



Although it seems strange to say it now as we have been back over a week, happy new year and welcome back! We have, as ever, been very busy in school and if you have a look at the diary dates below you will see we have a very busy term ahead. Don't panic, there will still be the usual curriculum learning in school which you can learn about in the curriculum letters which have been sent home today.

Diary Dates

21/1/23 – Cross Country at Woodcote
27/1/23 – Quicksticks competition at Croydon High
1/2/23 – Year 6 trip to Parliament
3/2/23 – Year 3 class assembly
3/2/23 – Year 4 Eucharistic Adoration
7/2/23 – Safer Internet Day
7/2/23 – General Knowledge Quiz
8/2/23 – Talent show
9/2/23 – Catholic Cross Country Competition
9/2/23 – Break up for half term 3.25pm
10/2/23 – INSET DAY
12/2/23 – Dance show
13/2/23-17/2/23 HALF TERM
20/2/23 – School open
22/2/23 – Ash Wednesday
24/2/23 – Year 2 assembly
27/2/23 – Year 3 Eucharistic Adoration
2/3/23 – World Book Day
2/3/23 – Parents Evening
8/3/23 – Parents Evening
9/3/23 – Catholic Schools Girls football competition
10/3/23 – Year 1/2 gym competition
10/3/23 – Year 3/4 Eucharistic Adoration
11/3/23 – Cross Country at Farthing Downs
13/3/23 – Reception trip to Nower Wood
15/3/23 – Year 6 trip to London Zoo
16/3/23 – Geography Day
17/3/23 – Year 1 assembly
18/3/23 – Cross country and Woodcote
22/3/23 – Team colour dodgeball competition
23/3/23 – Music Concert
24/3/23 – Careers Day
29/3/23 – Year 5 Passion service TBC
30/3/23 – Year 4 trip to The British Museum
31/3/23 – Break up for Easter 1.45 p.m.
17/4/23 – School open for summer term

Music concert

You will notice from the diary dates that this term we are going to be having a music concert. It is always lovely to hear the Year 3 pupils playing the violin and cello in Soundstart, the Year 4 play the Toots and Year 2 the recorders and the many individuals who learn instruments at school. We are also aware that many children learn instruments outside of school. This concert will give pupils the opportunity to showcase their musical talents to parents so we can all share in their achievements. More details will follow at a later date.

Prayer Leaders

Over the past year, the prayer leaders have been giving out weekly stickers in assembly to pupils who they have noticed showing Catholic values out on the playground. They have now decided to give pupils a certificate identifying which Catholic virtue they have shown and how to further promote this positive behaviour in our school. Well done prayer leaders.



St Mary: Chiara Nash
St. Francis: Joshua Lawrie
St. Joseph: Jake Walsh
St. Bernadette: Viola Bardetti
St. Theresa: Imogen Sone
St. Peter: Sophia Bradley
St Paul: Iris Kember



St Mary: Elena Bentil
St. Francis: Dylan Hession
St. Joseph: Anastazia Woropajew
St. Bernadette: Bethany Hunt
St. Theresa: Lana Nelson
St Peter: Alexander Evans
St Paul: Nathaniel Laskowski

Eucharistic Adoration

Year 4 were led in another Eucharistic adoration session today. As always, the class impressed us with their reflectiveness, reverence and devotion. Thanks to Gerlinde and Anna for leading the act of worship with the children.



Epiphany Mass

Last Friday the school went to church to celebrate the feast of Epiphany. We are very grateful to Father Peter for saying mass and to Brother Stephen for his homily. It was lovely to see so many parents able to celebrate this feast with us.



Baby News!

Mrs Esparon shared the very lovely and exciting news with staff this week that she is expecting a baby, which will be due in June. We wish her and her husband all the best.

Cost of Dinners

Please be advised that the cost of dinners to the school (as with your own shopping and bills at home) has significantly increased. At present, to help with the additional financial strain families are facing, we are not increasing the cost of our school dinners but this may be something we might have to do in the future.



School Council News

The School Council have decided that they want to regularly report to you all about the many things that are happening in school from the children's point of view. Each week there may be reports on what has been happening in class, competitions, interviews with staff or other projects they are working on. We hope you enjoy their first edition below.

Welcome back Mrs Tuffrey

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Tuffrey back to school after a period of absence to look after her son who was unwell. The children and staff were very excited to see her and she has fitted back in as if she never left.

