



COVID update

Following the new 'Living with COVID' guidelines from the Government this week, we have received the following advice from Haringey Public Health.

We will continue to:

- Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 (see below)

Pupils, staff and other adults should continue to self-isolate when required to do so.

- They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).
- If anyone in school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they should be sent them home and they should follow public health advice.
- If a staff member or a child experiences a fever, a cough or a loss of sense of smell/taste then they should self-isolate and book a PCR test.
- If a staff member or a child experiences wider symptoms of COVID-19 (sore throat, headache, runny nose, headache, excessive sneezing) then they should take a lateral flow test before returning to school.
- This testing requirement will be reviewed when access to free testing is ended nationally on the 1st April

Parents' consultation meetings

Parents' consultation meetings for the main school are being held via SchoolCloud on the evenings of Wednesday 2nd and Wednesday 9th March.

A letter with instructions of how to book your appointment has been shared along with this edition of Headlines for parents. The system is now live and bookings can be made.

Whilst we will be planning to move to 'in person' meetings, or possibly a hybrid model in future, we have decided for these meetings to be held virtually on this occasion. We will then take feedback from parents on their preferences and plan accordingly.

We are very aware that virtual meetings do not allow the opportunity for parents to review their children's books, so we are planning for all children in the main

school to bring their books home this Friday. Please ensure that your child has a suitable bag to take their books home in.

As I am sure that you will understand, it is **essential** that all books are returned on Monday morning with the children.

In a trial last term, the books for all the children in Orange class were sent home for a weekend and **every single one** was returned on time. Please ensure that you meet the high standard set by parents in Orange class! Children with books missing will have their learning disrupted, so we are looking for your support with ensuring all books are returned as requested.

Meeting for parents of children in Nursery are being held during the day of 9th March, when the Nursery will be closed for the day. Arrangement for these meetings have already been shared by the Nursery team.

World Book Day

We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March on site this year, after two disrupted years.

Children (and staff!) are welcome to dress up a book character for the day if they choose to, and there is no requirement for children to wear uniform.

As was discussed with children in assembly this morning, we are not looking for parents to go out and buy a costume for this event, as this does not fit with our ethos as an eco-school. Rather, we are looking for children to be creative and use or adapt items that you may already have at home.

We have taken the decision to cancel swimming for Indigo class on this one day due to the challenges of combining swimming with dressing up!

All children will be taking part in a range of activities during the day to celebrate books and reading for pleasure. Children in Y1-6 will be bringing home a piece of World Book Day bunting to decorate on Friday. We are also very excited to be hosting an author, who will be leading a workshop for Years 4-6. These classes will be receiving further details before the end of the week.

Purple class fundraising project

I have been enormously impressed with the fundraising project that the children in Year 6 have been working on. With very minimal guidance, they have worked together to prepare this opportunity to raise money for Save the Children, and they

presented their ideas clearly to the school in assemblies this morning.

Purple Class are supporting a charity called Save the Children, who provide children around the world with education, medication and food. We are fundraising for their Afghanistan appeal. To do this, we are holding an art competition, where children draw a character/scene from their favourite book. It will be a £1 entry and you can enter up to 3 times. The winning drawing will get pulled out of a hat. The winner will receive a children's hamper and there will be a category for KS1 and KS2. Their illustrations will be displayed at school. This event will take place from Monday 28th February to Friday that week.

Purple Class are also holding a sponsored walk around the local area. You can also donate via our Just Giving page:

<https://justgiving.com/fundraising/purpleclass>.

Miranda and Rothko, Year 6

Children from Purple class will distribute templates for this competition to all classes on Friday. They will be accepting art work and entrance fees at the school gate every morning next week.

Update on the School Garden

Many thanks to Dan Borchard for the work he has completed in the school garden. The apple trees have been pruned and work completed to upgrade the raised beds. We are looking forward to these being filled with the many seedlings that are currently being grown in the greenhouse.

Many thanks to the parents who are currently supporting this; it will be a very exciting few months when we can see all this work coming to fruition.

