

St Aidan's Newsletter

November 2024



SEND

An update from Miss Carrie (SENDCo)...

All children who have a pupil profile and passport should now have had a meeting to discuss progress and support that is in place for their child this year. There will be further meetings for your child in the spring and summer term. I hope that these meetings will allow parents a better understanding of support their child is receiving in school and give them an opportunity to discuss their child's progress.

If you have any concerns about your child's learning or wish to speak to the SENDCo or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, an appointment can be made via the school office.

School Improvements

We have had a lot of work done to the school over the last few months. We have had new doors and windows fitted, fire doors fitted, new kitchen equipment bought, new external and internal signage, and new flooring fitted.

We have also spent some money on equipment for the playground and this term, Mr Sutcliffe and I will be spending some time in other schools to look at what else we can do to provide a more stimulating and enhancing environment outdoors. Thank you to all of our playground buddies who are doing an amazing job and organising our equipment and ensuring children are using it correctly.

Reception and nursery are still waiting for a date for having their outdoor areas revamped. Both will get new flooring throughout and then we can begin to purchase equipment for these areas. We are hoping we will get a date very soon and work will begin over the coming weeks.

Celebration assemblies

We continue to hold our weekly assembly which celebrates children who have demonstrated our school values and children who worked hard in some way that week. We also celebrate children who really demonstrate kindness to their peers with our rainbow badge awards.



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Parental Survey Responses

Thank you to the 53 parents who responded to our recent survey. We do value all of your thoughts and opinion's and it was lovely to read some positive comments about our school and staff. Please see results of questions below:

Results from October 2024 - 53 online responses:

Thank you to all the parents and carers for their responses.

		2024-2025				
Parent View Questions:	Not bullied: Not raised concerns	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Q1. My child is happy at this school.		60%	38%	3%	1%	0%
Q2. My child feels safe at this school.		66%	32%	0%	1%	1%
Q3. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.		52%	39%	6%	1%	2%
Q4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.	63%	13%	14%	6%	2%	4%
Q.5 The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.		50%	36%	7%	7%	0%
Q6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.	18%	37%	31%	10%	4%	0%
Q7. Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)?	Yes 19%	No 81%				
Q8. If yes, 'My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.' (10)		40%	40%	10%	10%	0%



Q9. The school has high expectations for my child.		43%	39%	8%	2%	8%
Q10. My child does well at this school.		49%	42%	4%	0%	5%
Q11. The school lets me know how my child is doing.		40%	36%	19%	5%	0%
Q12. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.		57%	34%	7%	0%	2%
13. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.		60%	29%	7%	0%	4%
14. The school supports my child's wider personal development.		49%	34%	11%	0%	6%
15. I would recommend this school to another parent.	Yes 92%	No 8%				

I hope that some changes that we have already implemented have been beneficial to you as parents and your children. We want to strive to continue to make St Aidan's a better school and we will use the feedback to look at changes we can make to improve the quality of education for all children in our care. We have begun to roll out our new MIS system called Arbor; we are hoping this new system will allow us to set up communication links between staff and parent/carers. If we feel that it does not allow us to do this, we will look at bringing in a system to allow for this.

If you have any concerns regarding your child, you can arrange to speak to Mrs Teer or Mr Sutcliffe by contacting the school office.

Attendance

Below are the attendance figures for each class last half term.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
<u>Saplings</u>	<u>93.30%</u>
<u>Sycamores</u>	<u>95.60%</u>
<u>Poplars</u>	<u>97.50%</u>
<u>Maples</u>	<u>95.60%</u>
<u>Elms</u>	<u>97.40%</u>
<u>Hawthorns</u>	<u>98.60%</u>
<u>Chestnuts</u>	<u>95.50%</u>



Whole school attendance is **96.2%**

The national average is **91.7%**

We are delighted with our attendance figures for last half term. It is an incredible positive that our attendance is consistently above national averages.

Please note that poor attendance can impact on pupils not only academically but can lead to a loss of confidence and struggles with friendships.

Social Media

The best way to stay up to date with all the wonderful things happening in the classroom is to follow our Facebook account. It is full of photos of all of the wonderful things the children get up to.

Mini Vinnies

Miss Givens has met with the Mini Vinnies for this year and is excited for our new members. We have some great plans for raising money at the Christmas productions. We will also be introducing 'Fruit Fridays' to reduce waste in our school. We will keep you updated with other Mini Vinnie news throughout the year.

Morning routines

Thank you for parents supporting us with our new staggered opening. We are adopting this as it has been identified as good practice. We have seen a huge improvement in pupils being in school and ready to learn.

Please note that school starts promptly at 8:45am. We are having a number of children coming into school later than this and missing key learning.

School Council Update

A message from the School Council.....

This year we have decided to give all of our fundraising to improve our outdoor playgrounds.

We have our school fair and a Christmas bingo night which will raise funds to support this.

Thank you to all our families and staff who have supported our school through the Asda Cashpot award scheme. We are close to raising £800 with 25 days left!

Dates for the diary



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Please find attached a comprehensive list of dates and chances to be involved in this coming half term. Wherever possible, we hope that this list remains unchanged, however, if we need to, we will always try to keep you informed of this well in advance.

Uniform

The children look very smart in their uniform each day. A few quick reminders – earrings must be removed. Please ensure that retainers are in place.

Please remember that there should be no extremes of hair style – this includes bleaching or dying of hair.

PE kit should be in school and remain here for the half term. Some children are taking their kit home after each lesson which is meaning that they aren't wearing their kit for lessons as they don't have it.

Reception Applications

The portal is now open for anyone wanting to apply for a Reception place starting in September 2024. Please remember that you must apply online, even if you are already attending our Nursery – and a place in our Nursery doesn't guarantee you a Reception place. Any applicants who wish to evidence Baptism or that they are part of a particular faith must also complete one of our supplementary application forms.

The link to the portal can be found here:

[Northumberland County Council - Reception entry applications](#)

Finally

I look forward to seeing you all during our parent/carer consultations which will take place on Thursday. We have also listened to your feedback and will have a second parent evening later in the school year.

This term is always the longest term of the school year and the children are always exhausted by the end of it – as well as excited for Christmas! There are so many nice activities and opportunities to invite you into school once Advent arrives. I look forward to celebrating this special time of year with all of our school families.

Mrs J Teer

Deputy Headteacher



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