**WELCOME
BACK!!**

Achievement

Well done to everyone who celebrated individual achievements in assembly this week.

Olivia, Emilia, Anastazia, Mia, Marianne, James and Logan (Y2) who have all earned their pen license, Alex (Y4) who has been awarded a certificate for completing a food challenge, Nicolas (Y2) for reaching Stage 3 in swimming, Michael (Y4) who won Player of the Week in rugby and Olivia, Joseph (Y2) and Oliver, Dylan and Celina (Y1) who have all earned their bronze Athletics awards.



Joseph
George T
Jake
Harry
George
Edward
William K
William M



Iyla
Sophia
Anna
Harriet
Imogen
Sophia
Orlaith
Lola

Welcome to the school council news

Interview with Mrs Tuffrey

What are your hobbies outside of school?

I love to read and go for walks in the woods with my family.

Why did you choose to become a teacher?

Originally, I got a place at university to study law but decided it wasn't for me so I deferred my place for a year and then got a job as a Teaching Assistant and really loved it so went into teaching.

What would you like to encourage your students to do?

I would like to promote their self-confidence and give them a love of learning and independence.

What do you enjoy most about being a teacher?

I love being with the children in class and creating exciting lessons and seeing how the children progress.

Why did you choose St Aidan's?

When I came to see the school I really liked the community feel and the values it promoted.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go and why?

I would like to take my children to Universal Studios in Florida and also visit the Galapagos Islands for scientific reasons.

Interview completed by Orlaith and Lola (Y6)

What classes would like:

William K and William M (Y6) have been around to classes to ask what they would like to improve about the school. Here are some of the suggestions from each class.

Year 1: treehouse, slide, swing for teachers and children, trampoline, mini golf, toy carpark

Year 2: snakes and ladders outside, playground slide, a swing

Year 3: more balls, a slide, a see-saw, monkey bars

Year 4: books, classic books, trim trail games, football books, Lego, gel pens

Year 5: maths polydron, monkey bars, tyre swing

Year 6: swing ball, trampoline, cookery materials, hula hoops, monkey bars, water guns, swimming pool

School council will now meet and see if they can find some items here which they can raise money for. Watch this space!

Class news from this week

Sophia and Edward (Y5) have been to each class to ask if they have any news for the week. Here is what they found:

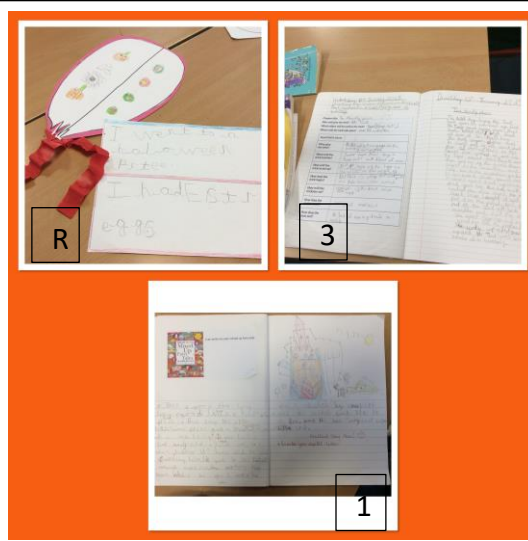
Year 2 have been learning about countries and oceans and the differences between some around the world. They told us that the felt tips have gone missing, they have quit!

Year 3 have started the book, 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl and also started their light topic for science. In maths, they are looking at money and money problems.

Year 4 celebrated Mr Stanley's birthday this week. In maths, they are doing division and in English they are looking at the book, 'The Iron Man'. For their geography topic they have started to explore volcanoes and earthquakes.

Year 5 have started a joint piece of art work (see below) to help them learn about life cycles as this is their science topic. They are also studying Greece and then UK as part of their geography work. They are excited to have Mrs Tuffrey coming to teach them on a Wednesday.

Year 6 had Mrs Tuffrey come and teach them on Monday and Tuesday and have started a rainforest dance in PE as this links with their geography unit.



Harriet and Isabelle (Y3) went from class to class scouting out good work and taking pictures of it. On the left:

Reception - Avril

Year 1 - Aaron

Year 3 - Giovanna

On the right:

Year 2 - Marianne

Year 4 - Class artwork

Year 5 - Class artwork

Year 6 - Gabriella

