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# St Aidan's Newsletter

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**December 2015**

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## Staffing News

Mrs McKenna will be leaving at the end of term so that she can spend more time with her family. She will be a huge miss to us all but we wish her well. Interviews are being held this week to recruit someone to take over her class in January 2016.

## Winter Weather

As the winter weather is now well and truly upon us please make sure that your child comes to school with suitable outdoor clothing. A warm, waterproof long coat with a hood, not forgetting hats, scarves and gloves all keep out the rain and the cold. Boots or wellies are a great idea with shoes to change into for inside. It's really important for the children's learning and well-being that we access the outdoors whenever we can—so your support is very much appreciated.

In the event of heavy rain in the mornings, pupils can come into school from 8.45am onwards. KS1 and KS2 pupils should come onto the school playground as usual and a member of staff will direct the children to the KS1 & KS2 cloak-room doors. Nursery parents can access the Nursery entrance and Reception pupils should go through the Reception classroom entrance. Any pupil arriving when the Reception classroom door is closed/the main playground is empty - should report to the Main Reception entrance accompanied by a parent/carer. In the event of severe weather i.e. Heavy snow or seriously icy conditions and it is necessary to close the school an announcement will be made on BBC Radio Newcastle and posted on

Northumberland County Council website.

[www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

During the winter weather we also ask parent / carers to take extra care when on school property. The playground can be very slippery and you and the children are advised to keep to the gritted areas.

## Sickness in School

There are various viruses going round school. Can we remind parent / carers that if your child is sick or has diarrhoea then they must be absent from school for 48 hours from the last bout of sickness. If you are reporting your child absent from school due to illness then it is very important to state the nature of the illness. We need more information in addition to that they are "unwell".

## Staff Car Park Entrance

Traffic enforcement marking means no stopping for any reason. It is very important that this is kept clear at all times for emergency vehicles.

## School Parking

We have a system where eligible parent/ carers can use the staff car park with the governors permission. They have all been issued with 'Permission To Park' badges which must be displayed when using the car park. If you feel that you are eligible to use the staff car park because of disability then a letter requesting permission needs to be sent into school for the attention of the governing body and your circumstances will be considered.

Can we also remind parent/carers to park safely and legally AT ALL TIMES. Many thanks for your co-operation. Recently some fixed notice penalties have been issued due to illegal parking. The parking situation will continue to be monitored.

## Facebook

Can we please remind parent/ carers to be careful when posting messages on Facebook. If parent/carers have any particular issues or complaints about school please in the first instance contact Mrs Leslie. Please also note if any derogatory comments are made about members of staff or material posted that is data protected, then legal action will be vigorously pursued.

## Nursery Provision Consultation

Following the recent Nursery Provision Consultation Process as from September 2016 we will be offering morning (8.45am-11.45am) and afternoon (12.30pm-3.30pm) sessions only.

## Birthday Celebrations

It is lovely that parent / carers send in cake etc. to celebrate their child's birthday with their children's class, but can we please ask that ONLY individual cakes or packs of sweeties are brought into school. Cutting up whole cakes or dividing up large bags of sweeties is very time consuming for staff and we do not have the resources to send these home with the children.

## Forthcoming Events

Please regularly visit [www.st-aidans.northumberland.sch.uk](http://www.st-aidans.northumberland.sch.uk) for all dates for 2015-2016  
All dates subject to change.

### DECEMBER 2015

Thursday 3/12	P.T.A. Christmas Fair 2.30pm-4.30pm - £1.00 entrance for adults
Friday 4/12	Non-uniform day donations for Bishop Seamus' Annual Appeal "Contribute-Youth" 3.15pm-4.15p.m. - PTA Christmas Ball—Admission by ticket only
Tuesday 8/12	3J Parent/carers drop-in day—see website for further details.
Wednesday 9/12	Nursery A Christmas Story—Entrance by ticket only—11am & 2pm Christmas Lunch
Thursday 10/12	1.30pm - KS2 (Y3 & Y4) - Straw & Order—Admission by ticket only
Friday 11/12	9.30am & 1.30pm 1.30pm - Reception & Y1 & Y2—A Midwife Crisis—Admission by ticket only
Monday 14/12	Christmas parties.
Tuesday 15/12	KS1 Visit to Whitehouse Farm
Thursday 17/12	1.30p.m. Advent Mass at St Aidan's Church
Friday 18/12	1.00p.m.-Advent Liturgy - Everyone Welcome - Parent/carers able to attend Liturgy may take children home immediately afterwards - parent/carers NOT able to attend to collect children at 3.15pm.End of term

### JANUARY 2016

Monday 4/1	School closed for Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 5/1	School re-opens
Monday 11/1	Class 4/3B to lead Collective Worship at 2.45pm
Tuesday 12/1	PTA Meeting at 6pm
Fri 15/1	Y1 Hula Hooping Festival—Ashington Leisure Centre Deadline for Applications for Reception Places (September 2016)
Weds 20/1	Nursery Parent/carers drop-in day—see website for further details
Thurs 21/1	2pm- SRE Information Session for Parent/carers
Weds 27/1	3J Parent/carers drop-in day—see website for further details.

### FEBRUARY 2016

Mon 1/2	Class 2G to lead Collective Worship at 2.45pm
Fri 4/2	9.10am—Class 4/3B Assembly—Do rocks rock?
Fri 5/2	PTA Peter Pan Pantomime at St Benedict's Middle School Tickets £6.50 adults and £4.50 per child (Children must be accompanied by an adult) Doors open at 5.30p.m. when refreshments will be available.
Tues 9/2	Safer Internet Day—Reception Visit to the House of Objects
Weds 10/2	Ash Wednesday—KS2 to attend 10am mass at St Aidan's church 2.30pm—Liturgy for Reception and KS1 pupils—Everyone welcome
Friday 12/2	School closes for half-term at 3.15pm
Mon 22/2	School closed for teacher training day
Tues 23/2	School re-opens
Mon 29/2	Class 4M to lead Collective Worship at 2.45pm

### MARCH 2016

Weds 2/3	4M Parent/carers drop-in day—see website for further details.
Thurs 3/3	World Book Day—Come to school dressed as your favourite book character
Fri 4/3	Y2 Gymnastics Festival -Ashington Leisure Centre
Mon 7/3	PTA Disco tickets on sale—£2.00 each
Tues 8/3	RH Parent/carers drop-in day—see website for further details. 6pm-PTA Mtg