



## **Thanks to the PSA**

Following on from their recent AGM, I wanted to extend my thanks once again to the PSA committee and class reps.

As you will see from the minutes attached at the end of Headlines, the PSA provides support for some key provision at St. Aidan's, including funding our school counsellor and whole class instrumental tuition for Blue Class. In addition, they have funded the purchase of new toilets for Red Class. Since their last meeting they have also agreed to fund curriculum subscriptions for each class, so that we can ensure our excellent curriculum offer is sustained and enhanced.

Thank you for your support which is appreciated by staff, children and the whole school community.

## **SEND Coffee Morning**

Please join us on **Friday 11th November at 8.45 - 10am** for our first St. Aidan's SEND coffee morning of the year. There will be a representative from Haringey SENDIASS team (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service) who will tell us about their services. Then there will be an opportunity to talk, socialise and share experiences with other parents and carers from the school.

Please let us know if you would like to attend by clicking on the link below:

<https://forms.gle/gunRyGYJVP4fKfOf6>



Thinkuknow is the education programme from the National Crime Agency's Child Protection Command CEOP (NCA-CEOP) whose aim is to protect children and young people from sexual abuse online.

For more information, advice and guidance, visit their [website](#) here.

## **Online gaming**

Online games are social activities, and most have features that allow children to chat with others whilst they play.

The PEGI (Pan European Game Information) rating system can be a useful tool to help you decide what online games are appropriate for your child. For more information on the PEGI system and other factors to consider before deciding what's suitable, read 'Gaming: what's appropriate for your child'.

Gaming is popular with both children and adults! If your child is gaming, you may have some questions about how to keep them safer. If so, check out – 'Gaming: what parents need to know'.

For a guide on the apps, sites and games your child might enjoy, visit: [Net Aware](#).

## **Half Term and INSET Day**

We wish everybody a very happy half term and a restful break. Just a reminder that we have an INSET day on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October, so children will return to school on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November**.

## **Anti-Bullying Week**

Anti-Bullying Week 2022 takes place from **Monday 14th – Friday 18th November** with the theme, 'Reach Out'. It is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, which is based at leading children's charity, the National Children's Bureau. This year they have worked with over 300 children and young people to decide the theme.

Their message is clear. Bullying affects millions of lives every year. But it doesn't have to be this way. If we challenge it, we can change it. And it starts by reaching out. It takes courage, but it can change lives. So, this Anti-Bullying Week, let's come together and reach out to stop bullying.

Odd Socks Day will take place on the first day of Anti-Bullying Week, **Monday 14th November** to help raise awareness for Anti-Bullying Week.

We will also be raising money for Children in Need on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November** by encouraging everyone to dress up and drop coins into a bucket.



### Update from the PSA

St Aidan's is a green school, so we try to keep communications paperless where possible. Most PSA news will be published through the fortnightly Headlines, and also on our noticeboard by the main gate.

### St Aidan's Christmas Party, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December

In a change from the Christmas Fair, the PSA is this year going to throw a Christmas party for everyone on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December** from 5 – 8pm. Here's how it will work:

Disco in the school hall: 5-6pm for KS1; 6.15-7.15pm for KS2

Meanwhile, outside on the fairy-lit ball-court, we will throw a party for parents and carers from 5-8pm, where we will eat, drink and be merry, with mulled wine, food, music, bottle tombola, class crafts for sale, and more...

Watch this space for more details, and be ready to help out when your class reps ask you!

### Christmas Card Designs

Designs have now been loaded on the Class Fundraising website and you will get your personalised order forms in your kids book bags **THIS WEEK**.

This year the process is much simpler – log in to your own page using the personalised link on your order form and order your children's design on cards/ tags/ wrapping paper/ mugs/ bags and pay direct.

