



COVID update

We currently have a number of COVID cases across the school, but we currently do not have an outbreak management plan in place as the number of cases in each class has not met the threshold. I would like to thank families for the continued support they have given us in keeping our school community safe.

We have taken a prudent approach to planning all events this half term, which has meant we have not had to amend our plans as much as some other schools.

I would encourage all families to continue to complete regular testing with LFDs and to organise to have a PCR test if showing any COVID symptoms.

We received an updated recommendation from the local Public Health team this week as below:

If someone has a positive lateral flow test, followed by a negative PCR they should still isolate for 10 days from the date of onset of symptoms/date the positive test was taken (if asymptomatic), if:

- *They have any symptoms of COVID-19, however mild;*
- *They are a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case;*
- *They share a household with a confirmed COVID-19 case.*

If they continue to get positive lateral flow tests they should continue to isolate and get a second PCR test. Isolation begins on the day that the symptoms began or the day the first positive test was taken, if the person is asymptomatic.

I would recommend that parents ensure they have lateral flow devices available at home in case they are needed. Families can collect an LFD testing kit from any local pharmacy (or library). A full list of where to collect testing kits is available here: <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>. Families unable to collect one, can also be sent an LFD testing kit via post using the Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

Has your child tested positive for COVID?

It is very important that we are informed of any positive COVID tests in children as soon as possible. If you receive notification that your child has received a positive test during school hours e.g. 8am until 4pm, please call the school office on 020 8340 2352. Outside of these times, please text or leave a voicemail to 07946 174469, stating the name and class of your child.

Year 6 visit to Pendarren House

Despite some uncertainty leading up to their planned departure date, I am delighted that Purple class had the opportunity to spend a week in the Brecon Beacons last week at Pendarren House. They had the opportunity to climb Sugar Loaf mountain, go climbing, caving, canoeing, orienteering as well as listen to story teller and look after each other for the time that they were away from their families.

Many thanks to Tom, Tessa and Helen for supporting the visit.

Staffing update for the Spring term

Sara Liñares, Blue class teacher, and Guler Yasar, Learning support assistant in Indigo class, are both starting maternity leave at the end of this term. I know you will join me in wishing them all the best.

We look forward to welcoming Chloe Cheetham to our staff team in the New Year. Chloe is an experienced teacher and will be working in Blue class from January.

Passwords for Google Classrooms

All children in Years 1 to 6 have had reminders of their passwords sent home. Homework is now being set on Google Classroom for these classes.

Online safety- please discuss with your child

Today our computing subject leader, Sally Dalati, took assemblies to remind children of the SMART approach to online safety, details of which can be found [here](#).

It would be very helpful if you could reinforce this message through regular discussion with your child.

Governors' report

During each Autumn term, the Governing Body look back on the last academic year at St Aidan's and produce a report to reflect on what we have achieved. This report for 2020-21 has now been shared on our website and can be accessed [here](#).

Music performances

It has been a particularly music-filled week. Blue class and some children in Indigo class recorded their clarinet and trumpet WCIT concert yesterday. This will be shared with parents via a video link.

Children in KS2 also had the first opportunity to attend a music concert yesterday in a very long time, when pupils of our guitar teacher, Carlos, performed for us. Well done to Lily, Uma, Amelia, Laura and Callum.

Christmas Service

Sadly, following discussion with Father Patrick, we have decided not to hold our Christmas Service this year, which is usually held in Holy Trinity church.

Children in KS2 classes will be recording the carols they have been learning recently. These performances will be shared with parents next week.

Nativity performance

Children in Nursery, Red, Orange and Yellow classes will be performing their nativity performance tomorrow. This is being filmed by the staff team and will be shared with parents early next week.

Christmas parties

Each class will be holding a Christmas party next week. Please look out for details from class teachers.

Cycling league

Thanks to the children in year 4 and 5 who competed in the Haringey cycling league at Ducketts Common on Friday. The staff who supported you were impressed by your sporting behaviour and your fantastic results!

Cinderella- a virtual opportunity

Many thanks to St. Aidan's parent Clare Plested, who has once again organised an opportunity for children at St. Aidan's to watch a recording of the pantomime which she co-wrote. Cinderella is currently being performed at the Newbury Corn Exchange.

Breakfast club

Please note that there will be no breakfast club session on the last day of term, Friday 17th December.

Mini marathon badges

I have received commemorative pin badges from the Mini Marathon team. These will be distributed to every child who completed this challenge last half term.

AND FINALLY.... The PSA Christmas Fair

Many thanks to the PSA committee and all the reps for organising the St. Aidan's Christmas Fair this Friday evening.

In order to ensure the event is COVID secure, please do not attend if you have any COVID symptoms. It has been planned that the fair is being held outside in order to make the event safer.

