



This week, our pupils observed the two-minute silence for Remembrance with exceptional respect and composure. The atmosphere was calm and reflective, every pupil demonstrated a deep understanding of the significance of the occasion. Their exemplary behaviour was a credit to the our community. As we journey through the month of remembrance we have a book of remembrance in our chapel for pupils to add names of those they would like to remember, if you have someone you would like us to add on your behalf please email: contactus@staca.co.uk

Mrs Whitten, Headteacher

>>> **PUPILS OF THE WEEK****Week 9****Liam McKenna (7M)**

This nomination is in recognition of Liam's embodiment of the school ethos and his thoughtful kindness. While a member of staff was tidying up, some cutlery accidentally fell to the floor. Without being prompted, Liam immediately stepped in to help, picking up the dirty cutlery. This small but sincere gesture reflects a genuine willingness to help others — a true act of kindness.

Week 10**Jake Bradley (7D)**

Jake has made such an improvement in his history lessons. His presentation follow's St Aidan's Standards and his class participation really develops our class discussion. Jake should be proud of this and endeavour to keep it up!

Habib Abdullah (8A)

Nominated for being very considerate to one of his classmates by constantly giving them support and guidance in lessons.

Aran Sivananthan (10A)

Nominated for his excellent attitude and hard work in RE. He is a brilliant role-model and it is wonderful to see how much he cares about his learning. Keep this up Aran!

Arashdeep Singh (10F)

Nominated for showing great teamwork skills and resilience during the Basketball Nationals Cup game on Wednesday 5th November 2025. Well Done Arashdeep.

Nathan Raine (11B)

Nathan is hardworking, perseveres with each task given, engages in lessons at all times and is a true example of our core values. He is always keen to participate in class discussions, answers questions with confidence and listens to instructions at all times. He does this always with a smile on his face, regardless of how difficult he may find the task or the topic.





ACHIEVEMENT POINTS TO DATE: 20982 (AV: 22.09 PER PERSON)

>>> WORD OF THE WEEK

Cycle 1 Week 9:

Estrangement. E/strange/ment

Etymology: From the Latin "estrangementum," meaning "act of making strange."

Definition: The state of feeling alienated or detached from a group or society.

- In The Knife of Never Letting Go, characters experience profound estrangement as they navigate a dystopian society.

Cycle 1 Week 10:

Empathy. Em/pa/thy

Etymology: From the Greek "empathia," meaning "passion" or "affection."

Definition: The ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

- My Name is Why evokes empathy as it explores the author's journey through the care system and his quest for belonging.

>>> PUPIL WORD MILLIONAIRES TOP TEN



**AcceleratedTM
Reader**

**TOP TEN WORD MILLIONAIRES W/B
3/11/25**

Name	Words Read
DOMINIC PURVIS (YR9)	724,572
CHINONSO OKEKE (YR8)	600,305
MILO HARBORD (YR8)	352,039
LESLIE DE CRUZ (YR8)	332,306
LUKE JOHNSON (YR9)	297,679
ADAKOLE OTANWA (YR9)	253,931
ZAKWAN SHAHID (YR8)	234,680
PRAISE AKUBEZE (YR8)	212,570
DYLAN HARDY (YR7)	204,178
DESTINY IKEH (YR7)	200,178 (YR7)





On Tuesday 11th November we came together as a community to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives for their country. Despite the weather, our entire community marked Armistice Day with two minutes of silence followed by the Last Post. Several of our pupils were proud to wear their military uniforms for the day and represented themselves, their regiment and the school superbly. As a community we will never forget the sacrifice those who have gone before us have made to allow us to enjoy the freedoms that we have today. Lest We Forget.

>>> CATERING ASSISTANT VACANCY

Are you passionate about food and enjoy working in a friendly, fast-paced environment? We're looking for a Catering Assistant to join our school's kitchen team.

In this role, you'll help prepare and serve nutritious meals to our students, maintain a clean and safe kitchen environment, and support the smooth running of daily food service.

To apply please complete the application form and accompanying forms which are available from the school or trust website.

<https://bccet.org.uk/job-vacancies/catering-assistant>

Closing date: 30th November 2025



>>> ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



This week at St Aidan's, we are raising awareness of Anti-Bullying Week, focusing on the theme "Power for Good." Pupils will take part in activities and discussions encouraging kindness, respect, and standing up for others.

If you have any concerns about bullying or your son's wellbeing, the attached information may be helpful. Please don't hesitate to contact your son's Head of House if you wish to discuss any specific concerns further.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us promote a positive and caring school community.

>>> 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.





While Ashbrooke celebrated bonfire night with a large display, the real entertainment was to be found in the school sports hall as St Aidans and St Roberts served up a cracker in game 2 of the Dynamik National Cup.

Both sides won their opening matches and with students knowing each other well it turned out to be a close fought and exciting game. A slow start by St Aidans allowed St Roberts to lead 14-21 at the first quarter. St Aidans finally clicked in to gear, lead by Sam Macalalad who finished with 48 points, supported by Andrei Reyes (15pts) and John Castro (13pts). A 27-14 2nd quarter left the half time score 41-35.

A tense 3rd quarter left St Aidans going into the last period 4 points up. With the game tied up with minutes remaining, St Aidans took advantage of the extra numbers on the bench to pull away at the end. The final score St Aidans 86 St Roberts 73. 2 wins from 2 leave St Aidans in a fantastic position to qualify from the group with 1 game to go before Christmas. A huge thank you to all the boys who performed well and to Arnel and his Lambton team for providing the officials for the night. Next up is Durham School at home. Well done!



The Year 9 footballers produced a stunning comeback to defeat Walker Riverside Academy in the National Cup. After trailing by two goals, the team rallied to claim an emphatic 5–3 victory. B. Pearse netted a superb hat-trick, with R. Welsh and F. Taylor adding a goal each.

Next up, the lads face Cramlington Learning Village in the following round. Good luck!

CAFOD YOUNG LEADERS TRAINING





This week, our Year 7 pupils took part in an inspiring assembly all about aspiration—what it means to look up, look forward, and climb your mountain to take control of the future you want. The session was led by former pupil James Fildes, who shared his own journey and encouraged pupils to think big.

Aspiration is having a positive vision for your future. We reminded pupils that it's perfectly okay if they don't have a clear goal yet—what matters is starting to think about it and moving forward with intention. After all, nothing great happens by accident!

James challenged pupils to:

- Look Up: There's no limit to what you can achieve—be bold and imagine the life you want.
- Look Forward: Use your past as fuel, not as a barrier. Your story can shape your future.

One of the key messages was that your actions today shape your tomorrow. Don't wait for the "right time"—start now. The world is changing fast, and success comes when hard work meets opportunity, not by luck.

>>> YEAR 7 ASSEMBLY - CREATING THE FUTURE YOU WANT

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Tools for Building Your Future

Pupils explored practical strategies to help them grow:

- Journal: Writing helps you engage with your thoughts and goals.
- Envision: Picture your future self and ask what steps you need to take.
- Set Goals: Goals give you direction and momentum.
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The assembly closed with a powerful reminder:

Resilience is your superpower. Life will bring challenges, but with courage, hard work and intentional action, every pupil can create the future they want.