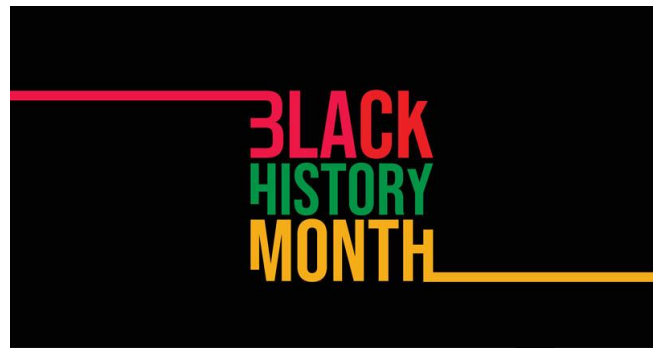
The profits are then passed on directly to the PSA! The more you buy, the more money is raised for the school, so how many early Christmas presents can you tick off your list??!!

*All orders must be placed by midday on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October** to receive a bonus of £200 to the school!*

Any problems/lost forms, please contact Carrie directly on [carrievacher@hotmail.com](mailto:carrievacher@hotmail.com)

### School Photographs

We would like to inform all parents and carers that individual school photographs are being taken of children on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**.



Black History Month is celebrated each October at St Aidan's. This year, each class researched and celebrated the contribution that Black people have made to creative arts. Classes shared their learning in a special assembly after.

Many thanks to Sherry and her team for making a delicious meal for Black History Month, which was very much enjoyed last week.

### David Andrew House Boards Competition

Through the month of December, David Andrew will display 50 house boards in our local neighbourhood to promote their sponsorship of our school PSA, and to spread some seasonal cheer. For this, David Andrew will donate £1000 to the PSA. We are running a drawing competition, and the winning entry will be featured on the house boards.

A template and instructions will be sent home in bookbags on Friday, and entries must be handed in to the school office by **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November**.

### PSA Handbook and Chair's Report

There is a new PSA handbook for 2022/23, with up-to-date info, and ways in which you can get involved in the life of the school. It's attached here, along with the PSA Chair's report for the AGM that took place on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

### Parent Consultation Meetings

Meetings are taking place on the evenings of **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November** for the main school, and during the school day of **9<sup>th</sup> November** for the Nursery.

If you haven't yet, please book your appointment as soon as possible.



# Welcome to the PSA

(Parent School Association)

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## What is the PSA?

The PSA (Parent School Association) is a parent- and carer-led registered charity, which works closely with the school by fundraising to provide additional resources and experiences for the children of St Aidan's.

### Who is in the PSA?

As parents and carers of children attending the school, you are automatically members of the PSA, along with the school staff.

### Organisation

The St Aidan's PSA is organised as follows:

- We have an elected Committee, consisting of the Chair, the Treasurer, the Secretary (all of whom are parents), two staff representatives, at least one school governor, and...
- Each class has one or more Class Representatives, who attend PSA meetings and liaise with parents and carers to share information and to help make things happen.
- All parents, carers and staff at St Aidan's are automatically members of the PSA and are welcome to attend all meetings and events. It is, however, your choice how much you contribute in terms of time and donations. You can do as little or as much as you want with no pressure. For fund-raising events, we like as many parents and carers as possible to be involved, as requested and guided by Class Reps.

The Committee is elected each year at the Annual General Meeting, which takes place in the first half of the Autumn term.

Class Reps are responsible for organising a class cake-sale once a year and coordinating thankyou cards for teaching staff at the end of Christmas and Summer terms. They encourage and organise parents and carers to volunteer at our various fundraising events throughout the year.

If you have any fundraising ideas, or would like to organize a particular event or initiative, please don't be shy or wait to be asked! You don't have to be a Class Rep to be involved. Make yourself known to your Class Rep, or to the Committee (see our contact details below). Our Christmas card project operates on this basis, for example.

### When does the PSA meet?

Meetings take place once every half a term, in the school hall. Please do come along; it's a great way to find out more about what happens behind the scenes at school and how you can be involved. Dates and times for the meetings are posted in the fortnightly Headlines newsletters as well as on the school noticeboard at the front gate.

