



Nearly there! One week to go in what has been a very enjoyable and productive Autumn term. It's been disappointing that we have not been able to involve you, the parents, in our learning and celebrating this term, especially in the run up to Christmas, a time when we love to welcome you into school to watch the various performances. Hopefully as the school year progresses we might be able to begin to return to normal levels of engagement. Have a lovely weekend!

Carol Concert

You are warmly invited to join us for our virtual carol service on Monday evening at 6.30pm. The service will be broadcast on the St Aidan's parish Youtube channel (click on the link below or search *St Aidans Coulsdon* in Youtube) [St Aidan's Coulsdon - YouTube](#) . Through the miracles of modern technology, Mrs Paull and Fr Peter have been able to create a fitting service for the occasion. There will be no worries about parking, weather or space in the pews, so it promises to be a different but just-as-special occasion. Please do make the time to join us so we can all remind ourselves of 'the reason for the season' as a St Aidan's school and parish family.

End of Term Arrangements

Term ends next Friday with a half-day. Classes will be dismissed on a staggered basis in the same order they currently are, with siblings leaving with the oldest family member. Timings as follows:

1pm – 1.10pm Reception

1.10 – 1.20pm Year 5-6

1.20 – 1.30pm Year 3-4

1.30 – 1.40pm Year 1-2

On the last day of term there is breakfast club but **no Kids Connect after-school club.**

Reception and Year 1 Nativity Performances

Reception and Year 1 have now finished recording their nativity performances. A link will be sent to all parents next week so that you can enjoy seeing your child participating in their class nativity. The staff involved have worked incredibly hard to ensure the children have been able to take part this year despite all the restrictions.



St Mary: Jesse Halliday
St. Francis: Isabelle Maxwell- Fidler
St. Joseph: Kelvin Twene
St. Bernadette: Edward Dance
St. Theresa: Adam Stepien
St. Peter: Will Ransom
St Paul: Malachy Langford



St Mary: Anastazia Woropajew
St. Francis: Viola Bardetti
St. Joseph: George Waite
St. Bernadette: Nahla Ezeokoli
St. Theresa: Nathaniel Laskowski
St Peter: Jessica Battell
St Paul: Orla Hunt

School Christmas Lunch

Our children celebrated a wonderful Christmas lunch today. A really big thank you to Mrs Shirley, Mrs Hilson, Mrs McCarthy, and all of the lunchtime supervisors who helped to make the occasion so lovely for the children. We have already collected £380 for Save the Children through our collection. We are still collecting up until Monday for those of you who forgot to bring a donation today but would still like to contribute.



Advent Challenge

Thank you to all the pupils (and to the helping parents) who took part in the stained-glass advent challenge this week. The outcomes were stunning! Watch out for next week's final advent challenge.



St Aidan's Parish – Children's prayers at the crib

The Liturgy group realise that some children may miss being able to say their special prayers by the Crib over Christmas so we would like to invite all the children of the parish to submit their prayers to us so that they can be collated into a booklet which will be available on the parish website for parents to print at home. Parents may scribe for young children. A prayer booklet will be left by the crib as a symbol for the children. Please add the child's name and age, and email their prayers to Bernadette at: bdettecooper@hotmail.com

Wednesday Word

This week's Wednesday word comes as a booklet with readings and activities to cover the remainder of Advent and also the beginning of the Christmas season. Please take time to enjoy it each week with your family. It's a great way to bring the word of God into your home considering the barriers to regular church attendance for families at the moment.

Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

A man came who was sent by God. His name was John, John the Baptist. He came as a witness – as a witness to Jesus Christ. Priests were sent from Jerusalem to ask John, "Who are you?" John replied, "I am not the Christ." "Are you the prophet Elijah then – or the Prophet?" they asked. He answered, "No." "So, who are you?" they asked. "What have you to say about yourself?" John replied, "I am the voice of the one who cries in the wilderness: 'Make the Lord's way straight.'" Finally they asked him, "Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" John said, "I baptise with water. But someone is coming soon who is more powerful than I am." This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the River Jordan, where John was baptising.



From the Gospel of Sunday 13th December 2020 John 1:6-8, 19-28 (the 3rd Sunday of Advent, Year B)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's word, which is **JOY**.



Achievement

Well done to Jake in Reception class, who was awarded a trophy while playing for his rugby team recently. Well done Jake!

