



"I am heartened by the ways you practice solidarity" Pope Leo XIV
Pope Leo used this phrase in a recent speech to the Indonesian community in Rome.

It struck me as a beautiful sentence that we also live by in the St. Aidan's Catholic Community. As we journey through life together I see on a daily basis the support our staff and pupils give to one another. Whether that is helping our new Year 7s to find their way, older pupils mentoring younger pupils, supporting each other through tough personal times, welcoming our new staff or just helping each other in our classrooms. Each act of kindness contributes to the unique community we are all privileged to be part of.

This solidarity extends to our families. If you are in need of our support in anyway, please contact your Head of House. Mrs Whitten Headteacher

>>> PUPILS OF THE WEEK

Sam Preece- (8A)

Sam has made a very good start at St. Aidan's and is a very positive presence, always cheerful and always polite.

Well done Sam!

Charlie Hesslewood (7B)

Charlie has made a wonderful start to his time at St Aidan's, demonstrating our core values in full. Charlie has been attending homework club and was an integral part of the gardening club when I visited them on Wednesday. Where I have been most impressed with Charlie is his RE lessons where he has made some excellent contributions and is a great example of what being a pupil at St Aidan's is all about.

We are very proud of him.

Mihael Vucak (7R)

Mihael has been an exemplary pupil during the first two weeks of term, not only has he approached Secondary school with such enthusiasm, having excellent lessons and feedback from staff, he has embodied St Aidan's Standards around the wider school, with his politeness and positive attitude.

Oliver-Jak James (7C) and Orin Gibson (7R)

Both pupils have started their journey exploring Secondary History with such enthusiasm and dedication to fulfilling St Aidan's Standards. Not only have they produced exemplary work, but they have also gone above and beyond to interrogate historical sources and contribute to class discussions.

Joseph Harrison (7D), Oliver Owen (7F), Leo Gary Gill (7C)

For helping support a student who had hurt himself during PE by carrying his equipment and helping him back to school. Thank you boys!

>>> **ACHIEVEMENT POINTS TO DATE: 8197 (AVERAGE PER PUPIL: 9.6)**





»» WORDS OF THE WEEK

Cycle 1 Week 3: Restitution. Re/sti/tu/tion

Etymology: From the Latin "restituere," meaning "to restore."

Definition: The act of restoring something to its original state or giving back something lost or taken.

- In *The Kite Runner*, the protagonist seeks restitution for his past mistakes, highlighting themes of guilt and redemption.

Cycle 1 Week 4: Vehement. Ve/he/ment

Etymology: From the Latin "vehemens," meaning "urgent" or "impetuous."

Definition: Showing strong feeling; forceful, passionate, or intense.

- In *I am Malala*, Malala's vehement advocacy for girls' education underscores her passionate resolve to combat injustice.

»» IMPORTANT REMINDER - PARKING SAFETY OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Ensuring the safety of all children and road users during school drop-off and pick-up times is a priority. Busy traffic during these times poses an increased safety risk. Please take a moment to review these important points about parking safely:

1. FOLLOW PARKING RESTRICTIONS:

- Yellow zigzag markings with "School Keep Clear" near school entrances are there to keep everyone safe.
- It is prohibited to stop, park, or wait on these markings. Violations may result in a Penalty Charge Notice.

2. BE CONSIDERATE:

- Avoid parking opposite yellow zigzags, blocking driveways, or obstructing access for residents.

3. PLAN AHEAD

- Allow extra time for your journey to manage busy periods responsibly.
- Where possible, consider walking to school with your son instead of driving.

The council's road safety vehicle monitors parking in these areas regularly to ensure compliance and protect our community.

Let's work together to make the school environment safe and welcoming for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation.

>>> REMINDERS



We would like to inform you about early finish times for all pupils this academic year. In order to accommodate our Parents' Evening events, the school will close early at **1:55pm** on the dates below. Please note that **no enrichment activities will take place** on these dates. However, **peripatetic lessons (individual music or other instrumental lessons)** will continue as scheduled for those pupils attending.

22nd October 2025

6th November 2025

13th January 2026

12th February 2026

17th February 2026

1st April 2026

5th May 2026

>>> POETRY CORNER

Say it again, that word you spoke
That made the blind to see
Say it again, for it awoke
The silent life in me

How great the voice which breaks or builds
The worlds of many and more
How great the power that it can wield
The power that mended and tore

A word that man spoke and from his heart
That granted the chained a key
And spoke it again, man's wonderous art
That word, do speak for me

By Chimdi Okoye
Year 10



Work Experience

We're excited to launch our Year 10 Work Experience Programme, taking place from Monday 13th to Friday 17th July 2026.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to explore the world of work, gain valuable insights into different industries, and begin thinking about their future career paths.

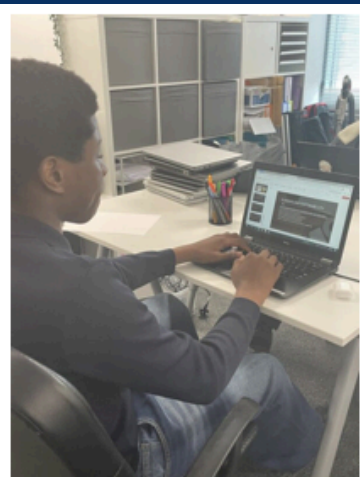
Work experience helps pupils develop essential skills and exposes them to a range of industries and roles. It also gives pupils a chance to understand what skills and knowledge employers look for and how different workplaces operate.

Can you support us?

We are currently looking for local businesses, organisations, and professionals who can offer a one-week placement to one or more of our pupils. If you or someone you know could help, we would love to hear from you!

Whether you work in healthcare, engineering, retail, creative industries, education, or any other sector, your support could make a real difference in helping a young person discover their potential.

Please contact Mrs. Osmialowski contactus@staca.co.uk to express an interest or ask any questions.



"The first 2 rugby games have taken place for the year 10/11 and the year 9 teams. The year 10/11 side ended up with a comprehensive 45-5 victory over Southmoor with tries from Nathan Raine x2, Noah Robson x2, Charlie Redmond, Charlie King, Charlie Shaw-Cumisky, Fenton Frank and Lucas Eley.

The year 9 team missing a number of players and supported well by a number of year 8s, played out an entertaining 30-30 draw with Southmoor. Captain Quade Charlton scoring a hatrick with Parker Liddle x2 and Leo Bannan also crossing the try line.

A positive start to rugby this year at St Aidans and fantastic to see so many students representing the school. If any other students are interested in playing, rugby enrichment takes place on a Friday after school".



Edinburgh

Our Y11 GCSE Art students visited Edinburgh on 17th September to allow them to complete research for their coursework and view great works of art first hand. The quality of discussion around the artworks and the level of maturity displayed by our students was fantastic. We also visited the cathedral, castle and explored the royal mile to allow students to take photographs which will be used within their independent projects.

