



Headteacher's Weekly Message

'Living and
growing
in
Christ'



It has been another busy week at school. You might have noticed that Mrs Logue has not been at the gate in the mornings and afternoons this week, that's because she has been away at the Catholic Trust Headteacher's Conference. She has been in touch to check in and say hello and also looks forward to seeing everyone next week.

Have a lovely weekend xx
Mrs Hughes

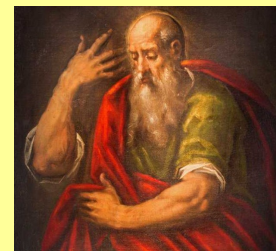
January 25th — the feast of the Conversion of St Paul

'Lord, what am I to do?

Arise, go into the city, and you will be told what you must do'. (Acts 9:6)

As we look around us, where and how do we hear God telling us how to make a difference? Like St Paul, we too ask Christ to help strengthen us and guide us, fill us with courage and enthusiasm so that we too are able to go forth and live our lives with faith and trust in the Lord.

***Lord, as we celebrate the conversion of Saint Paul,
help us to make our way towards you
by following in his footsteps
and by witnessing to your truth. Amen***



Keeping Children Safe Online

Mr Stanley has been emailing home some very useful information about online safety. Children may have received gifts for Christmas, birthdays etc., that enable them to go online. Devices such as mobile phones, laptops, tablets, game consoles are many of the items which enable children to go online and use the internet. When you gift a device that can access the internet, you're not just gifting the device itself: you're giving a portal to the entire online world. And while that includes all the fun bits, like chatting with friends and finding new favourite games, it also comes with a whole host of potential safeguarding risks.



We teach children how to be safe and we try to safeguard them against the possible dangers they may encounter in the online world. The same safeguarding principles we highlight such as crossing the road safely, using equipment, answering the front door, and other such measures should also be applied and prioritised when teaching our children about staying safe online—even the Pope tweets and our very own Fr Peter is good at using whatsapp! But we must always remain vigilant.

[Parents' Guide to Gifting Tech - Safer Schools](https://oursaferschools.co.uk)
(oursaferschools.co.uk)
[Keeping children safe online](#) | [NSPCC](#)



St Aidan's Inclusion Team



Monday 5th February marks the start of Children's Mental Health Week. At St Aidan's, we want all children to grow up in a safe and loving environment and be happy, confident individuals. Staff are always here to listen to the children and will help with any of the worries they may have. Our children's voices are important and it is vital that they are heard. The wellbeing of the children is of paramount importance to everyone. Some of the children's worries may seem big or small, but it's important that they feel able and confident to talk about them. Mental health plays a key role in a child's overall wellbeing and we are committed to promoting a positive growth mindset and supporting the children in developing their confidence and self-esteem. Positive mental health is also about recognising the importance of a good sleep, rest, exercise and having a balanced diet. It's also about articulating their feelings and encouraging self-awareness. We want our children to grow and flourish and foster positive relationships and friendships—to equip them with the strategies and tools to develop as an individual and also be able to build resilience, champion diversity, be successful learners, effective contributors and responsible citizens. We want our children to value themselves and recognise their gifts and talents as unique individuals, *'living and growing in Christ'*.



St Aidan's Inclusion Team who meet each half term to discuss our children's wellbeing which includes promoting positive behaviour, celebrating achievements, safeguarding, online safety, RSE, PSHE and attendance. Our team consists of Mrs Wright, Mrs Luke, Mrs Hughes & Mrs Logue who are also St Aidan's Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSLs). Mrs Gray and Mr Stanley may also have input as PHSE and Computing Leads and Mrs Blackburne as our Wrap Around Care Leader & DSL.



SASA

Mrs Logue and SASA, would like to invite parents to attend the school association SASA AGM on Thursday 1st February at 6.00 p.m. in the school hall. It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible to support the amazing work that we do. You will also find out how the money that you have helped to raise has been spent and what our plans are for the future. Please could you email the office at admin@st-aidans.croydon.sch.uk to let us know if you plan on attending.



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 the class teacher or 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...