I am delighted that Santa is able to make an appearance once again. He will be making use of the Learning Bus, and using the CO₂ monitors to ensure that this area is well ventilated. I have had assurances that Santa and his elves are fully vaccinated; they will also be wearing face coverings.

St Aidan's PSA Christmas Fair Friday 10th December, 5pm-8pm

Final information from the PSA

Thanks in advance to everyone for pulling this together in record time! We couldn't do it without the help of our dedicated and enthusiastic community of parents and local businesses.

It's going to be a lovely event, please come along and enjoy the evening.

Money

You can use cash to pay for all stalls and activities. Some of the stalls will also have card readers

For the first time we will be encouraging the use of paper Tokens as an alternative to cash for some of the activities and stalls. A great way to give your child the freedom to run off and decide what to spend their money on!

The value of each Token is £1, they can be pre-purchased at the school in the days leading up to the fair, and on the night with card or cash.

Please note****At the Independent Trader stalls you can use cash or card only ****

Entry

Gates will open at 5pm, entry through the small gate as usual. Exit will be through the big playground gates.

You will have a chance to purchase Raffle tickets and Tokens at the entrance booth.

Tokens will also be available inside the Fair from our Roving Token Sellers (roving because they have other duties on the night and will have to wear multiple hats)

Raffle

We have some fantastic prizes to win in our Christmas Raffle.

This is the biggest opportunity for us to raise money, so please buy a raffle ticket or 10 to support the PSA!

1st Prize- Mathsnasium tutoring to the value of £500!!!!

2nd Prize- Kinetics Pilates- 2 Private Sessions and 2 group equipment sessions

3rd Prize - Glenn Dalikan Acupuncture treatment session, value £160

4th Prize - Sam Hadfield, builder extraordinaire for 2 days work

Other major prizes include a fabulous Scooter, Paul McCartney box set, Play mobile Lego set, Micycle bicycle service vouchers, Sarah Small Photography /portrait session

Thanks to all businesses who donated vouchers to the raffle:

[But First Coffee](#), [Butlers Deli](#), [Bufala di Londra](#), [David Andrews](#), [Goods Office](#), [Ground](#), [Indish](#), [N4 Oak](#), [Pizza Pappagone](#), [Pickled Pepper](#), [Waterstones](#), [Niddle Noddle](#), [Cool Cuts for Kids](#), [Fridge of Plenty](#),

[BBY BLK, Pachara, Integrated Body Dynamics, Middle Lane Deli](#)

And a huge thanks to everyone who donated to our hampers!

Order of events

5pm- Gates open,

5.05pm- Sanjuro on the Ball Court

5.20pm- School Choir and Advent Calendar reveal

6.50pm- Raffle draw

8pm- Close and pack up, all hands on deck!

Stalls and Activities

Ball Court- Sanjuro, Penalty Shoot-Out, Games

Cakes and Produce- near the Monkey bars (tbc)

Ampitheatre- School Choir, Raffle draw, rest area

Traders in the Red Class outdoor play area-

Tapestry kits and candles, Glow Drops Aromatherapy

Traders in Big Marquee- Sarah Small gifts and novelties, Mosey Home, Sharon's Stones

Bike Shed - Face Painting and Disney stall

Bus- Santa photos

Orange Class outdoor play area- Christmas Crafts

The Banks- 2nd hand Books and Arts/ Crafts stall

Food and Drinks

This year Maurice has kindly donated his time to cook for us a Caribbean feast. We will also have sausages and burgers for the kids (and adults) Vegetarians, we have Caribbean and BBQ options for you too!

Drinks are the usual wintery offer, with Mulled Wine, beer, wine and hot chocolate

Set-Up and Clear away

We have many people helping out at the event, but if you can spare some time to help set-up or pack away at the end of the night we would appreciate it!

We putting up structures at around 2pm, there is plenty to do in the 3 hours before gates open so come on in and lend a hand if you have some time.

And after 8pm comes the mad rush to pull down marquees and tidy everything away. Hang around for this to win extra brownie points!

A few more important messages...

Gazebos- If you can lend us a gazebo please get in touch with us asap, the more cover we can provide our stall holders the happier everyone will be should it start to rain!

Santa- We have one lonely Santa...Surely there is another couple of people who can give up an hour of their time to have their photos taken with the kids??? Speak to your reps asap if you can do this super important job

Bags-There are lots of goodies to buy at the fair. We would encourage you all to please bring your own bags for life/ cloth or plastic bags to carry home your purchases.

Craft materials- Have just checked out my craft box and it's looking a bit empty. If you can donate Christmassy craft materials, please bring them into school in the next few days. Raid your box of scraps, ribbons, coloured paper, craft sticker, pom-poms...
But keep the Glitter at home thanks, it's a crafting nightmare to tidy away and not eco-friendly