

St. Aidan's Catholic Academy

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To all in our community,

As we near the summer and the further easing of restrictions, I am proud of how our community has dealt with the pandemic. As has been reported, from Monday masks will no longer be required in school but our other safety measures will remain in place to ensure we remain COVID secure. The pupils and staff have responded brilliantly to this awkward situation, and the quality of teaching and learning that I witness on a daily basis has not been affected. We continue to prepare students in years 11 and 13 for the CAG process and submissions are being compiled and evidenced based judgements made. Although our students have not had the opportunity to prove themselves this year with external examinations, the rigor of our internal assessment will allow me to sign off grades which have a sound evidence base and will be equitable and fair for all. As the academic year draws to a conclusion for some, I am minded that as Catholic educators we do more than prepare children to pass examinations. We believe passionately in the holistic child with faith working in harmony with academic achievement. We pride ourselves on helping to produce young men who leave us ready to make their mark on society and positively contribute to their local and national communities. It's what I come to work for and will never tire of hearing what our alumni go on to achieve.

Take care, stay safe and God bless.

Glenn Sanderson



Upcoming Events

Friday, May 21, 2021

Election of Head Boy's and House Captains

We join with our brothers and sisters who have been celebrating Eid. We hope you all have had a wonderful time.



Chaplaincy

On Thursday 13th of May we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus. This is the time when Jesus ascends into heaven after his resurrection on Easter Sunday. We have truly inspirational readings today, this is the Gospel:

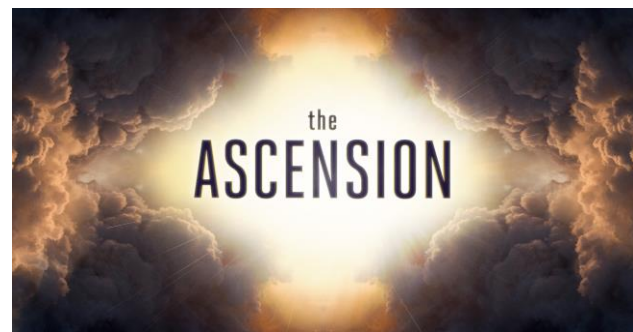
*He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. **16** Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. **17** And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; **18** they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."**19** After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. **20** Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.*

Mark 16: 15-20

On Sunday the 23rd of May we celebrate Pentecost Sunday. Jesus knew how hard life could become and sent the Holy Spirit to guide us.

***19** On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" **20** After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. **21** Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." **22** And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. **23** If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."*

John 20:19-23



Monday the 24th of May is the National Rosary Day.

Our Lady's Shrine in Walsingham is co-hosting, with Carfin Lourdes Grotto in Scotland, a Rosary Stronghold May 2021 Rosary Mission which is united with the Rosary Marathon of the Holy Father. Everybody is welcome to join.

ROSARY STRONGHOLD
- Protecting our Families and the Family of Nations -
MAY 2021
DAILY ONLINE ROSARY AT 8PM

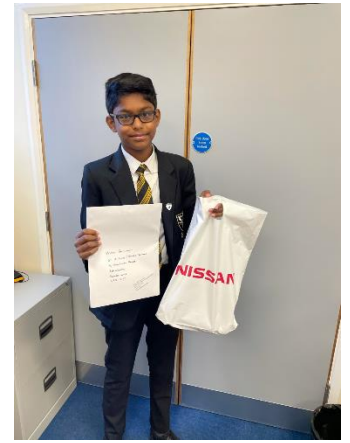
KEY DATES:
24TH MAY - Rosary Day of Prayer for schools and Young People
30TH MAY - National Rosary Relay Rally (9am - 9pm)
31ST MAY - online Crowning Rosary led by Bp John Keenan at 8pm

MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.WALSINGHAM.ORG.UK
OR EMAIL ANTONIA@WALSINGHAM.ORG.UK

THE CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE AND BASILICA OF OUR LADY AT WALSINGHAM IN COLLABORATION WITH ROSARY MOVEMENT OF REPARATION & CARFIN GROTTA
www.walsingham.org.uk - www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk - www.carfingrotto.org

Nissan Competition

Vishal Thirumalai took part in a competition that Nissan were running to design a new car and won. Here he is receiving his prizes which included shopping vouchers. We are very proud of Vishal's hard work!



Who to Contact

If you have any questions or queries that are subject related please get in touch with your son's teacher.