2nd February	Number Day at School
5-8th February	Mental Health Week
6th February	Safer Internet Day 2024
8th February	MUFTI - <i>Wear Green for Children's Mental Health Week</i>
8th February	School closes at 3.25pm for half term
19th February	School opens
23rd February	Blue Team Mufti (Juniors only) for winning Autumn term colours



This Week's Awards at St Aidan's



Well done to all the children this week for their individual awards, there have been rugby, football and Irish dancing awards and lots of Mathletics awards. Please keep up the hard work, we always enjoy celebrating your achievements.



St Mary: Chizelu Mbaekube
St Francis: Hassan Sheikh
St Joseph: Edwina Antwi
St Bernadette: Ashley Coutinho
St Theresa: Ethan Downing
St Peter: Elliot Westwood
St Paul: Sophia Bradley



St Mary: Liam Osoata-Mulholland
St Francis: Lola Dougan
St Joseph: Charlotte McLaughlin
St Bernadette: Marianne Galbraith
St Theresa: Michelle Leon-Gonzalez
St Peter: Jahvantaye Gordon
St Paul: Gisela Maier

Football Match

St. Aidan's v Ridgeway Round 16—Cup

The game started off by both teams battling hard, until Sammy put St. Aidan's 1-0 up. After this boost of confidence we put Ridgeway under constant pressure. We started the second half going back to 1-1. Both teams had good chances. Until Super Sammy got the winner to make the final score 2-1.

Well done boys and well done Coach T!

Report by Callum Sales and Michael Growney Y6



Netball Match

St Aidan's v Orchard Way

A-Team

The A team kicked off the first of two netball matches on Thursday with a great win and a score of 4-2 with Sophia Bradley (GS) and Francesca Shaw (GA) both scoring 2 each. It was a very hard competitive match with great passing and defensive play. It was an amazing game and everyone who played was brilliant!

Report by Amelie Bardetti and Francesca Shaw

B-Team

The game started off very intense with both teams scoring two goals each in the opening 10 minutes. Then Jaxon gave us the advantage and from then on we found our rhythm and cruised to a 9-4 win at the final whistle. What a performance by all the team!

Report by Conor Kemp and Callum Sales

Year 6 Trip to Croydon Fire Station

On Friday the 19TH of January, the Year 6 pupils went to Croydon Fire Station as part of the Croydon Junior Citizenship Scheme. Whilst we were there, different emergency services staff spoke to us about how to stay safe in different situations. One of the highlights of the day was when the emergency services put us to the test without us realising, it showed us we all still had a lot to learn about stranger danger. This was a great informative trip that will help us transition to secondary school. We would like to thank the Croydon Fire Brigade for taking their time to teach us some really important information about how to keep ourselves and others safe.

Report by Ted Ryan, Y6



Cross Country Race Leg 2 - Saturday 20th January

Well done to our amazing children (and their parents) who braved the cold on Saturday morning to take part in the second leg of the Woodcote cross country races. The St Aidan's children ran fantastically well with individual finishes to be proud of! We hope to see many of you at the final leg of the races on Saturday 16th March at Woodcote School.

Thank you to Mrs Sone for volunteering to help.



Walk to School Competition

Ivy, Hannah and Isabelle (Y6) launched a competition for who could make the best poster to promote walking to school. After some amazing entries, the girls whittled it down and the winners were:

- 1st place—Gisela Maier (Y6)
- 2nd place—Isaac Lam (Y2)
- 3rd place—Zofia Kiewlak (Y5)

Well done children for highlighting such an important topic!



NSPCC Number Day 2024 - Friday 2nd February

Next week is NSPCC'S Number Day. To celebrate, the children will be taking part in activities during the day.

We would also like to invite the children to dress up as something maths related! This could be anything from a piece of clothing with a number on it, a famous mathematician or a calculator! We would appreciate a donation of £1 to go towards NSPCC.



Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 6th February

This year, the theme for Safer Internet Day is 'Inspiring Change'. The children across the school will be looking at the impact of their activities online and how they can be role models in how they use the Internet. Classes will investigate common challenging areas around online behaviour and work together on how they can help make the internet a better place.

We would like to encourage parents to have open conversations about what their child uses the internet for and reminding them how to respond and who to talk to should they encounter upsetting behaviour online.

