



Head of School's Message

It has been a wonderful week, we have had a 'Year 2 Flight Day' and we hosted children from other Catholic schools in Croydon for a Science Workshop.

Look out for our whole school 'Pilgrims of Hope' challenge!

Have a lovely weekend,

God Bless,

Mrs Hughes

**'Living and
grow-
ing in
Christ'**



St. Aidan's School Value this term: Respect

This half term our school value is 'Respect'. Our School Councillors and Prayer Leaders have been on the lookout for children giving examples of being respectful.

Well done to the following children:

Aria (R) - for always brightening everyone's day

Ethan (R) - for always having a big smile on his face

Lydia (Y2) - for playing kindly with her friends

Herbie (Y4) - for always showing respect to others

Important dates for your diary...

4th February	Y5 and Y6 school trip to Wallington Girls Drama Production
5th February	Y3 Trip to Chertsey Museum
7th February	Number Day - <u>Dress Up!</u>
13th February	School Closes for half term at 3.25pm
14th February	INSET DAY
24th February	8:45am School Opens
5th March	1.45pm Lenten Service at Church - all parents welcome
5th March	Parents Evening
6th March	World Book Day - <u>Dress Up!</u>
13th March	Parents Evening
15th March	9am Woodcote Cross Country Race 2/3
20th March	9.15am Y1 Class Assembly - Y1 parents welcome
3rd April	9.30am Rock Steady Concert
4th April	School Closes for Easter holidays at 1.45pm

Our Value this half term is:

RESPECT



Football Matches

The football team have played three matches in the last week. The first was against Laleham Lea. After a tight fought game, St Aidan's came out victorious with a 1-0 win!

On Tuesday, the team travelled to Beaumont for a double header (two games on the same day). With a dominant possession percentage on the ball, St Aidan's won the first game 7-0 with goal scorers including Dara, Louie and Stanley.



In the second game, St Aidan's continued with a high attacking pressing energy which led to a whopping number of goals being scored by us to come out with a 12-0 win.

Well done St Aidan's - great wins and great football. Thank you Coach T for all your hard work.

Match Report by Michael C (Y6)



Chinese New Year

Reception have been learning all about Chinese New Year.

They have been making lanterns and have even tried writing their names in Chinese.

Robyn- Grace in Reception brought in traditional Vietnamese dress to show her class.

SASA Message

We hope you are having a good week.

How your fundraising makes a difference

We have agreed with the school that some of the money raised last term will be put towards repairing the trim trail, work will start on that soon. In next week's newsletter we'll set out more information about how your fundraising will support the school.

Upcoming events this term

Dates are being finalised for the **Mother's Day Sale** and **Costume Sale** ahead of World Book Day. If you have costumes to donate, we would be incredibly grateful for them. We'll share more details soon about how and when to donate. Look out for notices about other fundraising events this term including **School Disco** and the **2025 Challenge**.

Easy ways to keep supporting the school

Playing the school lottery: Sign up [here](#)

Shop online through Easyfundraising: Access your favourite retailers including Amazon, Argos, Boots, Domino's, Waitrose, JustEat, M&S and many more through [Easyfundraising](#). Every purchase you make earns the school a percentage of the sale, at no extra cost to you.

Thank you for your continued support.

SASA

Children Who Read, Succeed!

We love hearing about all the fantastic books children are reading and enjoying. In the lead up to Book Week, some of the children will be sharing their recommended stories with a book review.

Sienna C (Y5) has reviewed *Dork Diaries* by *Rachel Renee Russell*. Please see what Sienna thinks of this book in the document attached to the Newsletter email.



Prayer Leader Intentions

Please pray for all The people who are sick, starving or lonely.

