



*"Ubuntu - I am human because I belong.*

*Or a person is a person through other people"*

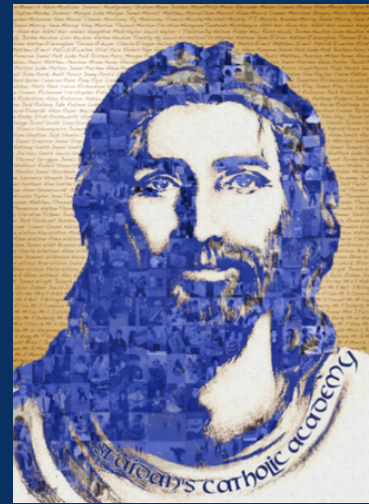
An extract from Desmond Tutu's book Believe.

Desmond Tutu writes about the importance of learning from each other, sharing our worth and recognising that our humanity is bound to the humanity of others.

In our community here at St. Aidan's we have continued our focus on legacy, celebrating our pupil's achievements through rewards assemblies and the St. Aidan's standard.

Within our newsletter you will find a snippet of some of those achievements.

**Mrs Whitten, Headteacher**



## »» CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

Week 4: Harry B (8M)

Congratulations Harry for completing his Bronze Award in Inspiring Digital Enterprise. Harry achieved various badges in Digital security, Problem solving, Animation and advertising towards completing this badge. Well done Harry, we are very proud of you.

Week 5: Ethan S(7F) and Vadym F (8R)

From the start of September both pupils have attended History Club on a Monday Evening. Their enthusiasm for the exploring the discipline of history is outstanding. The pupils partake in debates and discussions surrounding some of the most intriguing historical inquires, developing not only their historical knowledge but their oracy skills. Both students should be very proud of the progress they have made it History!

Headteacher Awards

The following pupils have been recognized as having shown excellence in their studies so far this year. The Headteacher award is a prestigious award that is given by Mrs Whitten for firm commitment, outstanding academic effort and being an important member of the school community. Congratulations to:

Sebastian Breheny

Gino De-Gennaro

Shabad Dixit

Logan Sibley

Ethan Smiles

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

## »» WORD OF THE WEEK

Cycle 2 Week 4: Re/demp/tion

Definition: The action of saving or being saved from error or evil.

In The Kite Runner, Amir reflects on Rahim Khan's words: "There is a way to be good again," exemplifying the idea of redemption.

Cycle 2 Week 5: Sa/cri/fice

Definition: Giving up something for the sake of others or a higher purpose.

In The Knife of Never Letting Go, Todd sacrifices his own personal safety to protect Viola and to try to stop the corruption in his society.





## Cycle 2 Week of Celebrations

### Celebrating Excellence at St Aidan's

Last week was St Aidan's Standard Week, where over 200 students proudly presented exemplary work, embodying the school's core value of hard work.

Each piece of work represented a personal ascent to the top of their individual mountains—filled with determination, effort, and perseverance. These accomplishments show that every step, no matter how steep, brings us closer to our goals when driven by commitment and resilience.

We are proud of all the students who took part. Your hard work, grit, and focus inspire us all to keep climbing, knowing that success comes to those who persevere. Well done to everyone on your outstanding efforts.

### Reading awards

At the end of last term, we celebrated the success of these Y7 boys and their outstanding hard work and achievements in reading and phonics:

Olly M  
Burhan Q  
Elliot J  
Francesco P



As a reward, they all got to choose a book from our vending machine. Please join us in celebrating their efforts!

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)

# »» LEAVING A LEGACY...



SUPPORTING SUNDERLAND

Before the Christmas holidays, our Y13 pupils acted as excellent role models and compassionate young people by giving up their time to bring some Christmas cheer to the residents of a Holy Crosse Nursing home. We always ask our young people to be the face of Christ to others and to embody the community spirit that exists in the 6th form and the wider school. The reaction of the residents was brilliant and they were blown away by the kindness, compassion and maturity of our 6th formers. We are very proud of them all!



# »» 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](mailto:joanne@youthalmighty.co.uk)

### Sunderland Community Action Group

Dame Dorothy Youth Hub  
Mon, Wed

[sunderlandcommunityactiongroup@hotmail.com](mailto:sunderlandcommunityactiongroup@hotmail.com)

### Sendai Kushiro Karate

Raich Carter Sports Centre  
Tues, Thurs

[sendaikushiro@gmail.com](mailto:sendaikushiro@gmail.com)

### SK Dance School of Performing Arts:

Tap, Jazz, Ballet  
Pennywell Community College  
Mon- Sat

[shameen\\_azel1@hotmail.com](mailto:shameen_azel1@hotmail.com)

### Archery

Marine Walk

[mike@sunmac.org.uk](mailto:mike@sunmac.org.uk)

### Beginners Boxing

25 Falkland Road,  
Sunderland  
Mon, Wed

[marie.mould@lpsych.com](mailto: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](mailto:marie.mould@lpsych.com)

### Hockey Club

Raich Carter Sports Centre  
Tues, Sat

[cox.rosalind@gmail.com](mailto:cox.rosalind@gmail.com)

Click the box to go to their website for further information

