



Since I last spoke to you we have had our external visit from Ofsted. The process was very fair and transparent and the inspectors saw all that our academy has to offer and went away fully aware of the great work that goes on at St Aidan's. I was immensely proud to see how everyone within our community came together to showcase our vibrant and thriving school. I look forward to sharing the outcomes of the report with you in the coming weeks.

**Mrs Whitten, Headteacher**



»» **PUPILS OF THE WEEK**

**Riyad Hussain (7A)**

Nominated by Mrs Gill. In recent weeks Riyad has been going over and above in his RE lessons, even doing extra work at home without being asked. I have also enjoyed learning more from him about sawm and his faith as he takes part in Ramadan.

**Theo Paxton (7F), Oliver Cottam (7F) and Lyte Annang (8C)**

Nominated by Mrs Hogg for their fantastic contribution in staff interviews. We are very proud of you.

**Theo Paxton (7F)**

Nominated by Mrs Alonso for leading Fluency Friday, demonstrating a good understanding of our school culture and routines and setting a good example to the form.

**Sukruth Pailla (9R) & Mehul Terdal (9M)**

Nominated by Mr Dunn. The boys have planned and delivered a PowerPoint on Hindu Festival of Maha Shivaratri for use in RE lessons & delivered it to their own class 9CL. Thank you.

»» **ACHIEVEMENT POINTS TO DATE: 29303 (AV. 34.47)**

»» **WORD OF THE WEEK**

**Cycle 2 Week 8: Me/lan/cho/ly**

Definition: A deep, persistent sadness or sorrow, often without a clear cause.

In The Woman in Black, melancholy is seen in the Woman in Black's tragic story, as she haunts Eel Marsh House.

**Cycle 2 Week 11: O/ppre/ssion**

Definition: The prolonged cruel or unjust treatment or control of people.

In The Bookseller of Kabul, the constant oppression of women under the Taliban's rule stifles their freedom and voices.



# »» ROBOTICS



NATIONAL FINALS

St Aidan's Robotics team, as regional champions, competed at the Vex IQ Nationals in Telford on March 2nd. It was a two day competition held at the Telford International Centre with 60 schools attending!

The boys had a great adventure and made friends with other teams, especially during the teamwork matches. In our section they came 17/30 which is great for our first Nationals. They plan to be back next year. One of the banners on display read "We build more than robots", Well done St Aidan's Robotics team!





# RACING STAR OF THE FUTURE



ACHIEVEMENT

Many congratulations to Charlie Benson who came second after winning every heat in his recent racing championship except the penultimate one which fell just before the final. Despite a penalty for a lose bumper which left him starting the final in 5th place, he pulled it back to finish second.. For his first run out this season in the Junior, bigger kart category this was a fabulous achievement! His coach Derek Hardy from HTR Racing was over the moon with his performance! This has boosted his confidence ready for the Superone full championship season! Well Done Charlie!





# SPORTING SUCCESS



*SPORTING  
ENRICHMENT*

This past week St Aidan's competed in the Tyne and Wear basketball finals, held at the Vertu Arena, home of Newcastle Eagles. Looking to retain the U14 title that the year 10s won last year, the current year 9s faced a very difficult group with Kings Priory, Emmanuel and Boldon. St Aidan's started strongly with an impressive win over Boldon and followed that up with a victory over Emmanuel. A final group win would guarantee a place in the semifinals, however St Aidan's struggled to cope with Kings's much taller squad. A 3 way tie at the top of the group meant it went down to points difference. While all the games were within 5 points a 20 point win for Emmanuel over Boldon meant St Aidans were eliminated, having only lost 1 game and to the eventual champions.

The U16 side were looking to go one better than last years runners up effort. Again, placed into a very difficult group and with mostly year 10s competing against players a year older it was going to be a difficult afternoon. St Aidans played some exceptional basketball and recorded 3 straight wins against Emmanuel, Marden High and St Josephs in a close fought battle against our academy trust neighbours. A final match defeat against Jesmond Park meant St Aidans qualified as runners up and would face Dame Allans in the semifinal. In what is becoming a yearly battle, having lost the year 8 Jr NBA title but winning the U14 competition last year, it was going to be another close game. The first half was a tale of a very even contest but Dame Allans were taking their shots as we missed a number of opportunities ending 14-4 at half time. A much stronger effort in the 2nd half resulted in St Aidans shading it 12-10. Unfortunately, this resulted in a 24-16 final score to Dame Allans, St Aidans finishing as the 3rd best side in the North East.

A fantastic achievement considering Dame Allans are coached daily while Jesmond Park are closely associated with Newcastle Eagles. This highlights the ability of our boys and the work put in, both in school and externally via our link with Lambton Raptores with Arnel a constant provider of support to our basketball teams.

The mixed year 10/11 Rugby team were in action this week against a very physical Southmoor side. In what began as a closely even contest soon became a dominant display from St Aidan's with 7 tries from Aaron Mackie contributed to a 50-15 victory.

After a number of delays due to weather and bonfire night, the year 7s finally got to play their first fixture of the year against an inexperienced but strong Sandhill View. We have had such a large uptake in rugby in year 7 it was extremely pleasing to see so many new players taking park. In a close game, St Aidan's eventually ran out 20-10 winners, with 3 tries from new player David Ucheka-Solomon. But a huge congratulations to all students involved and a reminder that rugby enrichment runs on a Friday after school.



# INSPIRING OTHERS



CAREERS

## Year 13 Inspire the Next Generation at St Mary's

Our Year 13 students recently had the opportunity to return to their former primary school, St Mary's, to deliver an inspiring assembly to the younger pupils. This visit was a meaningful way for them to reflect on their journey from primary school to Sixth Form and share the challenges they have faced along the way.

During the assembly, they spoke about the barriers they have overcome, the lessons they have learned, and the importance of perseverance. Their powerful messages of hope and resilience served as encouragement for the younger students, showing them that with hard work and determination, they too can achieve great things.

The visit was not only a chance to give back to their old school but also a reminder of how much they have grown, both academically and personally. We are incredibly proud of our Year 13 students for being such positive role models and for inspiring the next generation. Their future is undoubtedly bright, and we look forward to seeing all they will accomplish.



# »» LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY - JOIN OUR ALUMNI

## ST. AIDAN'S ALUMNI



ROOTED IN GOSPEL VALUES, WE'VE EDUCATED BOYS FOR NEARLY 100 YEARS. JOIN OUR ALUMNI AND INSPIRE FUTURE GENERATIONS



### Alumni Registration

Join the Alumni Network  
We're keen to keep in touch with you, share stories, reconnect and share your legacy.



# »» 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

[sunderlandcommunity  
actiongroup@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