Staffing update

After many years of working at St. Aidan's, Barbara Hynes has now retired from her role as a School Meals Supervisory Assistant due to ill health. I am sure you will join me in sending Barbara all good wishes.

Toyan Stewart will be finishing his Kickstart placement at St. Aidan's next week, with Wednesday being his last day. Toyan has been gaining experience as our Site Manager's Assistant. I am sure you will join me in sending all good wishes to Toyan.

Review of behaviour policy

We are currently reviewing our behaviour policy, as noted in our school development plan this year. This is not due to concerns about behaviour, but to ensure our practice is informed by evidence and underpinned by our school values. We are looking to promote good relationships, with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn and to work together in an effective and considerate manner.

As a result, we have reviewed the way in which we promote positive behaviour in the classroom and some of the systems that may previously have been

familiar to you may have changed. Please ask your child for more details.

Once our work on finalising our policy is complete, this will be reviewed by the Governing Body and then shared with parents.

Do you know the school's governors?

Over the next few editions of Headlines, we'll be profiling members of the Governing Body to give parents information about who they are and what they do for the school.

Helen Froggatt: Parent Governor



Helen has been a governor at the school for 8 years and Chair of the Governing Body for the last 5 years. Her youngest child (Katie) is still a St Aidan's pupil, whilst her older children have moved on to secondary schools, having previously attended St Aidan's. Helen sits on the Standards committee, which monitors teaching and learning, and on the Resources committee, which is responsible for finance and site issues. Helen is also actively involved in education in Haringey more broadly - she is a local leader of governance, chairs the forum for primary schools in the West of Haringey, and sits on the board for Alternative Provision in the borough, supporting children who can't access mainstream education.

The thing Helen has missed most over the last two years has been attending music concerts and assemblies, and watching the children showcase their talents in person.

Nick Buzzard: Co-opted Governor



Nick has been a governor for over 17 years (first as a Parent Governor while his son was at the school) and then as a Co-opted governor. Nick has been the Vice-chair for over 11 years. He acts as 'mentor' to all

new governors, introducing them to the activities and workings of the Governing Body.

Nick had a career in design and publishing and was responsible for the school stationery which he produced soon after his son joined the school. He is also responsible for styling and putting together all the school policies and due to this sits on all the committees to ensure they are all kept up to date. He is the Music link governor so, in normal times, has the pleasure of attending as many musical events at the school as he can.

Alan Burns: Co-opted Governor



Alan has been a member of St Aidan's Governing Body for 7 years, serving his initial 4-year term as a parent governor, and then since 2019 as a co-opted governor.

Alan is also the Chair of the Resources Committee, which is responsible for finance and site issues, and it is Alan's experience in senior financial positions in a wide range of businesses that make him a valuable member of both this committee and the Governing Body at the school more generally.

Alan's 3 children all attended St Aidan's for a number of years, and as such he has close recent connections with the school in addition to his involvement in the Governing Body.

Alan started his career at KPMG, where he qualified as a Chartered Accountant. After several years Expedia, he has more recently served as Chief Financial Officer at the Photobox/Moonpig Group, Spotahome and GoCo plc, and is currently in that role

at TodayTix (a leading theatre ticketing platform on Broadway and in London's West End).

Zaha Hadid

This term, children across the school have been studying the work of the architect Zaha Hadid.

Each Spring term we have a whole school focus on the work of an individual as part of our art curriculum, and have previously studied Henri Matisse and Romero Britto.

Each class has studied the work of Zaha Hadid and then completed their own practical project. I have had many conversations about biomimicry with children this term and seen this reflected in their work. I will be posting pictures of the outcomes of their projects on the website soon.

Congratulations Milton!

Congratulations to Milton Cooper, ex- St. Aidan's pupil and now in Year 9. He recently competed in the National U15 athletics indoor championships in Sheffield and won a gold medal in the 300m. Well done Milton! We are hoping that he will be supporting our sports day at Finsbury Park track in the summer term.