

ST.AIDAN'S CATHOLIC ACADEMY



September 27th 2024

Joshua Ilupella-Gamage (U9) shared this quote with me recently: *"Call to me, I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things."* Jeremiah 33:3 I was inspired by his faith and reminded of the privilege we have as educators to see the great and mighty things our young people do each and every day with their God given talents.

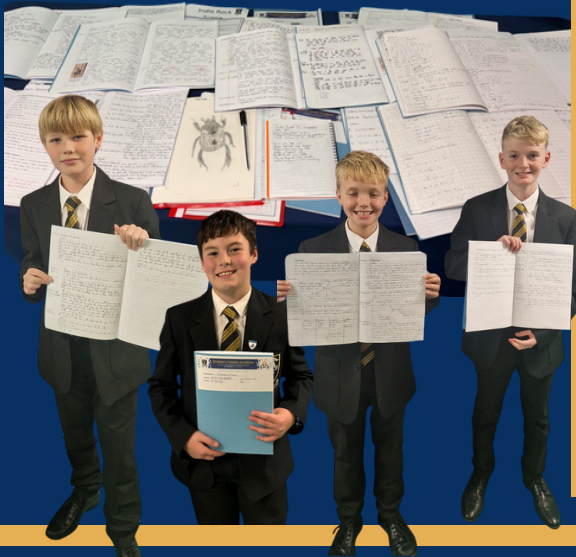
I hope that you enjoy the small selection of such great works included here in our newsletter.

Mrs Whitten Headteacher



»» CELEBRATIONS

This week we have been celebrating our St. Aidan's standard. Pupils have presented the work they are most proud of to our senior leaders. We saw over 300 pupils across lunchtimes this week.



»» PUPILS OF THE WEEK

Week 1:

**Camron Baldwin (8C), Lyte Annang (8C), Christian Seeley (8M)
Josh Cook (9C) Harry Deighan (10M)**

Awarded for giving up a day of their holidays to support our Year 7 Welcome Ceremony. Your stewardship is commendable.

Week 2:

Sebastian Lawrence (7F)

Sebastian has shown that he understands our ethos, core values and learning habits. He has already received 14 achievement points, has displayed skills of stewardship and has acted as a role model in enrichment. Well done Sebastian, start how you mean to go on! Well done.

Week 3:

Alexander Cruickshank (7D)

Nominated for his excellent effort in RE and for being a brilliant new member of the well-being club. He is an excellent gardener and has supported with our allotment.

»» ACHIEVEMENT POINTS TO DATE: 5791 (AVG 7.37)

»» WORD OF THE WEEK

Cycle 1 Week 3: "ran/kled."

To annoy or irritate someone or to cause continuing annoyance or resentment to a situation.

"What really rankled was the fact that the man had picked an illiterate". **The Bookseller of Kabul – Asne Seierstad**

Cycle 1 Week 4: "A/ssuage"

To make an unpleasant feeling less intense or to satisfy an appetite or desire.

"When it healed, and Jem's fears of never being able to play football were assuaged, he was seldom self-conscious about his injury." **To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee**



»» LEAVING A LEGACY...



ANNE JOY Y13



I am delighted to say I have had a warm welcome, as has the rest of the year group, from the St Aidan's community when moving to the Briery for y13. Following my own beliefs and values as a Christian, I have been able to exemplify my beliefs through events such as Lourdes, attending masses, completing the gold John Paul II award and one of the highlights of my past year, being installed as a Eucharistic minister. This has now followed me into Year 13 where being part of the chaplaincy team, I have had the wonderful opportunity to liaise with Ms Szczepanska with form masses and future charity events.

After volunteering at the Emergency Department in Sunderland Royal Hospital and St Benedict's hospice, I have recently begun my post as a healthcare assistant at Gateshead Queen Elizabeth Hospital. From working on different wards and areas, I am able to place my faith into action and apply my skills which I have developed through my school and work life. This includes clinical skills such as completing triages, ECGs, assisting in more invasive procedures to working one on one with acute mental health patients.

This summer, I had the wonderful experience of attending the Lourdes pilgrimage with the Youth Ministry Team. Helping the pilgrims at Lourdes is a deeply rewarding and transformative experience. The act of assisting individuals, many of whom are sick, fostered a deep sense of community, compassion and humility. Before setting off on a long journey to France, as volunteers, we began our journey on preparation day. It was a moment of many emotions. Excitement, hope, and anxiety for some. We discussed what we hoped to achieve from this pilgrimage and prayed about the discussions. One thing that really was set into my heart was the words "faith into action". Going into Lourdes, I knew I wanted to actively centralise my actions and tasks around my values I hold as a Christian. Reflecting on my journey and having the opportunity to offer my thoughts to God through prayer I have realised that it is truly action in faith. The two cannot be separated. Jesus led by example showing us that the way we act, communicate and love, is our faith. Our faith is us ourselves.



Becoming the Head girl for my year group came with a great deal of responsibility and the opportunity to work alongside an incredible team of lead students is an honour. Together, we strive to set a positive example, foster a community, and create a supportive environment not only for our sixth form but especially for our younger peers. The link to faith is integral based on our school ethos, as it grounds our leadership in our service, in which our actions are driven by a sense of purpose. Each experience has deepened my commitment to service, leadership, and compassion, allowing me to grow both personally and spiritually as I continue to carry these values forward.

Y8/9 CRICKET TEAM



Last week was a very proud day for St Aidan's. The Year 7&8 cricket team won the County cup for the first time since 1991. Beating Barnard Castle in the final by 30 runs (who turned up with their two full time cricket coaches).

The boys were outstanding all day and were brilliant ambassadors for the school. Well done to the following lads for their great achievement. All those sessions in the nets with Mr Dunn and Mr Hutton has paid off.

William Shields, Fraser Wright, Quade Charlton Seyshan Ragulan, Jude Graney, Luke Robinson Seb Suddick, Louis Harding, Ibrahim Khan Charlie Shaw-Cumiskey, Thomas Turnbull George Jennings, Jacob Winlow

Noah Hedgley, Sam Schindler

