

We join with the Catholic Church throughout the world, in mourning the death of Pope Francis. A true servant of God, who has led the Catholic Church for over 12 years. He led with compassion, peace, and unity, a guiding light for millions, advocating for the marginalised and inspiring hope across the globe. His humility and unwavering commitment to justice will leave a lasting legacy.

As we reflect on his teachings, let us honour his memory by continuing to spread love and kindness in our communities. He will be remembered as a Pope who was humble, merciful, caring and full of Grace.

Rest in peace, Holy Father.



School events

Last term, we invited you into school for many occasions for your children. We know that the Easter term is always busy in a Catholic school, and this year some events were different to previous years. We have had a lot of positive feedback about the family egg decoration events and the class worships.

We know that some classes Celebration of the Words clashed, which was hard if sibling events were at the same time, and you only had one family member available. As a school, we have tried to minimise the disruptions in class as your child's education is incredibly important to us. We held sixteen Easter Celebrations of the Word in just one week; we wanted them to be spiritual and held in the classrooms rather than an assembly type of worship so this led to clashes. We held them close to the end of the school day so that families wouldn't have to travel back and forward to school, however, we will consider feedback for next Easter to make the events more convenient.

We would love your feedback on the events as it is important to us that families feel like they understand what is happening in school and are part of the St. Aloysius family, but we also know that work commitments are important. Please email info@st-alloysius.co.uk with any feedback on our events.

This half term doesn't have a lot of family events as it is so short and year 6 pupils have their SATs in this term, but the summer term does have events that you are invited to. We have tried to space them out as much as we can, but please remember that the children are very well supported if you are unable to attend.

Whole school future events

- Non-uniform day- Monday 19th May 2025 (see MADD STEM info)

More information will follow on the events, but please put these dates in your diary. It would be great if you or a family member could attend, but as always, children will be supervised by school staff so please do not worry if you cannot attend.

- Sports afternoon- Wednesday 11th June 2025 (all afternoon)
- Summer fayre- Wednesday 9th July 2025 (all afternoon)
- St. Aloysius Feast Day picnic- Monday 23rd June 2025 (all afternoon)

Reminder

- INSET day- Friday 4th July 2025
- School closes at 1:15pm on Thursday 17th July 2025

New School build

You may recall that back in 2022, it was announced that the Department for Education were planning on rebuilding the infant school. We are pleased to say that the project has started to move forward, and over the Easter holidays surveys were carried out to gather more information on the site. We are still a long way off but it is welcoming news. We will keep you informed when we have more information to share.

Fundraising

Well done to the fundraising team in year four. They successfully raised £1450 in just one day. What a future they have!

The team have decided that they would like to put their money into developing the Garden of Hope, so that many children over the years can enjoy this. It will be linked to their First Holy Communion journey and will work with the Mini Vinnies and RE Ambassadors to develop this area.

Thank you for all of your support in sending the children into school with money for the event.



Outdoor environment

As previously mentioned, our next aim in POP (Purposeful Outdoor Play) was to have a dance area with music and ribbons, cheerleading pom poms etc. This is now successful and the children are thoroughly enjoying the dancing and singing. We have realised that the music travels a bit, so we will lower the volume and our pom poms (although they were not cheap) have fallen apart, so there are constant glitter streamers across the yard! We are trying to source bio-degradable pom poms and a type that is more hard-wearing. The Eco Warriors and the School Council are leading children to keep these tidy.

Mr Nixon has been busy over the holidays putting more benches together. On the junior yard, we now have enough seats for a class to work outside. On a lunch and break time, they are used for those that want to read, draw or just chat. The infant children also now have more tables on the front and back playgrounds. The seats have been purchased through our fundraising money.

Roscoe and I were in over the holidays having a look at the benches!



Summer outfits

The weather is getting warmer and we would like to remind you to provide a sun hat for your child and apply sun-cream on them prior to coming to school. Please continue to send your child into school with a coat.

If you are having a sort out, we are happy to take good quality used St. Aloysius branded uniform, e.g. jumpers, cardigans, PE t-shirts and hoodies.

Parking

Thank you with your on-going support with parking around school. The school council and Eco Warriors will be meeting up soon with professionals that can hopefully help us.

We are going to trial having no vehicles entering either carpark between 8:40am and 9am and between 3pm and 3:30pm. Signs will be arriving soon to help endorse this.

Big Lent Walk

The children took part in daily walks as part of the BIG LENT WALK. The RE Ambassadors and Mini Vinnies helped to collect loose change which will be donated to CAFOD.