If you have any questions or queries that are pastoral related please contact your sons Head of House:

Ashrooke House - Mrs Gill. madeleine.gill@staca.co.uk

Corby House - Ms Jackson. joanna.jackson@staca.co.uk

Brookfield House - Miss Land and Miss Gordon. kathryn.land@staca.co.uk or hollie.gordon@staca.co.uk

Calling all Year 8 Parents.

The final deadline for the 2 day, 1 night visit to Borrowdale is Friday 21st May. The visit is £80 and will take place week beginning 5th July 2021.



Head Boy

Our Head Boy application process continues. We are overwhelmed with the number of boys who have applied. Video pitches and voting will take place on Friday 14th May 2021 with interviews taking place by 21st May 2021. Good luck to all those involved.

Mental Health Awareness Week

This week we are raising awareness of mental health to support mental health aware week #connectingwithnature



A Plea

A reminder: medical appointments should be arranged outside of school hours; we understand this may be difficult at the moment but we would be grateful if it were done where possible.

Literary Skills

We ran a competition on World Book Day for all students to write a children's story titled 'My Hero' and was to be based around the global pandemic. Students were encouraged to think about their hero's during the difficult times and create something for young children to help them understand and appreciate how life has had to change. We had over 100 entries and they were carefully judged by Sun FM's Tim West and Northeast Careers director and author Andrew Bernard. Both judges picked year 7's Jack Dalton. Well done, Jack, a brilliant story about a hero key worker close to your heart. Jack's story will be professionally published once we find the perfect illustrator and shared with children around Sunderland.



Research

A small group of our year 10 boys have started their NTP English tuition after school with the University of Sunderland. This should hopefully be expanding over the coming weeks to include more boys and an increase in subjects.

The entire year 8 and 9 cohort have now completed the first part of our Whole School SEND research - the boys have been completing their questionnaires with Ms Naille over the last few weeks. We will hear by the end of next month what the next phase of research will look like.



Careers

Apprenticeships

As we approach the end of the summer term there are more and more apprenticeship vacancies being advertised. For those wishing to follow the apprenticeship route, now is the time to be searching for vacancies and completing applications.

The [May issue](#) of the Amazing Apprenticeship Parents' and Carers' pack looks at how to support your child's mental health, myth busting traineeships, T Levels in Health, 2 apprentice perspective articles, an overview of apprenticeships in furniture and manufacturing and much more!



A full list of current apprenticeship vacancies in the local area can be found here. If you would like to apply for any of the vacancies, you can do so by making an account and searching for the vacancy at [Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk) This video will show you how to create an account <https://vimeo.com/152138038>

Enrichment

CLIMB 2021: Enrichment—Cycle 3

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BEFORE SCHOOL	BREAKFAST Year group bubble	BREAKFAST Year group bubble	BREAKFAST Year group bubble	BREAKFAST Year group bubble	BREAKFAST Year group bubble
	READING CLUB Reading Room with Mrs Nalle	READING CLUB Reading Room with Mrs Nalle	READING CLUB Reading Room with Mrs Nalle	READING CLUB Reading Room with Mrs Nalle	READING CLUB Reading Room with Mrs Nalle
AFTER SCHOOL	FOOTBALL , The Limes	FRISBEE GOLF , The Limes	CRICKET , Ashbrooke	SOFTBALL , The Limes	<p>Here at St. Aidan's Catholic Academy we believe in a curriculum that broadens the mind, enriches the community and advances the future of our students.</p> <p>Our enrichment programme is integral to this broad and rich curriculum.</p> <p>If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact:</p> <p>0191 520 0333</p> <p><i>"Where excellence is habit."</i></p>
	ATHLETICS , The Limes	ECO SCHOOLS/WELLBEING , Room 112	FOOTBALL YR8 , The Limes	BOARD GAMES , Room 210	
	SCIENCE CLUB , Room 221 with Mr Wallace	RUGBY LEAGUE The Limes	MOOC (Y9-11) Room 108	SKIING Skiworld (€5 per session)	
	HOMEWORK CLUB , Room 313, 314	ANTI-BULLYING Room 103	NISSAN EV CHALLENGE , Room 106	FITNESS , Virtual— Teams	
		CAREERS CHAMPIONS Room 103			
		FRIENDS GROUP , Office 10			
		COOK WITH ANDREA , Virtual— Teams			