



### Welcome to our new staff

I am sure you will join me in giving a warm welcome to Michael Speed, our new Deputy Headteacher and Lucy Spreckley, our new Inclusion Manager SENCo. Both Michael and Lucy bring a wide range of experience to their new posts at St. Aidan's.

Lucy's usual working days will be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Michael will be teaching three days a week. He will be covering staff for PPA and leadership time for two of these days and will be teaching Orange class each Friday.

### Farewell to Tessa

Thank you to everyone who contributed to saying goodbye to Tessa Padel, who has now retired from St. Aidan's. The families who wrote messages, children who brought flowers, classes that made cards and flowers from the PSA contributed to a memorable and emotional last day of term!

There was a clear synergy in our thinking. Tessa planted a Juneberry tree, which is just on the left of the entrance to school as a gift from her. We also arranged for a cherry tree to be planted in the school garden to remember the contribution that Tessa has made to school life at St. Aidan's.

### Haringey Music Festival

On the evening of the last day of term, the school choir preformed in the Haringey Music Festival at the Royal Albert Hall. It was a fabulous evening, showcasing talent from across the borough. I know that the parents who were able to attend were really impressed with the performances. For those who were not able to attend, there is a small taster of the evening [here](#).

Congratulations to the St. Aidan's choir for their contribution to the massed choir. The next Haringey Music Festival is due to be held in 2024!

### Come and see the school garden

The school garden team are holding a drop in session this Friday morning, 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Please drop by and spend some time having a look at the fabulous work they have been doing if you are dropping your children to school.

### School value

The school value we will be focussing on this half term is community.

### Composer of the half term.

This half term, we will be learning about the composer Handel and will be listening to Zadok the Priest in assemblies. Football fans might recognise this music

as a version of it is used as the theme of the UEFA Champions League. Handel wrote Zadok the Priest for the coronation of King George II in 1727. The piece has been performed at the coronation service of every British monarch ever since, so it seems appropriate to study it as the Queen's platinum jubilee approaches. The words are taken from the King James Bible.

### After School Clubs- Summer term

After school clubs for the summer term start the week commencing Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April. Please ensure that all payments for clubs are made by the end of this week.

### Payment for school meals

The cost of school meals for this half term is £67.50. Please ensure payment is made via SchoolMoney if you are required to pay for your child's school meals.

### Do you know the school's governors?

Over the last few editions of Headlines, we have been profiling members of the Governing Body to give parents information about who they are and what they do for the school.



### **Jetta Norton: Co-opted Governor**

Having worked in Further Education for a number of years, Jetta became a Co-opted Governor nearly 15 years ago; quite a change from working with 16+ to being involved with under 11s, but one which she has enjoyed ever since.

During this time, Jetta has been a member, and previously Chair, of the Resources committee. She was Vice- Chair of the Governors before becoming Chair for a number of years before handing over to Helen 5 years ago. Since then, she has been the Link governor for Safeguarding and Early years. Throughout, she has been involved with groups and committees working across Haringey.

Jetta plans to retire from the Governing Body at the end of this academic year; however, having two grandchildren attending St Aidan's, means that happily she will still be in touch with the school.



### **Sophia Jones: Parent Governor**

Sophia has worked in education for 20 years as a Drama & Expressive Arts teacher, leader and lecturer. She has four children, and her youngest child (Luke) left St Aidan's last year for secondary school. As a governor for just over two and a half years, she sits on the care and communication committee and the wellbeing and BAME working parties.

She enjoys her role as Art and Design link governor, where she gets to see how the children express their creativity through various mediums and how this shapes their overall learning. Sophia missed not being able to go on-site and see their work, so this year was especially nice. She still trains in education and wellbeing. With her experience in SEND, she also coaches families impacted by neurodiversity.



### **Bryony Howe: Local Authority Governor**

I have been a governor at St Aidan's for over 20 years. I started as a parent governor when my daughter was at the school - and she's now working. I've since become a Local Authority governor. I currently sit on the Care and Communication Committee, am Chair of the Standards Committee and am link governor for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and inclusion, an area in which I've worked in schools for most of my working life. More recently I've become link governor for BAME achievement.

Part of a governor's role is to ensure that the school is supporting all its children. Sometimes this involves asking more difficult questions but, more often than not, I have found that St Aidan's is a step ahead of me. I find I learn a lot which I can share professionally.

### **Update from the PSA**

#### **Evening for 'new' parents - St Aidan's PSA :**

What we do, how we do it and how you can get involved!

Please note the change of date- **Wednesday 27th April 7.30-9pm** (in the school hall)

This will be an informal catch-up to chat and have a drink, maybe meet some of the parents in your class group who are not usually at the school gate.

In 'normal' times, the PSA holds this event at the start of every academic year to meet parents of children in Red class and the Nursery, as well as other families that are new to the school. This is a 'catch up' session now that we are able to meet together again on site. Parents from Nursery, Red and Orange classes are particularly welcome to attend, along with other families who are new to the school.

PSA reps will be on hand to help answer any questions you may have and discuss any fundraising ideas you may have.

#### **2nd Hand Uniform sale, this Friday.**

Please drop off any outgrown school uniforms to the office before Friday. You can also bring in clothing suitable for PE kit, and accessories such as book bags etc.

#### **Cake Sale, this Friday.**

There is a Cake Sale this week to benefit Indigo Class. Don't forget to bring your spare change on Friday!

#### **Quiz Night- Thursday evening, 19th May (in the school hall)**

Book the sitter, Quiz night is back!  
More information to follow shortly

#### **School Disco- \*\*\*DJ wanted\*\*\***

We would love to hold a school disco this year, the kids had a fabulous time at the last one in 2019. If we can keep costs down by featuring a few of our own parents/carers as superstar DJ all the better!

If you are interested, please get in touch with the school office asap so we lock in a suitable date.

#### **Opportunity to support research at UCL**

We have been approached by Professor Niko Steinbeis from University College London to collaborate on a research project. The project looks at how prosocial behaviour develops from 3-6 years of age. Prosocial behaviour, like sharing, helping and comforting make up an enormous part of a child's interaction with their peers and it is a very important predictor for present and future well-being and social connectedness. I can imagine that this would be of some interest.

Children and parents are invited to come to UCL to participate in a series of games and tests. To be able to actually look at development, children will be invited to come back a year later for a repeat of those games and tests. The project starts in March 2022 and children between the ages of 3 and 6 years are invited to participate.

The team, which is based at the Developmental Change and Plasticity Lab at UCL, is a young, dynamic and engaging group of researchers headed by Dr. Steinbeis (<http://www.dcp-lab.org/>)/[www.dcp-lab.org/](http://www.dcp-lab.org/)

lab.org). We are very excited by this opportunity and hope that you will share our enthusiasm.

Please contact Dr Steinbeis directly ([dcp-lab@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:dcp-lab@ucl.ac.uk)) if you would like to receive more information about taking part.

Dr Steinbeis will also be giving a talk to parents of our school on child mental health and use that opportunity to introduce the study in some more detail. The event will take place at **9am on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April** at a coffee morning. All parents and carers are very welcome to attend.

### **Ramadan**

Many thanks to Rugina, our Red class teacher, who led an assembly on Ramadan this morning.

Please let us know if your child is currently fasting so that we can support them as required.

### **YMCA fun run**

The YMCA city and North Fun Run and Festival is going to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> May in Priory Park.

There will be 1 mile races for children aged 3+, as well as the usual 10k race. Places can be booked via [this link](#).