Retirement

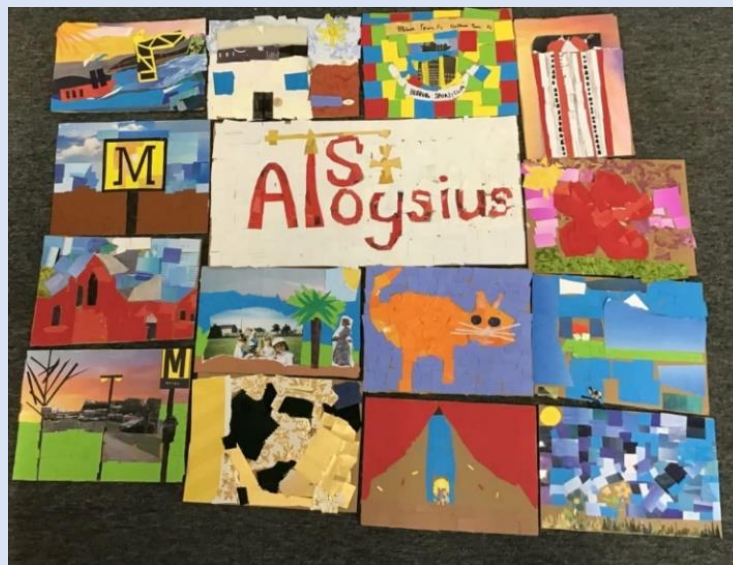
Mrs Wear, our Higher Level Teaching Assistant, who is mainly based in year six, is retiring from St. Aloysius at the end of this half term. Thursday 22nd May will be her last day in school.

We wish her well in her retirement and we know that her family and dogs will keep her very busy.

Community Events

Our 'Art in the Community' project was very successful. The Art Ambassadors worked weekly with a group of the community in our school art studio. The group produced some amazing Hebburn art and we pleased to announce that we have secured a venue in Hebburn for this to be showcased- watch this space.

Our next project is 'Hebburn Heritage'. The History Ambassadors are going to seek old images, guest speakers and any other information they can source to pull this project together. If you know anyone that could help us then please let us know, but the History Ambassadors will promote this soon.



MADD STEM

We are hosting a MADD STEM week on the week before half term (19th-23rd May), this week is based around the theme 'Change and Adapt' and is taken from the theme for British Science Week. During this week, the children will have a range of lessons and experiences. We have professional musicians coming into school, dance teachers, drama experiences, expert scientists plus a lot more.

This week helps to build into our Character Development package and our ARISE philosophy. [Click here to remind yourself of this curriculum area.](#)

The children will have a great week and will have the opportunity to be involved in new experiences and will be able to link skills to future careers.

As part of the Change and Adapt theme, the Eco Warriors would like to take this opportunity to host a non-uniform day on Monday 19th May. In exchange for wearing non-uniform, they would like each child to donate a toy that they no longer play with or any item that can be used in our POP areas. [Click here to remind yourself of this curriculum area.](#)

We already have some parental support for this, but if you or anyone you know, has any skills or expertise in MADD STEM and could donate some time or resources to this week then please let us know.



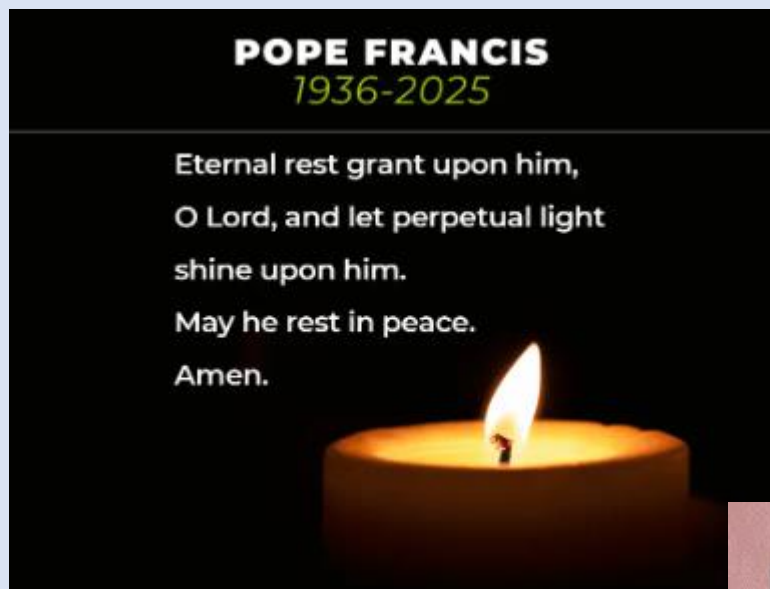
Reminder- Kindness Cafe

So far this academic year, we have held successful Kindness Cafés for year groups reception to year four. We would like to remind you of the remaining cafes this year. Please call in on your child's year group date and have a cuppa with us- your children and siblings are also very welcome.

May 23rd- Year 5- JUNIOR HALL

June 27th- Year 6- JUNIOR HALL

Prayers to share



PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Father God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that You would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love.
In Jesus' name we pray.

We would like you to keep Mrs Wells in your prayers. Sadly, she is still very unwell and we keep her at the forefront of our school prayers.