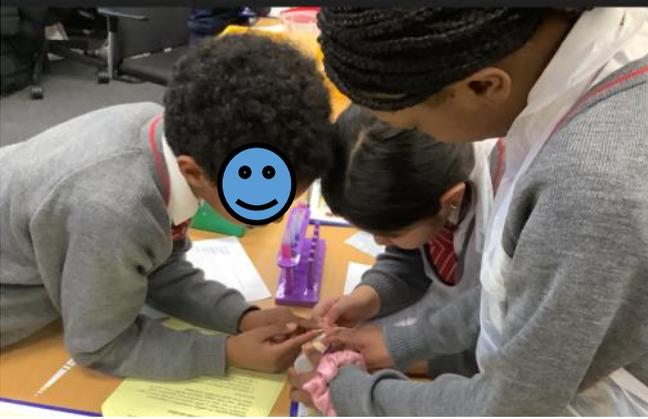
Please pray for all those affected by the Kilauea Volcano eruption in Hawaii.



Science Day at St. Aidan's

On Wednesday, we welcomed Year 5 and 6 Scientists from St. Thomas Becket, Margaret Roper, St. Mary's and Good Shepherd. The children took part in an exciting Chemistry workshop where they were investigating acids and alkalis and measuring PH scales.

A huge thank you to Mrs Tuffrey for leading this workshop.



Year 2 - Flight Day

On Wednesday Year 2 had an exciting 'Flight Day'. And they had a visitor from Croydon Airport come in to chat to them. The children learnt all about Amy Johnson and produced some amazing work.

Thank you to Miss Upadhyaya and Mrs McFadden for giving the children a wonderful learning experience.

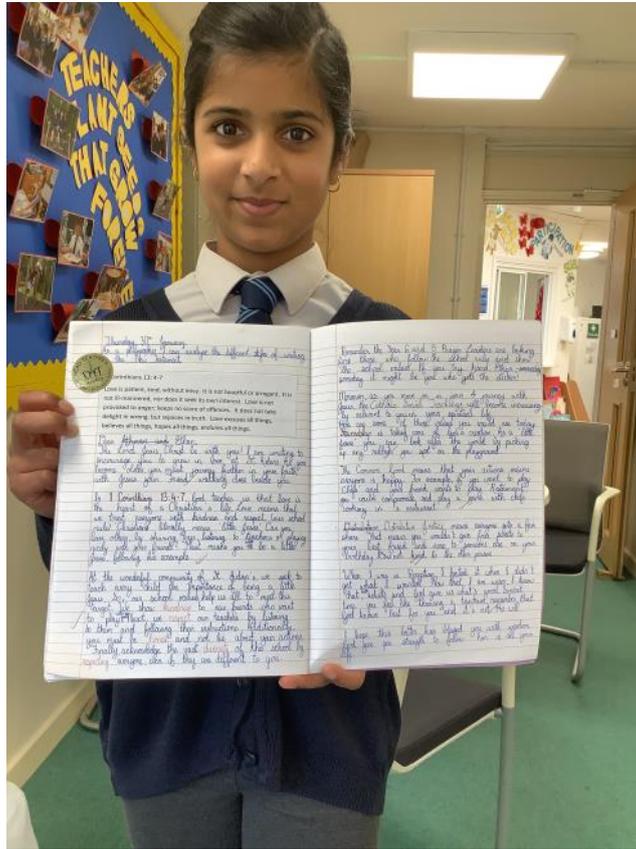


Reception learning this week



Pen Pals

As part of our work to prepare for Mental Health Week, the children in different year groups have pen pals. Here are some wonderful examples of letters from Y5 and Y6 children sent to younger pupils.



Thursday 30th January
As a philosophy I can analyse the different styles of writing
in the New Testament

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7
Love is patient, kind, without envy. It is not boastful or arrogant. It is not ill-mannered, nor does it seek its own interest. Love is not provoked to anger; keeps no score of offences. It does not take delight in wrong, but rejoices in truth. Love excuses all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Dear Aishan and Ethan,
The Lord Jesus Christ be with you! I am writing to encourage you to grow in love at St. Aidan's. As you become older, you must journey further in your faith with Jesus your friend walking close beside you.

In 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, God teaches us that love is the heart of a Christian's life. Love means that we treat everyone with kindness and respect (our school rules). Christians literally means 'little Jesus'. Can you love others, by sharing toys, listening to teachers or playing nicely with your friends? That means you are a little Jesus, following his example.