### How will I hear from the PSA?

We share our news and information in the fortnightly newsletter Headlines, which is emailed out by the school office. We also have a noticeboard by the front gate.



# Fundraising

Cuts in state funding mean that the fundraising efforts of the PSA are more important than ever. It's a sad reality that the sorts of things that the Government once funded (and which many people think are still Government- or Council-funded) are now in fact funded by the PSA.

In 2020 the PSA Chair reported that for the first time in many years, St Aidan's had formally declared a budget deficit due to the shortfall in Government funding. The predicted deficit for this year is c.£78k.

So the school's finances are extremely challenging: the combination of rising energy prices, costs rising with inflation not matched by funding increases, and the recently announced £18bn cut to public services, mean that the situation is not going to improve. We all recognise how very challenging things are for our families and that many families may not be able to contribute, but any financial support will help. We're very lucky to have an enthusiastic and engaged parent/carer community, and we welcome participation – both financial and practical – from new parents to the school.

## How is the money spent?

Last year, the money raised by the PSA through donations and several fundraising events helped to fund the refurbishment of the toilets in Red Class, the provision of the school counsellor, whole-class instrumental tuition (WCIT) for Y4, ICT support, and subscriptions to Mathematics Mastery, Target Tracker, and the Islington Educational Library Service.

In addition, the PSA also gives an annual grant of £6,200 to the school, which covers fruit, books and other needful materials for each class, items for the school garden, and Christmas gifts for KS1 pupils. The PSA also funds other annual school expenses including after-school clubs, play-pod equipment and music resources. All of this funding amounts to around £20k.

## How to donate

In addition to our various fundraising events we are continuing to request voluntary donations from parents and carers. We are hugely appreciative of all such donations, and we maximise their impact by claiming Gift Aid and by registering with Just Giving and the Charitable Aid Foundation (CAF).

Donations can be made by Direct Debit:

Bank: HSBC

Acct Name: St Aidan's N4 Parent School Association

Sort code: 40 01 06

Acct No: 41880837

...or through our JustGiving page, which takes advantage of an additional 25% contribution from HMRC for all UK taxpayers: [www.justgiving.com/staidansschoolpsa](https://www.justgiving.com/staidansschoolpsa)

# Free money!

## Matched funding

This is a scheme whereby companies match and donate the amount raised by your fundraising efforts on behalf St Aidan's PSA. It means that the PSA, as a registered charity, effectively receives much more than the amount it actually takes from a fundraising event.

If you work for a plc, they will probably have a provision for this in place. Some companies will simply donate a discretionary amount to charitable events. Many have a yearly budget to spend on charitable giving. Our school and PSA events will be of interest to many businesses as they are local, education-based and run by the community, so fulfilling many of the criteria for their corporate tax incentive.

This is free money for us and goes directly to St Aidan's! Contact your Human Resources department and find out how they can help. We can provide a template email for you to forward onto the necessary people if it makes life easier. Please contact the PSA Chair if you would like a copy of this email.

St. Aidan's is a registered charity:

Ref no: 1131828

Name: St Aidan's N4 Parent School Association

## Fundraise as you spend

### **Easyfundraising.org.uk**

Register on this website and a percentage of your spending with the participating retailers (too many to list here) will be donated by the retailer to the PSA. It costs you nothing!

On the website, go to 'find a cause', and type in '**St Aidan's Voluntary...**' We will come up as 'St Aidan's Voluntary Controlled Primary School, Stroud Green'. From that point it's easy to create an account. The site will offer you the 'donation reminder bar', which helpfully pops up when you're shopping on a site that donates.

### **Smile.amazon.co.uk**

The PSA is also registered with Amazon Smile, which works similarly to easyfundraising. You can find us there as 'St Aidan's N4 Parent School Association'.

Simply make your Amazon purchases through this url (it will still recognize your existing Amazon account) and every purchase you make will benefit the school.



