

St. Aidan's Catholic Academy

Willowbank Road, Sunderland, SR2 7HJ 0191

W: contactus@staca.co.uk T: 0191 520033

Twitter: St_Aidans_RC

To all in our community,

Our second week of our partial shutdown has been a great success. We seem to have reached a plateau with a stable number of students attending regularly. This week St. Anthony's was the base and the students and staff worked in a very professional and respectful way – maintaining our vigilance around social distancing and hand hygiene. We remain committed to our community and I have decided to remain open across the Easter bank holiday period. A huge thank you to all in our community for the hard work and support – when we work together we can do great things. As I said last week this crisis is bringing out the best in us. Stay safe.

Glenn Sanderson

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.
- Exams including GCSE's and A levels, will not go ahead this summer. The exam regulator, Ofqual, and exam boards, will work with teachers to provide grades to students whose exams for GCSEs, AS and A levels have been cancelled.



Upcoming Events

April 6

Next Week, school for students of Key Workers will take place at St Aidan's. We will also be **OPEN** Good Friday.

Free, safe and anonymous online counselling and support

"I don't think I could've spoken to someone face-to-face."

Chat to our friendly counsellors

Read articles written by young people

Join live moderated forums

kooth
www.kooth.com

Prayer

Lord God, may we be grateful for our lot, and compassionate toward all those who are suffering every kind of distress at this difficult time. May we hold back nothing, and hasten to be the ministers of prayer and mercy like the disciples of Jesus did in times of need. Amen

Parental Testimony

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for the extra mile you went to support my son. He was truly 'gutted' when it was announced that GCSE's were not to go ahead. He wanted to prove to himself (and the rest of the tribe at home) that with hard work and determination, he could achieve his goals. St Aidan's has played a huge role in his journey and as a family we are very grateful for all of the hard work, dedication and determination you have showed. Please pass on our thanks to your teaching staff, they are a credit to our school.

I hope you and your families are well, staying safe and at home. Times are hard at the moment, but with the nation working together and following the rules, I am hopeful that one day we will be out there again climbing those mountains and living life to the full.



Free School Meal Voucher Scheme

The Government have now released details of their national voucher scheme for students who are in receipt of Free School Meals. You will receive information about how to claim your voucher over the coming weeks. You will receive £15 per student, per week, from Week Beginning 20th April. You will get the opportunity to select the supermarket you want to use.

If any of you need support from our Food Bank over the Easter holidays please email gemma.hogg@staca.co.uk

Have your circumstances changed? If so, you may be eligible for free school meals. Go to Together for Children and search 'Free School Meals' to see if you are eligible. More details can be found on our website.

Learning from Home Strategy

Parents can support by:

- Ensuring your son logs into Teams daily and reviews the work which has been set via the Learning from Schedule and Assignments.
- Ensuring your son completes the assignment set – assignments will be set every two school weeks, each subject will set an assignment which should reflect the work your son has been covering in that subject. Your son will be able to see this assignment in his 'Assignments' area, but also in 'red' in the 'Learning from Home' schedule.
- If your child is struggling to manage their time, they may want to follow their usual timetable to help give their work a schedule/routine.

Quiz Time

Guess The Football Clubs.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.

Competition Time

St Aidan's and St Anthony's writing competition. Create either a short story or a book review to have a chance of winning fabulous prizes. Send your entry to:

philippa.claffton@staca.co.uk by 20th April 2020. Good Luck!



Remote CPD

Opportunities to continue climbing our personal mountain.

Online CPD Mini-modules:

- Recommended: Live research ed – 4th April
- Tom Sherrington on Rosenshine 1
- Tom Sherrington on Rosenshine 2
- Pastoral/SEN
- Free Online Courses inc. Mental Health First Aid*

**Although courses are free, there is one drawback: the training worth £550 is free, however if someone starts and then withdraws it will cost £125.*

T&L Articles:

- Online teaching: five things to consider before you start – Steve Farndon
- Kick-starting positive behaviour through the use of small but fertile habits – Sara Cottingham
- Revisiting the science of learning with adults and teachers across the school – Harry Fletcher Wood
- Revisiting learning and how to catalyse it – Peps Mccrea
- Revisiting intentional curriculum design – Chloe Wardle
- Thinking about deliberate practice to support learning: a handbook for educators – Harry Fletcher Wood
- Supporting the mental health of children in your school(s) – Lisa Fathers

All Subjects – top ten websites:

1. Support for all subjects whilst working from home
2. STEM Learning inc. webchat
3. Headspace/meditation
4. Kerboodle – free access until Sept 2020
5. Brunel University – Maths tests for bored GCSE & A Level students – Dylan William
6. Interleaving in Practice
7. The Ten Deadly sins of Education - Kirschner
8. Chartered College of Teaching –various themed
9. Consequences of missing a term of school
10. A Powerful Way to Improve Working Memory – Dylan William recommends...

“Human beings have an innate inner drive to be autonomous, self-determined, and connected to one another. And when that drive is liberated, people achieve more and live richer lives.”

Dan Pink ‘Drive’

Essential longer reads:

1. ***The Curriculum*** – Gallimaufry to coherence – Mary Myatt
2. ***Closing the Vocabulary Gap*** – Alex Quigley
3. ***Why Knowledge Matters*** – E.D. Hirsch
4. ***The Advantage*** - Patrick Lencioni
5. ***Drive*** – Dan Pink
6. ***Rebel Ideas*** – Matthew Syed (ASCL)
7. ***The Elements of Great Managing*** – Gallup (ASCL)
8. ***My Name is Why – A memoir*** – Lemn Sissay (ASCL)
9. ***Kes*** – Barry Hines (as recommended by St Aidan’s staff)
10. ***To Kill a Mockingbird*** – Harper Lee – *Social ‘justice’ in the Deep South*