celebrate the month where we chose peace and freedom instead of war. Here is a poem based on black history month.



I have a dream that one day we will be acknowledged for who we are. That there won't be anymore racists. We have all succeeded before inachieve. Due to the things that make us us, like our race, our race, our ethnicity and religion. This month proves together we overcome problems. We are tomorrow's future and its heroes.

In make the right choice - a world where we are praised for our differences, not torn apart. I have a dream that greatness will rain in our hopes and dreams in our daily lives and in each other. I have a dream that freedom will rain and someday it will soon come true.



WHY WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL

Our school gives a range of new opportunities and experiences each day for students. They encourage pupils to behave well and try new things. Just like in our mission statement 'by learning, playing and praying together' by Favour A

Ibrahim 6G



St Aidan's Times



ALL THE BREAKING NEWS FROM THIS MONTH

A highlight from this month has been
Tag rugby festival

On Thursday 2nd October 2025, there was a tag rugby tournament and we came second place in our division! Me, Alyssa, Ryan

Daniel, Harry, Melody and three more pupils. Even though we lost all our matches we had fun and scored some goals. At our first match we lost approximately 10-1 but Ryan scored one which we were proud of and really the first match.



On the second match we lost 5-0 but we have gotten better than last match but didn't know how to position ourselves and most importantly communicating. It was fun and enjoyable.

WHY WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL

