

*Learning and growing together, inspired with the love of Jesus.*

February has been a very quick month with so much happening! Our pupils have had a busy time in school with lots of visits and exciting learning. We celebrated Children's Mental Health week in early February where children were able to explore a range of techniques and strategies to help them maintain a positive outlook and care for their own wellbeing. I hope everyone enjoyed their half term break in mid-February and then it was straight back again, where we began Lent with a mass with Fr Anton on Ash Wednesday in preparation for the celebration of Easter.

I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude to all the school community who have sent warm wishes and congratulations for my wedding day which took place during half term. I got married to Mr Macfarlane and we had a fantastic day. The whole school have been so kind, thank you so much for making it a very special time for us. Most people are still used to calling me Miss Doyle, including myself, so it might take a little bit longer for us all to get used to my new surname!

*Mrs Macfarlane, Acting Headteacher*

### Upcoming Events

**Y3 and Y4 Visit to Huyton Library Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

**Fun Chef (Y4,5,6) Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

**Y4 Class Assembly Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 9.15am**

**Y3 Trip to Chester Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

**World Maths Day Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

**PTA Easter Bingo Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

### February Attendance

Nursery AM 90 %

Nursery PM 95%

Reception 87 %

Year 1 96%

Year 2 96%

Year 3 94%

Year 4 94%

Year 5 99%

Year 6 93%

**Our target  
96% and  
above**

**Met targets**

**Just below**

**Below**

### Religious Education

This February, pupils have been exploring and learning about the **Eucharist**. This theme focuses on the invitation to know Jesus, to **live in communion** with him and one another.

Each class topic is as follows;

**EYFS Gathering**

**Y1 Meals**

**Y2 Thanksgiving**

**Y3 Listening and Sharing**

**Y4 Giving and Receiving**

**Y5 Memorial Sacrifice**

**Y6 Unity**



Our **Y4** children continue their preparations for making their **First Holy Communion**. Meetings continue to take place for families at St Agnes and St Aidan's Church

**Tuesday 21st & Thursday 23rd March**

Please **arrive from 5:45pm** for a prompt 6pm start.

### PE News

Children **should** wear their school PE Kits to school on the day of their PE lesson. **No football kits** please. Pupils might want to wear school hoodies or pants during colder weather in similar school colours of blue.

#### After School Clubs

Tuesday	<b>REC/Y1</b> Multi Skills (Mr McHale)
Wednesday	<b>Y2/3</b> Football (Mr McHale)
Thursday	<b>Y4/5/6</b> Dodgeball (Mr McHale)
Friday	<b>Y3/4/5</b> Hockey with Happy Hedgehogs

Children will be offered PE kits in school if not in **correct or suitable sportswear** for lessons only.

Please be reminded that **girls are asked to wear stud earrings, not hoops**, as this poses a danger to their personal safety during active PE lessons.

## British values - Tolerance

### Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

Understanding that we all don't share the same beliefs and values. Respecting the values, ideas, and beliefs of others whilst not imposing our own on others. Examples are: Embracing diversity; Promoting awareness of religion, traditions, cultural heritage and preferences; Tackling stereotyping, labelling, prejudice and discrimination

St Aidan's looks to promote mutual respect and tolerance by learning about different religions, traditions, and preferences of their peers.

[The British Values - Mutual Respect & Tolerance \(3/4\) - YouTube](#)



### Superstar Writing

Earlier this Spring term, Mrs Holmes, our English coordinator ran a competition to encourage budding writers and poets to contribute their own poems to local competition. Some of the pupils from St Aidan's were selected and feature in a published book, Poetry .... Congratulations to all those pupils who had their works publishes, a fantastic achievement! Well done!



## Learning in classes



**Nursery** – developing their motor skills with '**Squiggle while you wiggle**'. The children are loving experimenting with mark making and early writing. Pupils are also learning about **nocturnal animals** during ...

**Reception** – Children have been still busy with **dough disco** and other fun ways to improve their early writing. They have created **floral designs** in Art and learning about **animals** in our world.

