

St. Aidan's Catholic Academy

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Upcoming Events

April 20

Next Week, school for students of Key Workers' will take place at St Aidan's main school site.

To all in our community,

I hope everyone had a peaceful Easter break albeit under challenging circumstances. Despite everything, the importance of Holy Week was not lost on any of us and we continue to try and show the face of Christ to as many people as possible, especially those who are vulnerable or isolated. We continue to send out food packages to help those families most in need. With the government announcement that the period of lockdown will continue for another three weeks at least, our strategy will remain as it has been since the start of this crisis. My staff will continue to offer a safe haven for key workers' children in conjunction with St Anthony's. I continue to be amazed at the stoical and resolute response of our community and remain committed to offering whatever it needs to get through this crisis intact. Thank you and stay safe.

Glenn Sanderson

Well Being



Prayer

Dear Lord, Thank You for fearfully and wonderfully creating each of us. Thank You for giving us worth in Your eyes. Help us live as the one You uniquely intended us to be.

Help us abide instead of strive, living peacefully and joyfully as heirs to Your Kingdom and co-heirs with Christ. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Current Government Educational Information

- Those who work in and with our schools rightly take their place next to our NHS staff and other critical workers as central to our efforts in battling this virus.
- COVID-19 is at present an unprecedented challenge for schools, trusts, and local authorities, as well as the communities they serve.
- Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual using your standard cleaning products.

Free School Meals

We have been in touch with families in receipt of FSM by email this week to explain that the company, Edenred, who are managing the Voucher Scheme system have encountered difficulties in keeping to the time scales that they initially published. We have been advised to be patient, unfortunately there is very little else we can do in school to speed the process up. If you continue to have difficulties, there is an email address you can use to query directly with Edenred who issue the vouchers - freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com. They also recommend that parents check junk/trash just in case.



Community

This week saw the second staff quiz night which was once again a great success. A huge thank you to Mrs. Hogg who ran the session brilliantly. It was great to see everyone and it showed that even in adversity our community spirit remains strong. This week's winners were Ms. Jackson and her partner – well done! This Sunday Cathy Emmerson is setting the questions – so everyone needs to get up to speed with your biology!! If you're keen to get involved, please follow Mr. Naughton's e-mailed links to gain access.

The Four Candles by Aino Makoto

The Four Candles burned slowly. Their Ambience was so soft you could hear them speak...

The First Candle said, "I Am Peace, but these days, nobody wants to keep me lit." Then Peace's flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.

The Second Candle said, "I Am Faith, but these days, I am no longer indispensable." Then Faith's flame slowly diminishes and goes out completely.

Sadly, the Third Candle Speaks, "I Am Love and I haven't the strength to stay lit any longer. People put me aside and don't understand my importance. They even forget to love those who are nearest to them." Waiting no longer, Love goes out completely.

Suddenly...A child enters the room and sees the three candles no longer burning. The child begins to cry, "Why are you not burning? You are supposed to stay lit until the end!"

Then The Fourth Candle speaks gently to the little child, "Don't be afraid, for I Am Hope, and while I still burn, we can re-light the other candles." With Shining Eyes, the child took the Candle Of Hope and lit the other three candles.

Never let the Flame of Hope go out of your life. With Hope, no matter how bad things look and are...Peace, Faith and Love can Shine Brightly in our lives.

Northumberland
DASN – Domestic Abuse
Service Northumberland
01670 820199

North Tyneside
Harbour
0191 2513305

Gateshead
Domestic Abuse Team Gateshead
0191 4333333

Newcastle
NIDAS – Newcastle
Integrated DA Services
0191 2146601

South Tyneside
Impact Family Services
0737 5788635

Sunderland
Wearside Woman In Need
0800 0665555

Angelou Centre
(support for BME/refugees)
0191 2260394

National Domestic Abuse Helpline
0808 2000247

Men's Advice Line
0808 8010327

National LGBT+
Domestic Abuse Helpline
0800 9995428

www.northumbria.police.uk
#northumbriapolice
@northumbriapolice

Students

If you feel anxious are down and have no one to talk to during this time then remember that you can always use Kooth
- <https://www.kooth.com/>

Also, you can always reach out to any member of staff via Chat on TEAMS. Advice is to stay busy, set yourself a timetable to include exercise, school work, maybe helping with jobs around the house and spending time with your loved ones.

Supporting learning, not home-schooling.

The shutdown of schools because of the coronavirus emergency leaves us all in uncharted waters. This includes parents who are now dealing with the challenge of how best to help children who are at home. The first point to emphasise is that parents are not being asked to home-school children. Teachers will continue to provide learning programmes and resources remotely; parents should instead focus on supporting learning during this period.

With this in mind, here are some tips:

1. **Breakfast/active start:** It is a good idea – after breakfast – to start the day with a light exercise session, for example PE with Joe Wicks.
2. **Chunk the work:** Instead of watching over your child to keep them on task, begin each day with a conversation about the work to be completed and together agree regular slots for them to show you what has been achieved. In the conversation you can discuss any learning barriers and help remove them.
3. **Reading:** Students have extensive reading material. Those who are not engaged or who require additional support may find listening to audio books helpful. A timetable or routine may help, ensuring a small section is read daily.
4. **Workspace and organisation:** If possible, create a dedicated workspace. This helps distinguish between the space for learning and the areas for relaxation.
5. **If it's not working, change it!:** If your son is struggling with a task and you don't know how to help them, then don't be afraid to move them on. The task can be revisited later if needed. Consider any wider support you could offer – can you assist with their learning from what you find together in the garden, or from online documentaries?
6. **Sequence and Structure:** Adding structure and routine may help you to work from home if you can timetable around your own commitments.
7. **Take regular breaks:** Stop frequently and stay hydrated – keep a water bottle filled up. If weather permits, get fresh air in the garden – you can come back to work later.
8. **Have fun:** look for fun and alternative ways to engage your son in learning – some of the links below will help with this.

[BBC Bitesize and Bitesize Daily](#)

[National Theatre at Home](#)

[The Day](#)

Parents can also sign up to The Day Daily Newsletter for more links and ideas: [The Day Home](#)

[DfE online resources](#)

Don't underestimate the importance of the role you are playing. See this as an opportunity to spend time together. Be flexible; stop when you need to and adjust accordingly. Our staff will only set work which consolidates material that has already been taught in school, no new material will be set so students should have knowledge of how to complete a given task – consolidation and retrieval are the key to supporting learning at home.

Opportunities to continue climbing our personal mountain.

Parents – 5 books to encourage your son to read at home:

Year 7 -The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q. Rauf

A multi award winning book. It offers a child's eye view on refugees with an ambitious and adventure filled plot. This is a lovely warm hearted novel with a celebration of courage and friendship with a little mischief.

Year 8 - The Silver Sword by Ian Serrailer

A great and enduring book on survival, courage and hope. It is wrote simply and directly so you can capture the full force of the story. Set in the Second World War, siblings Ruth, Edek and Bronia along with the help of orphan Jan, they start on a dangerous journey across the battlefields of Europe to find the siblings parents.

Year 9 - One Of Us Is Lying by Karen McManus

A fantastic murder mystery packed with cryptic clues and countless plot twists. Tightly plotted and brilliantly written with believable characters.

Year 10 - The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

Completely gripping, hugely affecting and beautifully written. This book encompasses race, violence, family and growing up. Even though it is convincing, compelling and empathic it also has its funny moments.

Year 11 - King of Scars by Leigh Bardugo

This is a mixture of The Hunger Games meets Harry Potter meets Lord of the Rings meets Games of Thrones. An epic magical fantasy but completely for grown ups. A twisty and

Parents – resources to support you and your family at home:

1. [Audible](#)
2. [BBC Sounds](#)
3. [National Literacy Truct](#)
4. [BBC Bitesize and Bitesize Daily](#)
5. [National Theatre at Home](#)
6. [The Day](#)
7. [Great Learning Resources for every Year Group – Learning by Question](#)
8. [Open Learn](#)
9. [Bloomsbury Publishers](#)

T&L Articles:

Educational bloggers and Online CPD mini-modules:

- [ICT Evangelist – the periodic table of edbooks](#)
- [Research edHome](#)
- [Rosenshine Masterclass](#)
- [Educare](#)

Longer reads:

Educational:

1. *The Curriculum – Gallimaufry to coherence* – Mary Myatt
2. *Closing the Reading Gap* – Alex Quigley
3. *The Teacher Gap – Rebecca Allen and Sam Sims*
4. *The Advantage* - Patrick Lencioni
5. *Teaching WalkThrus – Caviglioli & Sherrington*

Staff picks:

1. *To Kill A Mockingbird* – Harper Lee
2. *The Man Who Broke Into Auschwitz* – Denis Avery
3. *Conqueror Series* – Conn Igulden
4. *Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Everest Disaster* – Jon Krakauer
5. *David Copperfield* – Charles Dickens

“Once you learn to read, you will forever be free”
–Frederick Douglass.