At the wonderful community of St. Aidan's we seek to teach every child the importance of being a little Jesus. So, our school values help us all to meet this target. We show kindness to new friends who want to play. Next, we respect our teachers by listening to them and following their instructions. Additionally, you must be honest and not lie about your actions. Finally acknowledge the vast diversity of this school by respecting everyone, even if they are different to you.

Remember the Year 6 and 5 Prayer Leaders are looking for those who follow the school rules and show the school values. If you try hard, Ethan, ~~somebody~~ somebody it might be you who gets the sticker!

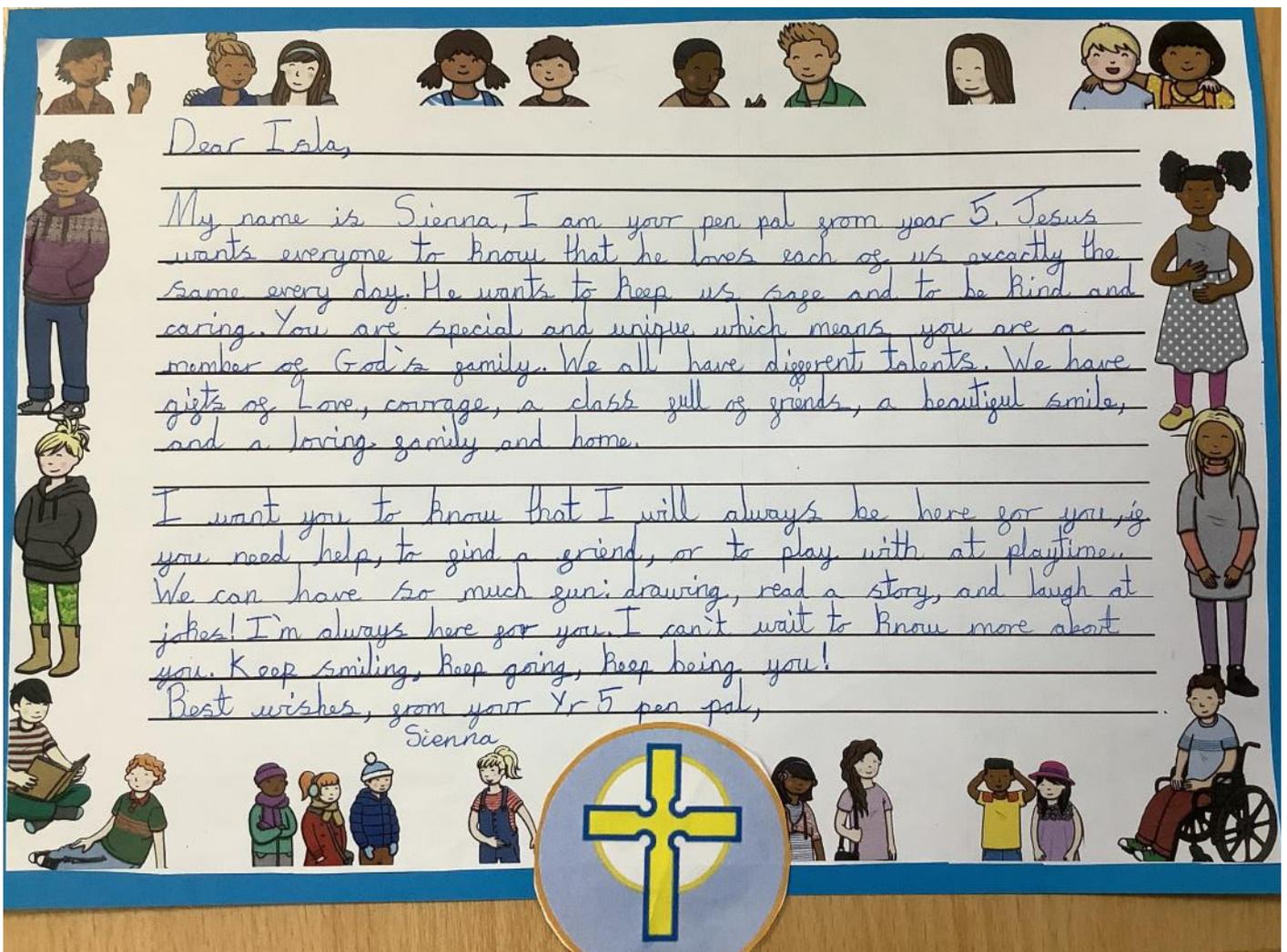
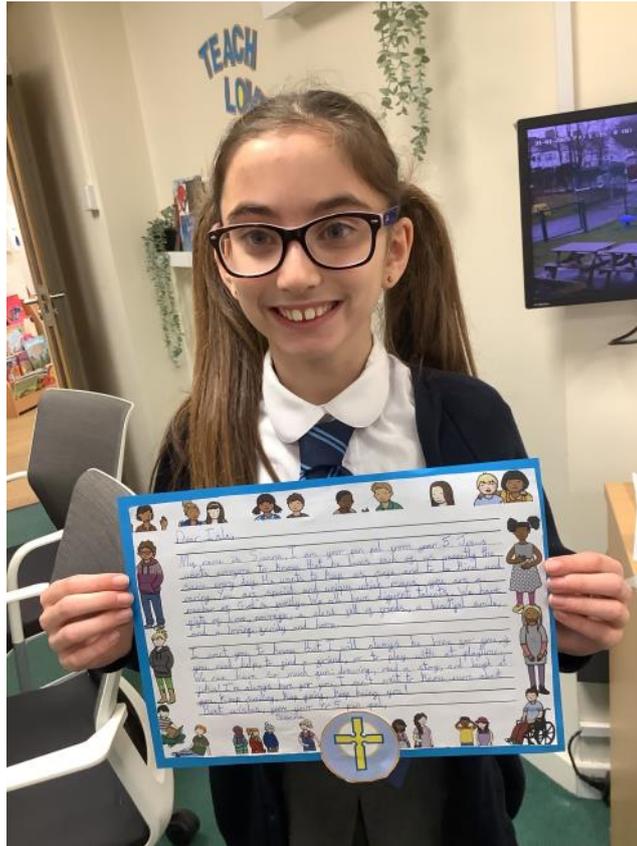
Moreover, as you move on in your journey with Jesus, the Catholic Social Teachings will become increasingly relevant to you in your spiritual life. Here are some of those values you could use today:

- Stewardship is taking care of God's creation. As a little Jesus you can look after the world by picking up any rubbish you spot on the playground.
- The Common Good means that your actions ensure everyone is happy. For example, if you want to play 'Restaurant' and your friend wants to play 'Restaurant', you could compromise and play a game with chefs cooking in a restaurant.
- Distributive Justice means everyone gets a fair share. That means you wouldn't give four sweets to your best friend and none to someone else on your birthday. Be not kind to the other person.

When I was in Reception I hated it when I didn't get what I wanted. Now that I am wiser, I know that God and God give us what's good. Sometimes you feel like throwing a tantrum, remember that God knows best for you and it's not His will.

I hope this letter has blessed you with wisdom. God give you strength to follow him in all your life.

Pen Pals Continued

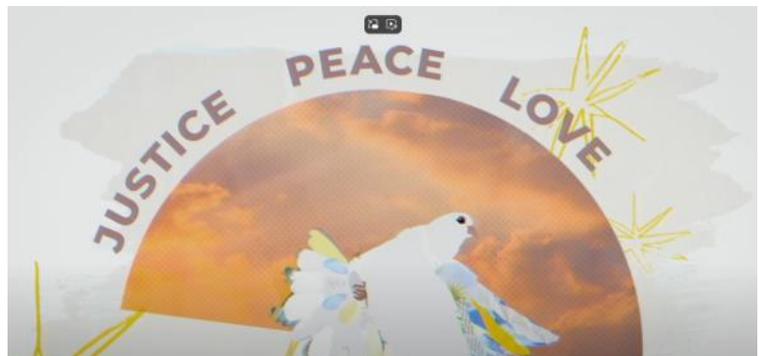
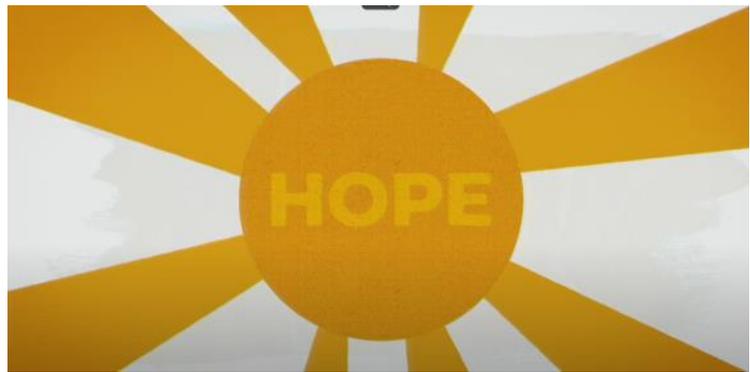


