



*"Having encountered the holy, May we protect it, guard it, trail it's light behind us wherever we go." Cameron Bellm (Jesuit)*

**Happy New Year!**

It's been an excellent start back to the school year this week. Pupils and staff have returned safe and well, ready to continue to grow as a community. The end of 2024 saw us preparing for the birth of Christ through charitable works and opportunities for prayer. I hope you all had a peaceful Christmas break and are refreshed for the year ahead.

**Mrs Whitten, Headteacher**



»» **PUPILS OF THE WEEK**

**Week 2:**

**Gabriel Biju (10C)**

Nominated for his continuous effort in fulfilling St Aidan's Standards. Gabriel is a leading example to his peers not only in form but the wider school community. As Head Boy he has played a leading role in form mass and consistently demonstrates to his younger school peers how to fully participate in life at St Aidan's, for example by leading morning examen and participating in the CAFORD Young Leadership team.

**Gage Conlon Hodgson (7D), Matthew McMullen (7C)**

Nominated for attending St Patrick's Parish on the 4th of December with MsSzczepanska and reading during their Carol service. You both did so well and we are very proud of you.

**Week 3:**

**Theo Paxton (7F), Seth Hughes (9C), Flynn Taylor (8R), Aidan Owens (8C), Sebastian Breheney (8B)**

Nominated for representing the school at a cross country event on 10th December 2024. We are so very proud of all your achievements. Keep up the hard work and commitment.

**David Agbor (9B) and Ethan Smiles (9F)**

Nominated for reading at St Mary's carol service on Sunday 14th December 2024. Sr Raphael, one of the nuns from Oaklea Convent commented at the end of the service that she had never heard boys read so well in Church. Well done to you both.

**Luke Robinson (8F), Dami Oniroko (9R), Harry Deighan (10M), Alex Hope (10F), Thomas Woods, (11F), Gabriel Biju (10C), Aaron Mackie (10A). Adam Conlon (11F), Camron Baldwin (8C). Christian Seeley (8M)**

Nominated for helping with Coffee Morning on Monday 16th December 2024. Thank you!

**Olly Malcolm (7D) & Elliot James (7R)** Nominated for outstanding effort in reading lessons. Well done you are making excellent progress.

**Burhan Querishi (7R) and Francesco Pal (7D)**

Nominated for his amazing effort and results in intervention since September. We are very proud of you both.

»» **ACHIEVEMENT POINTS TO DATE: 21,444. AVERAGE OF 23.8 PER PUPIL.**

»» **WORD OF THE WEEK**

**Cycle 2 Week 2: Re/si/li/ence**

Definition: The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties and persevere in the face of adversity. In I Am Malala, Malala is seen to have shown incredible resilience in the face of unimaginable hardships.

**Cycle 2 Week 3: E/qua/li/ty**

Definition: The state of being equal, especially in status, rights, or opportunities. In Noughts and Crosses, Callum reflects on the systemic inequality between Noughts and Crosses: "Dreams of living in a world with no more discrimination, no more prejudice, a fair police force, an equal justice system, equality of education, equality of life, a level playing field..."



# »» LEAVING A LEGACY...



SUPPORTING SUNDERLAND

**We are very proud of our Advent 2024 Charitable efforts.**

We have had many people coming to use our Food Bank in November and December, and due to your support, we have managed to ensure everyone left with plenty of food and toiletries.

Year 13 led an Advent charitable initiative to donate toiletries to the SVP society attached to St Joseph's Church.

Form groups worked together to make 26 Christmas Hampers which were distributed to people in need in the community. This included families of pupils attending St Aidan's, past and present, extended community members and Friends of the Drop In.



We also managed to donate 100 selection boxes and lots of sweet treats to St Mary's Parish. They invite vulnerable members of the community for Christmas lunches.

## Thank You:

All of these activities would not have been possible without the support of yourselves and our wider community:



**We have had many generous donations of food from our own families.**

**St Mary's Primary school collected food to donate to our food bank.**

**Contractors working on our site preparing the premises for our new build.**

**Thank you very much for all your donations.**



If you are struggling this January please reach out to us in school for support. You can do this by contacting reception, coming into school during school hours or contacting your Head of House.

All support will be offered confidentially.