**Year 1** – looking at **cities** and important places in the **UK** in Geography. In Art, exploring the works of **George Seurat** and trying out different techniques inspired by Seurat's artwork.



**Year 2** – exploring **life cycles** of animals and how creatures can adapt to survive in different places in **Science**. In PSHE, children are learning about ways to **stay safe** at home and in the community.

**Year 3** – In **Design and Technology**, children created games and toys by designing a series of **pulleys**. There was a lot of investigating and testing to get the perfect designs. Also busy memorising their 4 and 8 times tables through songs and games.

**Year 4** – Children in Y4 have been looking at locations in **North America** and making comparisons between them in **Geography**. They are also beginning to prepare for their class assembly in March too.

**Year 5** – children have been designing, planning, and creating wire **sculptures** based on those in **Kew Gardens** in London in their Art and Design lessons. They have created a wide variety of minibeast and small creatures.

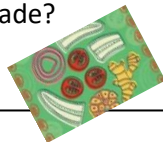


### Fun Food Chef

We are delighted to be welcoming the Chef back into school this March to work with some of the older children in exploring healthy food choices whilst at the same time having fun in actually making things to eat and try.

We have decided to go with a African theme to complement our global citizenship learning. Can you guess any of the foods that were made?

<https://www.funfoodchef.co.uk/>



### EFC Football Competition – Sports News

A huge congratulations to our latest team of footballers who took part in the EFC tournament on 8<sup>th</sup> February.

Thanks to Miss Lightbody, Mr Wear and Mr McHale for helping all the pupils continue to develop their sports skills.



Check out even more on class pages or follow our twitter feed @StAidanHuyton

**Year 6** – In English, children have been drafting and writing up **reports** based on **creatures in the wild**. In Science, they have been learning about adaptation and the famous scientist **Darwin**. In maths, year 6 are getting to grips with **fractions and decimals**.

## Children's Mental Health Week

This year, we asked children to focus on 'staying connected'. Looking at activities, strategies and practices that encourage children to **become connected** to others and **encourage discussion** around their wellbeing.

During a week of activities, children explored activities such as meditation, team-building games, yoga and reflective writing amongst many others, to understand how these activities can help maintain a **healthy, positive attitude** and improve their **mental wellbeing** daily.

With thanks to Mrs Magill, our Wellbeing Lead, who organised activities throughout the week alongside Mr Williams, our Learning Mentor.

For more information about supporting your wellbeing and mental health or your child's visit *Young Minds*

[YoungMinds](#) | [Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People](#) | [YoungMinds](#)



## Ash Wednesday Mass

Fr Anton visited us in school during Ash Wednesday to administer **ashes** to all our pupils and staff. After visiting the younger children in classes, he offered up a Mass and **Communion** with the older pupils in Y4, Y5 and Y6 in the afternoon.

Thank you also to the parents and carers of Year 4 who came along to join in Mass with us in school as their children prepare for their First Holy Communion.

<https://www.stagnes-staidan.org.uk/Information/Mass-Times>

## Lent – A time for giving to others.

We enter Lent reflecting on things we can do to help and support others. We continue to work towards our **Live Simply Award** across school and establishing ways we can live more simply, caring about our world and making sure everyone has enough. At St Aidan's during the season of Lent, **school council** have suggested that we collect items for our local food bank to help those in need. Please do donate if you can; dry foods, tins, packs of dry goods or items for young children and babies such as foods and nappies. All donations will be collected and sent to our **Knowsley food bank** when we break up for Easter.

Further information about items to donate can be found here [Donate food](#) | [Knowsley Foodbank](#)



## Potential NEU Teacher Strikes

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

Please prepare for potential closures for your child's class over these two days

## PTA Easter Bingo is back!



Our PTA continue to bring some exciting events this term with the **Easter Bingo** on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March**.

It should be a great night for all the family!

Further information about tickets and donations can be found at the school office or with Mr Magill