



St. Aidan's Catholic Primary School, Winstanley

SUMMER TERM NEWSLETTER

July 2026
Tel. 01942 223544



Dear families,

This has been another very happy and successful term. There is so much to be grateful for and to celebrate. Here are just a few of the amazing memories and events from this Summer Term.

We celebrated our wonderful **Year 6** children, who, for seven years, have filled our school with love, laughter and many proud moments. We know you will **Walk Hand in Hand with Jesus**, and shine brightly.

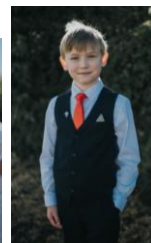
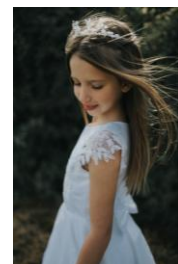


We said thank you and good bye to some wonderful members of staff: **Mrs Marshall**, who is leaving us after 8 years of joy and dedication for new teaching opportunities and **Mrs Smith**, who returned to us for the school year. We have taken opportunities during this last week to celebrate these wonderful ladies.



Catholic Life and Mission of School

Children have been coming together for liturgies and assemblies, and we are pleased to be able to welcome families to join us on our spiritual journey. Our **Year 4** were guided through their Sacrament of Holy Communion. We are so grateful to the parish catechists for preparing the children so well as they celebrated another important milestone in their faith journey. The Pentecost Service, led by our **Year 3** children, was a truly moving and wonderful occasion. Church was full of children, families and parish members celebrating and sharing the gifts of the Holy Spirit. In May, we were visited by the team from the Mary's Meals charity and in June, we were also delighted to be joined by the wonderful CAFOD team who thanked us for our contribution to the Big Lent Walk.





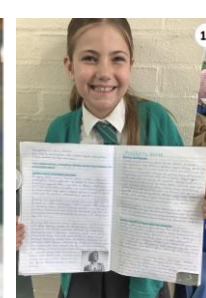
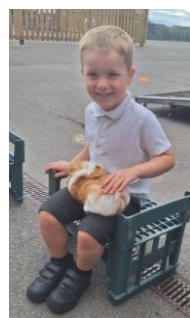
Our **SCHOOL CURRICULUM** continues to excite our children and really is designed with them in mind. Father Michael visited Lower **KS2** to talk about his ministry linked with our learning. The joy of **Reading** certainly starts early with the **Reception**, with the children inspired by 'Jasper's Beanstalk' they got busy planting seeds and learning about plants- a great science link. Reception also performed poetry for the school and their families, developing confidence and oracy.



Science was all about Living Things, Sound and Electricity. **Nursery** enjoyed a visit by Acorn Farm as part of their Animal topic, where they got to hold chickens, rats, guinea pigs and even feed the goats and lambs and successfully released their lovingly grown butterflies. **Reception** enjoyed their activities as part of our **Forest School** offer, so much fun climbing trees, in the water and toasting marshmallows on the fires they built. **Year 3 and 4** enjoyed investigating Matter and Sound and **Upper KS2** found unique ways to explain the essential components to a circuit during their Electricity topic.



In **Lower KS2**, their study of Seurat and the pointillism **Art** resulted in some fantastic sketchpads and final pieces. Upper KS2 Monet-inspired canvases were incredible. **DT Lower KS2** mini greenhouses displayed their talents to design and make incredible structures.



Lower KS2 once again invited the retired miners of Golborne colliery into school to talk about their lives and working experiences bringing **history** and **geography** to life! Everyone enjoyed their visits to Winstanley Farm to meet the alpacas.



PE topics were all about Athletics and outdoor adventure and our **Year 6** children certainly covered all this and more during their residential.

Leadership and close relationships were developed as the wonderful **Seeds and Gardeners** continued alongside the **Year 5** visit to the **Nursery**. These are friendships that will flourish as the children meet in September as Seeds and Gardeners.



Once again, **healthy living, sport and exercise** have played an important part in the success of the term. For our mental health and fitness children have all enjoyed two PE sessions every week in school.



In June, the annual **Sports Days** were lots of fun and great opportunities for children to experience competition and teamwork. **Reception** and **Key Stage 1** enjoyed their Bikeability sessions. **Key Stage 1** enjoyed their tennis sessions via the Be Well initiative.

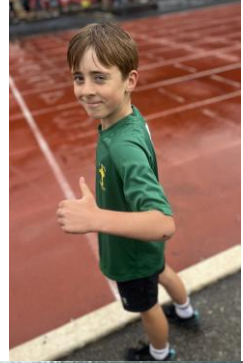


The **PE Curriculum** of **Athletics** and **Outdoor Adventure**, was supported by a range of after school clubs taking place, alongside children having opportunities to represent school. These have included football, tag-rugby and cricket. Competitive netball matches were played for the first time in over 10 years! The **WOWS Helen Smart Swimming Gala** was another highlight with children, once again, returning to school with medals. The **boys football team** had a great

season and the **Year 4/5 girls** returned to school with a trophy for their sportsmanship in their competitive football tournament. Two teams took part in the orienteering challenges and others with golf. These opportunities have been great fun and we have been proud of every child representing school.



Town Sports is often a highlight of the sporting calendar bringing so many schools from across Wigan to the **Robin Park Arena**. It's a professional venue and this year's events took place in either unbearable heat or ridiculous rain! The teams representing school, as always, made us super proud. Some inspired performances from so many of our children including returning with medals in throwing, jumping, sprinting and relay!



Care Club continued to be a wonderful support for our working families. It is always an exciting part of the school day for many children, this year covering so many arts and crafts - and eating ice-lollies!

School Volunteers: We send a massive thank you to our **FOSA** which might not come close to the gratitude we have for this extremely hardworking group of parents and family members. This year they have led hot-dog days, led amazingly creative tuck-shops, sold doughnuts, led the discos, supplied the pre-loved uniform, attended Induction meetings, took time to organise Mother's Day events and are often found on the playground supporting lunchtime cover. As always, we are extremely grateful to them all. They are very close to reaching their target to provide an outdoor classroom on the KS2 playground. Thank you also to all our volunteers including those who come into school hearing readers and generally help school to run smoothly - we really do appreciate everything that you do. Thank you also to Bobtale Photography, whose incredible photos helped raise well-needed funds for school.



We also managed the heatwave in style this term with ice-lollies, hosepipes and cooling of feet in the little pools - all ways we used to keep ourselves cool.



The final week of term was wonderfully busy. On Tuesday, **Year 6** invited us to join them at their Leaver's Mass. It was so uplifting and a privilege to be part of such an emotional and reverent service and listen to their final song about their memories of school. The annual **St. Aidan's Got Talent** heats and final celebration took place too during the final few days of school and it is safe to say we are surrounded by talented children. We hope many of these talented children continue to use their talents in the future and maybe even some see of them on television or even better - the West End stage!



The many visitors to my room continued this term, celebrating work and personal achievements. It is a delight to be able to celebrate talents taken to an elite level away from school. I even met a published author this term!



I would like to end this term with some thank you messages. Thank you to the **staff**. Everything they do is to give the best possible learning and life experiences to the children and I am blessed to work with such dedicated people. Thank you to the **governors** who give us all the confidence to be brave in our decisions and do everything we can for the children and school. Thank you to our **families** for your trust and support again this year. And a final thank you to the wonderful **children** who walk hand in hand with Jesus, brighten our days, work hard, laugh loudly, are kind to each other and are the best image of themselves that God would hope for. Have a wonderful family-time this summer. See you all on **Wednesday, 2nd September**. Mrs Farrimond