Jubilee Year - 'Pilgrims of Hope'

As we celebrate the Year of 'Pilgrims of hope,' the prayer leaders would like the children of St. Aidan's to design a special 'St. Aidan's Pilgrims of hope' logo.

The prayer leaders will then chose one logo to be made into a display in our hall.

Your designs need to be given to your teacher by 13.02.25.



Friendship Ambassadors

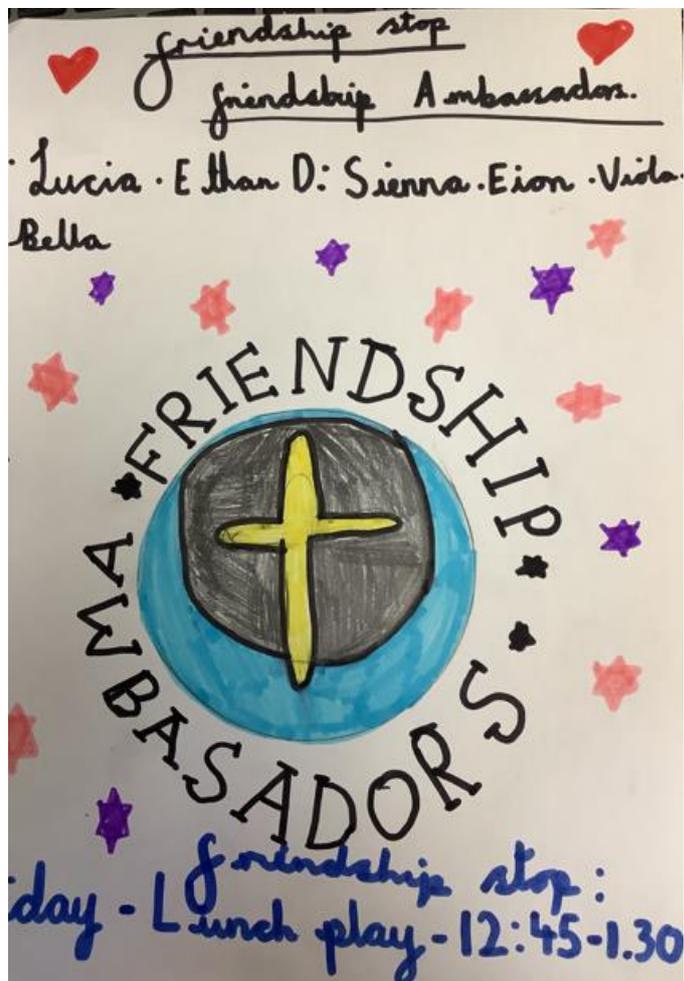
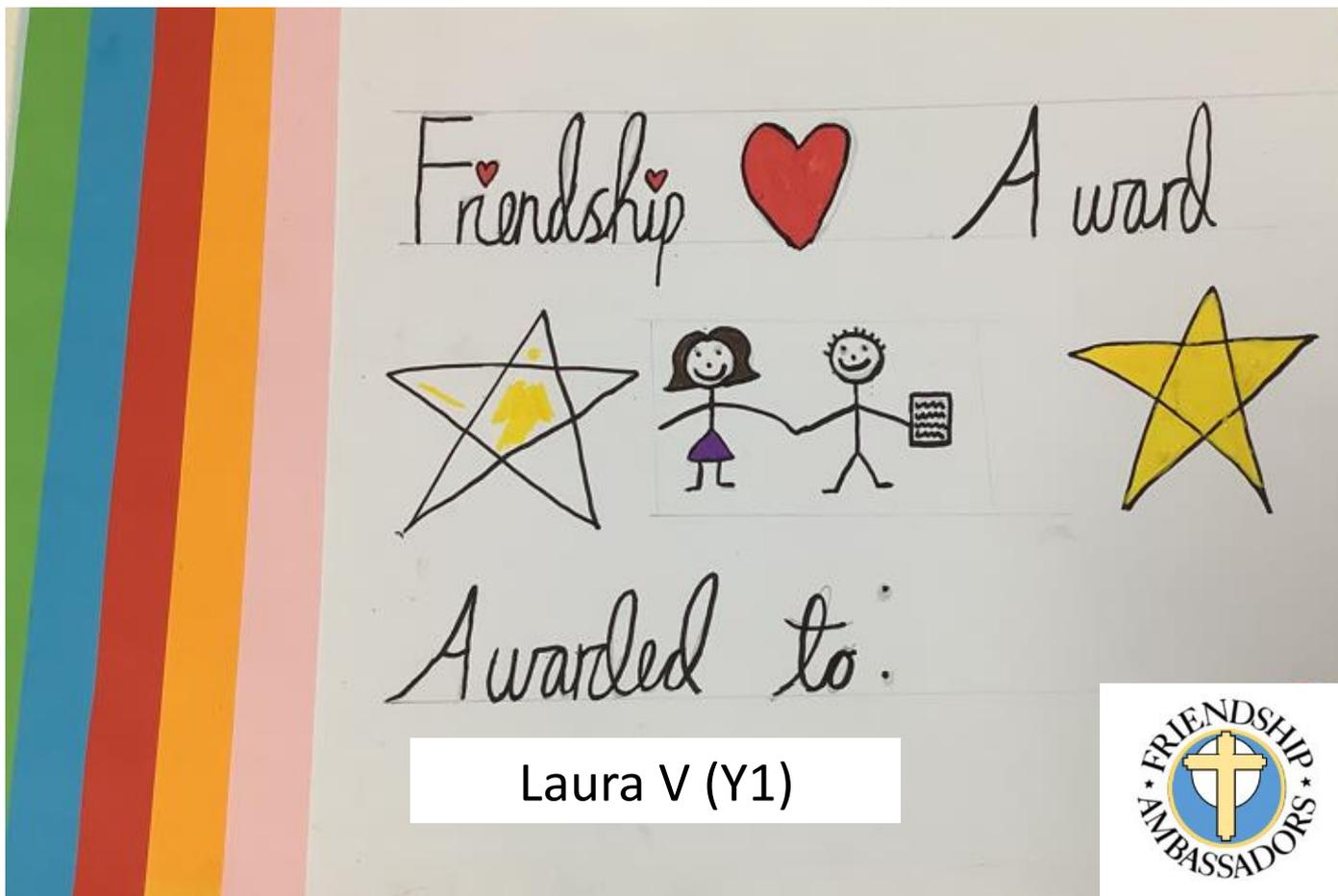


On Thursday, the Friendship Ambassadors met to design a Friendship Certificate. They will be awarding a certificate each week to children showing examples of being a great friend.

The children have decided they are going to run a friendship club at lunchtimes.



Friendship Ambassadors



Wonderful Work This Week



The Trojans Captured!

Dear Brothers in arms,

Put down your swords, throw away your spears, listen to my cunning plan. We are now weary, we have fought long enough, we have lost enough soldiers this our chance to beat the Trojans once and for all! The cowardly, sneaky, hidden Trojans can't even fight like real soldiers! This will guarantee us to beat them! Athena can help us!

We will build a giant, wooden horse - built from the silver birch trees that line the coast. The silly Trojans won't even have a clue that we have not surrendered! The horse would be hollow, and will have a trapdoor underneath it. Whilst the drunken Trojans are partying, we will be waiting in the darkness, for the Trojans to fall asleep and then we will hold a torch high in the air which will be held by... Menelaus! This will signal our fleet - who will be hiding behind the Island of Tenedos. 30 of our strongest, most courageous men in Greece will hide inside the horse and then burn the city to the ground!

