



Headteacher's Weekly Message

We have been focusing on 'Peace' across the school and talking to the children about Pope Francis designating 2024 as a 'Year of Prayer'.

'Living and growing in Christ'



'Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters. It is in prayer that our hearts find strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice. In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity.'
Pope Francis



Peace begins with "the heart and an outstretched hand," Pope Francis told more than 6,000 children aged 7-12 during a meeting at the Vatican in November 2023. When conflict or war makes the headlines, it can cause some children feelings such as fear, sadness, anger and anxiety. With lots of news and headlines about conflict and war, it is inevitable that many children may have lots of questions. It's important for children to know that people are helping each other with acts of courage and kindness.

Children's Prayer for Peace



This is our school
Let peace dwell here
Let Peace begin with me
Let the room be full of contentment
Let love abide here
Love of one another
Love of humankind
Love of life itself
And love of God
Let us remember
That as many hands build a house
So many hearts make a school
Amen



Children's Mental Health Week 5th—8th February

Monday 5th February marks the first day of 'Children's Mental Health Week'. This week was launched in 2015 and each year, hundreds of schools, children, parents and carers take part. Now in its 10th year, the theme is '**My Voice Matters**'. My Voice Matters is about empowering children to use their voices, share what matters to them, and encourage those around them to hear their voices. It's about providing them with the tools they need to express themselves and developing their confidence. When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem.

Children's Mental Health Week is from 5th to 8th February at St Aidan's which will include a whole school assembly, PSHE and circle time sessions, art and themed writing activities. It will be a time dedicated to hearing our children's voices, encouraging them to express themselves and to see how special and unique they are and what a difference they make just by being them! On Thursday 8th February, we invite the children to end the week by wearing green! They might want to wear a green t-shirt, green hair ribbons, green tights— any item of clothing in any shade or colour green!

Young Voices!



On Tuesday the children in Year 5 & 6 went to the O2 and sang as part of the Young Voices choir. They sang beautifully in front of thousands of people representing our school and making us all very proud. Here are just a few snapshots out of many showing how much fun they had. They were joined by special guests from MC Grammar to Urban Strides keeping spirits high and giving a great show to their audience.



Don't let a little worry turn into a big one...

If you or your child are worried about something or have any questions, please phone the school office and book an appointment to see their class teacher, Mrs Wright, Mrs Hughes or Mrs Logue. We are always really pleased to meet with you and chat things through.



Important dates for your diary...

20th January	Woodcote Cross Country Race 2 at 9.30am
2nd February	Number Day at School
5-8th February	Children's Mental Health Week
6th February	Safer Internet Day 2024
5th February	MUFTI - Wear Green for Children's Mental Health Week
8th February	School closes at 3.25pm for half term
19th February	School opens



This Week's Awards at St Aidan's

Another busy week both in and out of school! Well done to everyone who achieved something this week, with special mention to Isaac in Year 1, who achieved an emerald certificate in Athletics!



St Mary: Dylan McPartland
 St Francis: Matthew Deacon
 St Joseph: George Gjondrekaj
 St Bernadette: Anna Ferguson
 St Theresa: Fearne O'Donnell
 St Peter: Rosa Bimpong
 St Paul: Jaxon Porter



St Mary: Amerly Harewood
 St Francis: Elena Bentil
 St Joseph: Sophia Small
 St Bernadette: Marianne Galbraith
 St Theresa: Bethany Hunt
 St Peter: Julia Bolun
 St Paul: Amelie Bardetti