

# St. Aidan's Catholic Academy

Willowbank Road, Sunderland, SR2 7HJ

W: [contactus@staca.co.uk](mailto:contactus@staca.co.uk) T: 0191 5200333

Twitter: [St\\_Aidans\\_RC](https://twitter.com/St_Aidans_RC)

---

To all in our community,

It feels great to be back to some level of normality. On Tuesday and Thursday, we opened our doors to eighty Y10 students and we finally had face to face learning going on in our school once more. The buzz around the place with both staff and students reengaging with a taught curriculum was great to see. It was clear to everyone that it was not normal school, nor did I pretend to the students that it was. However, we were able to give the students instruction and support in the core subjects as well as some directed physical activity. Despite an initial wariness, the students quickly adapted and the sessions were purposeful and well structured. The students left with a keen sense of renewed purpose and invigorated to pick up their studies and push themselves on in preparation for Y11. We also were delighted to see our Y12 students via our remote seminars. The subject based discussions that were had were of high quality and challenging to all. From Monday my team will be rolling out a new and more robust Home Learning strategy for the entire student body. This has face to face video tutorials at its heart and will allow the students to feel more of a connection with St Aidan's with staff that they know. They will also be able to ask questions through TEAMS and staff will be on hand to give support to groups of students who feel they need it. We continue to put the student at the heart of our decision making and this initial step was an important and welcome one. Thank you for your continued support and God bless.

Glenn Sanderson

---



## Upcoming Events

### June 22

On Monday the Y10 bubbles will continue to welcome our students back in a controlled and safe way. Key worker students will continue in their own key worker bubble away from the main student cohort.

---



Dear God,

I lean on You because I know you care about me. Your strength supports me, Your love carries me. You are here for me: To help me through every pain. To be my eyes when I feel the need to turn away. To be my ears when I can't bear to hear what has to be said. To be my heart, always filled with hope and courage. Amen

---

## Chaplaincy

### Canticle of Brother Sun and Sister Moon

St. Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord, all praise is Yours, all glory, all honour and all blessings.

To you alone, Most High, do they belong, and no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your Name.

Praised be You my Lord with all Your creatures,

especially Sir Brother Sun,

Who is the day through whom You give us light.

And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour,

Of You Most High, he bears the likeness.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,

In the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air,

And fair and stormy, all weather's moods,

by which You cherish all that You have made.

Praised be You my Lord through Sister Water,

So useful, humble, precious and pure.

Praised be You my Lord through Brother Fire,

through whom You light the night and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You my Lord through our Sister,

Mother Earth

who sustains and governs us,

producing varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

---

---



### Literacy

Get involved with the Virtual Book Club from the National Literacy Trust.

Join on Instagram @ZoneIn\_Skills using the hashtag #BehindtheCoverClub, and send them your book reviews.

They will publish a selection every month. Research shows that listening to audiobooks can support your wellbeing: <https://literacytrust.org/behind-the-cover/> .

### Free School Meal Vouchers

Our school Food Bank is Open.

Free School Meal Vouchers - Families in receipt of these should now have received vouchers for the remaining 5 weeks of term.

---

---

Praise be You my Lord through those who grant pardon for love of You and bear sickness and trial.

Blessed are those who endure in peace, By You Most High, they will be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord through Sister Death,

from whom no-one living can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin! Blessed are they She finds doing Your Will.

No second death can do them harm. Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks,

And serve Him with great humility.



## Kindness

Kindness is defined as the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. Affection, gentleness, warmth, concern, and caring are words that are associated with kindness. While kindness has a connotation of meaning someone is naive or weak, that is not the case. Being kind often requires courage and strength. Kindness is an interpersonal skill. At this unique and unprecedented time, kindness is more important than ever. HRH the Duchess of Cambridge hosted an online assembly focussing on kindness earlier in the week. It is an excellent resource and gives everybody an opportunity to reflect on their own behaviour towards each other and regulate it accordingly. Please take the time to watch the assembly through [here](#).

## Home Learning

As everyone will know by now, we are making important and exciting changes to our Home Learning Programme from Monday. From 22<sup>nd</sup> June we will be delivering a timetable to students in Years 7-10 through remote direct instruction lessons. The daily live timetable will complement and develop students' home learning through 20 minute pre-recorded remote instructional lessons. Combined with activities, each session will engage students – and this time it will be the teachers from St Aidan's doing the talking! There will be three forty-minute learning sessions per day. This will include a PE session and an opportunity for students to join in Reflection at the beginning of each day. This development in our Remote Learning provision will mean that students are receiving the very best education on offer under the current circumstances. If you're a parent, please remind your son to consult his timetable so he is all prepared for Monday.



# Opportunities to continue climbing our personal mountain.

## Book Recommendations

### Year 7

The Strangeworlds Travel Agency by L.D Lapinski  
A dazzlingly, imaginative and giddily exciting book. This fantastical adventure features Flick Hudson, a 12 year old girl on a dangerous mission for the Strangeworlds magical travel society.

### Year 8

Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes  
This is a beautiful and tragic book that is unfortunately very necessary right now. It is a truly eye-opening story about equality and racism.

### Year 9

We Are Liars by E. Lockheart  
A haunting tale about how families live within their own mythologies.

### Year 10

All The Bright Places by Jennifer Niven  
This is a brilliant, compelling and heart-warming book about two teenagers struggling with their lives. Full of refreshing honesty as it tackles serious issues surrounding mental health.

### Year 11

Simon vs The Homosapiens Agenda by Becky Albertalli  
Touching and passionate. Completely loveable with bags of empathy.

## Staff Recommendations

### **The Dutch House by Ann Patchett**

Wise and funny and unwraps the complexities of human beings with heart-breaking tenderness.

### **Lockdown by Peter May**

Combining a devastating pandemic with a gripping murder mystery plot.

### **Machines Like Me by Ian McEwan**

A story ripe with questions about consciousness, inevitability and the nature of desire.

### **Educated by Tara Westover**

A remarkable memoir about triumphing over a survivalist upbringing.

### **They Can't Kill All Of Us by Wesley Lowery**

A deeply reported book on the birth of the Black Lives Matter movement.

## Upcoming ResearchEd Webinars:

### **22/06/20 – Christine Counsell**

Taking curriculum seriously

### **23/06/20 – Paula Delaney & Matea Marcinko**

Curriculum in a crisis: designing a curriculum for a post corona world

### **24/06/20 – Karen Wespieser**

Educational research

### **26/06/20 – Kathryn Morgan & Helena Moore**

Theories of action: Mental models in motion

Live at 11am or catch up on missed sessions [here](#)