A note will say that it is an offering to the goddess Athena and they will take it into their city; we will escape from the horse and open the gates; our fleet will run into the city and kill the Trojans. The smoke will poison the Trojans and they will die a short and painful death! We will take Helen back to Sparta and live happily ever after! Troy will be left in flames! Who's with me? **THE TROJANS WILL PERISH!!! SPARTA WILL WIN THE WAR!!!**

The Speech of Victory

My dear, fellow Spartans! Lend me your ears, and listen to my cunning plan. Many of our friends, brothers and army have been slain, slaughtered, even butchered! For ten long, hard, tricky years, we have fought. Our sweat, our blood, our tears..... Well, you fearless, brave, courageous warriors; it's time to get back our reputation, and win that war!!! I imagine, we shall inspire folklore, and shall be victorious evermore!

Here is my plan: We will build a gargantuan, wooden horse. A horse? Made from wood? What if the Trojans burn it? I hear you ask. Well, we will pin a note prominently on the horse, saying it's for Athena. To honour Athena, they shall place the sculpture in the centre of Troy. At midnight, all the adults will be drunk, and the children will be asleep. We will sneak silently out of the animal's belly. We shall burn the city of Troy. Nobody knows our fantastic plan.....

Only our 30 bravest men will hide inside the horse. Menelaus, you shall be given the spectacular honour of holding the bright flare, which will be our signal to strike.

What do you say to this genius idea, which the goddess Athena has planted in my mind? Speak now, people! Folks, this is the only plan we've got! This is our last chance, our victory; this is the final straw!

Little will the Trojans know who's the most victorious.....

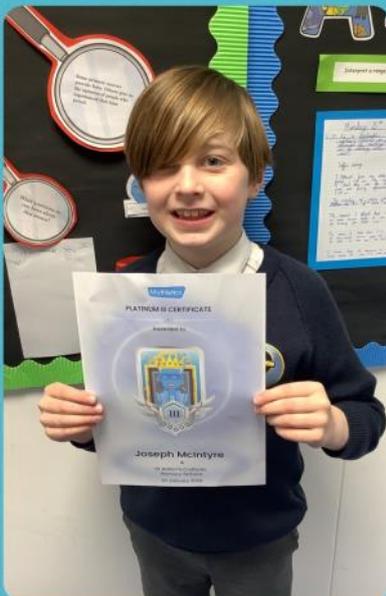
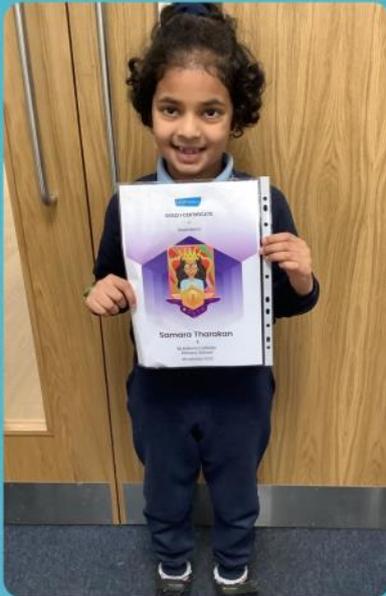
Archers, put away your arrows. Soldiers, throw away your swords. And build my horse!!!



This Week's Awards at St Aidan's



As the week comes to a close, we would like to celebrate all those children who have achieved something amazing. From football to swimming to mathletics, our children never fail to amaze us with their talents.



- St Mary: Cora P
- St Francis: Anna P
- St Joseph: Chiara N
- St Bernadette: Rocco C
- St Theresa: Darcey O
- St Peter: Reuben O
- St Paul: Isaac F



- St Mary: Jax C
- St Francis: Evelyn M
- St Joseph: Ayda S
- St Bernadette: Florence D
- St Theresa: Betsy H
- St Peter: Thaddeus O
- St Paul: Aidan F