



St Aidan's Catholic Primary School



Newsletter

January 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR

I hope you all had enjoyable Christmas and New Year celebrations. It was great to see all the children back at school last week, eager and pleased to see their friends.

We have been joined this term by Mr Pennington who has replaced Mrs Sefton in Year 2 class. We are delighted he could join our school team and look forward to working with him. Mrs Lloyd has accepted a permanent role in our School Office which is great news too as she has fitted in so well during her time working on a temporary basis and finally Mr Andrew Williams will be joining us on 18th January to replace Mrs Boycott. He has been working at Hillside School in Bootle and has great skills in Mentoring and Play therapy that will be an asset to the support of pupils—so lots of new faces—exciting times!

Mrs Kelly Smile Award

During assembly last term we awarded the Mrs Kelly Smile Award.

Previous winner Ella Durkin was the first recipient of the new award requested by Mrs Kelly before she passed away. Ella was nominated by a number of staff members as she is always happy and cheerful, always helpful and kind and wears a huge smile most of the day. She always tries all activities and shows great levels of enthusiasm. She held the trophy last half term Amy Hubble Y3 is the current trophy holder. Amy was nominated for her friendly nature and happiness. She is always smiling, always kind and speaks calmly and kindly. She brings great joy to children and staff with her lovely manners and happy disposition.

Amy will keep the trophy until Easter when we will search for the next winner. Amy and previous winner Ella Durkin were lucky enough to meet David Kelly, Mrs Kelly's son who came in to school to see the award winners – a lovely surprise.

Breakfast Club

If you have never used the Breakfast Club maybe now is the time to give it a try. The Breakfast Club is now run by Miss McMahon and Mrs Lannigan and they have lots of exciting and new ideas and activities to keep the children occupied and happy before school. New games, new food choices and new activities are available. Breakfast Club is open **from 8am** each morning and all children (including Nursery pupils) who attend St Aidan's can attend. It is very cheap, **costing only £1.50 each day—payable on the day. You do not have to book, you just turn up and pay.** Many children who attend Breakfast Club don't even want to eat breakfast so if your child prefers to eat at home before you go to work then that is fine.

Come along and give it a try—if you have any questions come and meet the staff.

Christmas Events

We really enjoyed the many Christmas events that took place this year. All the plays and services went well and we were delighted to see so many family members supporting the children and joining in the singing! Fantastic, the children were delighted. We decided to use the church this year which was lovely but we realised we had some sound issues which we will work on for next year—it did make rehearsal time so much easier however!

Christmas lunch was great. Mandy cooked well over 150 Christmas lunches which children and staff sat down together to share—it was a lovely occasion.

The choir sang at local Residential Homes and delighted the residents with their enthusiastic singing and happy faces. The singing was a great success. The residents really enjoyed the visits from the children and even joined in!

Christmas parties, discos, stories and crafts also kept pupils in the Christmas spirit and helped them prepare for Christmastime. It is a lovely time in school—a little exhausting but well worth the effort. A huge thank you to all the staff for all their hard work in preparing the shows and plays and making Christmas magical for the children.

Events this term

This term our theme is Personal Safety and we are celebrating the character strength of Enthusiasm. This means that in PSHCE lessons the children will be taught how to keep themselves safe on line, in the environment and personally. We will be following the NSPCC and CEOP guidelines to provide lessons on safety for all pupils as well as using a new resource provided to all Knowsley Schools about growing up and keeping safe.

Information

Please remember to pay for school dinners on a Monday. It is £1.80 per day or £9.00 per week.

This can also be done through Parent Pay which is an online system—ask at the office if this would be easier.

Parent Governor

We still need a Parent to come forward to join our Governing Body. It isn't an easy job but it is rewarding as you gain an understanding into the working of the school. Governors support the Head to make decisions on curriculum, safety, staffing appointments, and other statutory duties. They speak to Inspectors, and help ensure that the school is running as well as possible, contributing to it's success through involvement in training and activities. You just need some time to attend meetings and activities in school and willing to read a lot of information. If you are interested but need more information, speak to Mrs Wright (Office).

Do you receive our text messages?

If the answer is no then it is likely we do not have your up to date details. We use the text system a lot to inform you of changes and remind you about events so please make sure we have your current number.