## David Andrew Estate Agents

We are delighted that this year we are once again working in partnership with David Andrew. This independently-owned estate agency, based in North London, was established in 1994 and has a network of four offices, including a local branch at 167 Stroud Green Road. Over the last decade, they have kindly supported our PSA events (including the summer and Christmas fairs) and helped all our fundraising efforts.

Over and above what David Andrew already donate to the school in return for publicity on PSA events, they also make the incredibly generous pledge that **they will donate 10% of any fee they receive** from an instruction via any staff member or parent of St Aidan's to sell or let/manage their property. This pledge also applies if the owner of the property is someone unconnected with the school, but the initial contact comes through a parent from St. Aidan's.

Obviously, this could be of enormous financial benefit to the school, so if you, or anyone you know, is moving house, please get in touch with them by calling Mark Campbell on 0207 281 2000. This offer also extends to landlords looking for an agency to let/manage their property.

If you or any contact of yours instructs David Andrew, please inform them of the connection with St Aidan's, so that we can benefit from this generous offer.

***"The St Aidan's Primary School PSA have been delighted to continue our decade-long partnership with David Andrew Estate Agents, and have especially valued their local, friendly and community-minded approach. My own family had very positive experiences both selling our previous house and buying our current house through David Andrew, so I am pleased we have been able to maintain this relationship through the agency's sponsorship of the school's PSA events."***

**Laura McGill, St. Aidan's Parent.**

David Andrew  
167 Stroud Green Road  
N4 3PZ

020 7281 2000  
[MARK@DAVIDANDREW.CO.UK](mailto:MARK@DAVIDANDREW.CO.UK)



# The School Garden

If you are relatively new to the school, you might not be aware of the garden, which is behind the ball court, to the left of the school building as you enter the front gate.

The success of this garden relies on parents and carers volunteering, and we're hoping that there are a few new people joining the school who might be interested in volunteering once in a while. Unless regularly tended, the garden becomes wildly overgrown and unusable. The children are not allowed in the garden unless under adult supervision, so it's vital that we have a strong team of helpers. The children absolutely love being in the garden and we believe it to be an incredibly important part of their learning and general wellbeing.

Classes sometimes use the garden for lessons relevant to their term's curriculum. Whole-school projects over the last couple of years have included a squash-growing competition, a sunflower competition, and planting a rainbow of spring bulbs in each class colour along one of the long beds. The quiet space on the top level of the garden is also used for breakout sessions, meetings, and an extra space for staff to enjoy their lunchbreaks.

Currently, a team of parent volunteers runs a gardening club for KS2 children on a Friday lunchtime. The children come in to dig, weed, prepare beds, sow, tidy, water and harvest their crops. The school kitchen uses their produce, including salad leaves, herbs, radishes, potatoes, squashes, courgettes, onions, leeks, tomatoes, cucumbers and raspberries in the school meals. Other parent volunteers who aren't available on Friday lunchtimes come into the garden at other times to carry out various tasks.

Volunteering involves about an hour a week. You don't need to have any gardening knowledge, you will have a team of people to support you, although support from knowledgeable gardeners is also very welcome!

Please talk to Louisa in the school office or contact Hannah Robson if you'd like to help.  
Hannah Robson: [hannahfayrobson@gmail.com](mailto:hannahfayrobson@gmail.com)



## PSA committee members 2022/23

Susie May	Chair	<a href="mailto:susie.m.may@gmail.com">susie.m.may@gmail.com</a>
Ali O'Dell	Secretary	<a href="mailto:alexandra.odell@bt.com">alexandra.odell@bt.com</a>
David Samson	Treasurer	
Kerryn Rossander	Assistant Treasurer	

### RED CLASS REPS

Rob Bradford

Ifeanyi Onwuka

Joao Barbosa

### ORANGE CLASS REPS

Daisy Zawakzki

Cam Cunnington

### YELLOW CLASS REPS

Maryna Grenfell

Tasha May

### GREEN CLASS REPS

Bronwyn Donne

Helen le Motte

Mari Gasparova

### BLUE CLASS REPS

Simon Vacher

Ela Karel

### INDIGO CLASS REPS

Nic Stacey

Jim Hinson

Rosa Hoekstra

### PURPLE CLASS REPS

Teddy Keen

Steven Gray

# Glossary for new parents

**A few things that can otherwise take ages to find out if you're a new parent:**

## **KS1**

Means Key Stage One and covers from Nursery to Year 2. This is also known as the Infant stage. Nursery and Red class (reception) are also known as the Foundation stage.