[contactus@staca.co.uk](mailto:contactus@staca.co.uk)

# »» ENRICHMENT



## Monday

## Tuesday Wednesday

## Thursday

## Friday

Piano Lessons MU1- Mr Shepherd (£72 per term)	Dodgeball Sports Hall Mr Hutton -
Bronze IDEA Award Digital Enterprise (ICT) 312 - Miss Cain	Badminton Sports Hall Mr Hutton
Chess Club Reading Room - Mr Herbertson	First Aid Club 113 – Miss Reid and Miss Livingston
Camp Craft 111- Mrs Kilminster	Year 10 Football Ashbrooke - Mr Flounders
Football (Year 7 Football) The Limes - Mr Watts & Mr Dunn	GCSE Spanish Club Year 10 & 11 104 – Mrs McKenna
Further Maths (Y11) 210 - Mrs Hudson	Spark Maths Club 312 – Mrs Smith
History Club 109 - Mr Nunn	Creative Writing 306 Miss Sansom
Homework Club 311, 314	Book to film club 301 Mrs Gardner
Art Club 162 - Mrs Nipper	Handwriting Club 123 - Miss Hodgson
Board Games 207 – Mrs Cooper	Orienteering Ashbrooke Mr Flounders

6th Form Badminton Sports Hall P.E Staff
Violin Lessons Music room Mr Nyberg (£72 per term)
Homework Club Room 311, 314
Football with Mo Year 7&8 (£4 per session) Sports Hall
Archive Club Mr Evans in 313
6th Form Fitness Sessions School Gym P.E Staff

Guitar Lessons Music room Mr Smith (£72 per term)
Robotics Club 164 - Mr Wallace
Drum Lessons Music room Mr Wake (£72 per term)
Dungeons and Dragons Reading Room Mr Richardson
Equality and diversity group 160
Volleyball Club Sports Hall- Mr Flounders
Football (Year 9) Ashbrooke 3G Mr Gray
Homework Club 311, 314
Crisp Packet Appeal 205 - Mrs Priest
Bass Guitar Lessons MU1 Mr Harland (£72 per term)
Gardening Club Briery Mrs Armstrong
MOOC Mr Morris in 225
Spanish Club 106 - Mrs Alonso
Warhammer Mr Evans

Basketball Sports Hall Mr Adey & Coach (£1)	Guitar Lessons Music room Mr Smith (£72 per term)
Maths Enrichment 212 - Mr Mann	Homework Club 311, 314
St Aidan Singers 104 – Mr Payne	Running Club P.E Mobiles - Mr Coon
Careers Champion 103 - Mrs Osmialowski	NEA Master Class Room 401- Mr Morris Year 13
Gym Club School Gym Mr Watts	Science Club 121 – Science Staff
Football (Year 8) The Limes with Mr Hutton	Table Tennis Mobiles Mr Hamilton
1st Lego League – Super Power 166 - Mrs Swales	Rock Band @ The Bunker 4-6pm Mr Payne

BTEC Music Mr Payne
Cello Lessons Music room Mrs Pearson (£72 per term)
Woodwind Lessons Music Room Mr Toomey (£72 per term)
Football (Y7&8) Sports Hall Mo *£5 a session
Homework Club 311, 314
Rugby Ashbrooke 3G Mr Adey

## Daily before school:

Breakfast Canteen
Reading Club Reading Room Mrs Naile

Here at **St. Aidan's Catholic Academy** we believe in a curriculum that the mind, enriches the community and advances the future of our students. Our enrichment programme is integral to this broad and rich curriculum. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact:  
**0191 520 0333**

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS OUR CITY...

### Youth Almighty Project

Silksworth Youth and  
Community Centre  
Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sun

joanne@youthalmighty.co.uk

### Sunderland Community Action Group

Dame Dorothy Youth  
Hub  
Mon, Wed

sunderlandcommunity  
actiongroup@hotmail.com

### Sendai Kushiro Karate

Raich Carter Sports  
Centre  
Tues, Thurs

sendaikushiro@gmail.com

### SK Dance School of Performing Arts:

Tap, Jazz, Ballet  
Pennywell Community  
College  
Mon- Sat

shameen\_azel1@hotmail.com

### Archery Marine Walk

mike@sunmac.org.uk

### Beginners Boxing

25 Falkland Road,  
Sunderland  
Mon, Wed

marie.mould@lpsych.com

### COSTS

Please contact the  
provider directly to  
inquire about the cost  
of the activity.

### Basketball

25 Falkland Road,  
Sunderland  
Wed

marie.mould@lpsych.com

### Hockey Club

Raich Carter  
Sports Centre  
Tues, Sat

cox.rosalind@gmail.com

Click the box to go to their website for further information