## **KS2**

Means Key Stage Two and covers Year 3 until Year 6. This is the Junior stage.

## **PSA meetings**

PSA meetings are held once every half of term in the school hall from 7.30–8.30pm

## **School Hall**

The school hall is available to hire for parties or gatherings at the weekend, at a reasonable fee that goes back into the school. Please see Louisa in the school office if you're interested.

## **PSA board**

The PSA noticeboard is on the outside railings next to the school entrance on Stapleton Hall Road.

## **Cake sales**

Each class has one cake sale per year, for which parents (and children) can make cakes to sell in the playground at 3.15pm. The money made from each cake sale goes towards a non-curricular activity for that class. The activity is chosen by the teacher. Previous activities have included class bowling outings, subsidized trips to the theatre, and visits to the park with ice creams.

## **Lost property**

Lost property is put in the trunk by the front door to the school, so that you can look for lost items at any time.

## **Summer Fair**

This is the PSA's main fundraising event of the year, and is an enormous – and joyful – collective community effort. Parents of each class group are given the responsibility to run particular stalls or attractions, for which your class reps will recruit volunteers.

## **School uniform**

You can buy school uniform and PE kit on SchoolMoney, and collect it from the school office. There are also second-hand school uniform sales throughout the year.

## **Volunteering**

The school is always delighted to have volunteers for one-to-one reading sessions with children, help in the garden, or to help on school outings (your class teacher will ask when these are coming up). Please contact your class teacher if you can help with reading once a week.



## **Acting Chair's Report, Autumn 2022**

The purpose of St Aidan's PSA is to raise much-needed money to enrich our children's education and to enhance their school experience. Since we've emerged from the various constraints of the pandemic, we are very keen to continue gathering the school community together and get everyone on board for our cause.

### The financial position

In 2020 the PSA Chair reported that for the first time in many years, St Aidan's had formally declared a budget deficit due to the shortfall in Government funding. The predicted deficit for this year is c.£78k. The message from the Chair of Governors is that the school's finances are extremely challenging: the combination of rising energy prices, costs rising with inflation not matched by funding increases, and the £18bn cut to public services announced this very week, mean that the situation is not going to improve. We all recognise how very challenging things are for our families and that many families may not be able to contribute, but any financial support will help.

### What we fund

This year, the PSA has funded the refurbishment of the toilets in Red Class, the provision of the school counsellor, whole-class instrumental tuition (WCIT) for Y4, ICT support, and subscriptions to Mathematics Mastery, Target Tracker, and the Islington Educational Library Service. In addition, the PSA also gives an annual grant of £6,200 to the school, which covers fruit, books and other needful materials for each class, items for the school garden, and Christmas gifts for KS1 pupils. The PSA also funds other annual school expenses including after-school clubs, play-pod equipment, music resources and the all-staff Christmas lunch, to the tune of c.£20k.

### Last year's fundraising

The 2021/22 academic year saw the PSA take an active role in supporting and enriching the education at St Aidan's VC Primary School. Spearheaded by the PSA, the parents, carers and the wider St Aidan's community put on several fundraising events:

Christmas fair in 2021 raised £3654.18  
Christmas card project raised around £830  
Quiz Night in May 2022 raised £944  
School disco in June 2022 raised £287  
Summer Fair in 2022 raised £7409.61

Additional funds were generated by class cakes sales, plant & produce sales from the school garden, and second-hand uniform sales. Each of these events involved a huge amount of dedication and effort, and we are extremely grateful for the enthusiasm, engagement and generosity of the school community.

We are also grateful for the ongoing sponsorship of David Andrew estate agents.

### Ongoing fundraising

In addition to these various fundraising events we are continuing to request voluntary donations from parents and carers. These can be made by Direct Debit, or through our JustGiving page. We are hugely appreciative of all such donations, and we maximise their impact by claiming Gift Aid and by





registering with Just Giving and the Charitable Aid Foundation (CAF). Another way in which the PSA has sought to benefit from charitable giving sources is by registering with Amazon Smile, enabling all friends of St Aidan's to contribute to the school – at no additional cost to them – whilst making online purchases from Amazon.

Here are the links:

[www.justgiving.com/staidansschoolpsa](http://www.justgiving.com/staidansschoolpsa)

[smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk), and find us there as 'St Aidan's N4 Parent School Association'

And our bank details:

Bank: HSBC

Acct Name: St Aidan's N4 Parent School Association

Sort code: 40 01 06

Acct No: 41880837

#### Match-funding

The PSA is also very keen to release funds that might be available through any corporate match-funding schemes, whereby companies benefit from tax incentives by matching the amount raised by a stall or an event run by the PSA. Our school and PSA events will be of interest to many businesses as they are local, education-based and run by the community, thus fulfilling many of the criteria for their corporate tax incentive.

#### Future plans

Our goal for the new academic year is to optimize our fundraising activities, and to find new fundraising opportunities (any ideas welcome). We have some exciting ideas for events in the coming year, through which we hope to fulfil the PSA's objectives as a registered charity, which are: *'to support the school and to raise funds to provide additional resources to improve the learning environment and to bring to St Aidan's a stronger sense of community, and a more effective level of parent involvement.'*

Susie May

Acting Chair since June 2022; elected Chair 6/10/22

Haringey, Here to Help

Cost of  
Living

Haringey  
LONDON

## Help for PARENTS AND CARERS this October half-term

Finding it hard to keep on top of rising living costs?

There is support available to help with family costs as well as:

ENERGY COSTS

MONEY AND DEBT

HOUSING COSTS

FOOD COSTS

Find out more by visiting our Haringey, Here to Help webpages or calling our Financial Support Helpline today:



[haringey.gov.uk/HereToHelp](https://haringey.gov.uk/HereToHelp)



020 8489 4431

### Free School Meals (FSM)

If your child is eligible for statutory FSM, or the council's extended eligibility criteria, you will receive a £15 voucher from your child's school. This can be used at a range of supermarkets to help pay for food during the October half-term.



### Haringey Warm Welcome

There is a network of inclusive, warm, and welcoming spaces across Haringey where you can go, grab a cup of tea, and meet new people.



[haringey.gov.uk/WarmWelcome](https://haringey.gov.uk/WarmWelcome)

### Half Term Fun

There are lots of free and low-cost activities, courses, and events happening across the borough for children and young people this October half-term.



[haringey.gov.uk/holiday-fun](https://haringey.gov.uk/holiday-fun)



**Haringey**  
LONDON

October

2022

Half term

**FUN**

Activities, courses  
and events for  
children and young  
people in Haringey



**£1**  
swim

for all under 16 years  
old (excluding  
Lido)



[haringey.gov.uk/holidayfun](https://haringey.gov.uk/holidayfun)



# HALLOWEEN ZOMBIE WALK

## SAT OCT 29TH

Meet at Stationers Park at 6pm (by cafe).  
Walk at 6:30 to St Mary's Tower Hornsey Village.  
7pm: Intro by Father Bruce, Ghost Stories, creepy music  
refreshment and scary cakes. Over by 8pm



**Dress to impress - zombie or halloween - or be creative!**

**DID YOU KNOW** why we dress up at Halloween? It's to scare off bad spirits. All Hallows' Eve - which became Halloween - falls on 31st October and is the day before All Hallows' Day, also known as All Saints' Day in the Christian calendar. Trick of Treat goes back to a time when rich families would give poor kids sweets and food parcels.

