



## Christmas at St Aidan's



Christmas has well and truly arrived at St Aidan's. This week, Nursery, Red, Orange and Yellow classes put on a spectacular performance in their nativity show. Next week, the fun will continue every day! Here's a reminder of what's coming up:

**Friday 9th December 2022** - Christmas Fair and Disco (*see page 3 for timings*)

**Friday 9th December 2022** - Last Day of Clubs for Autumn Term

**Tuesday 13th December 2022** - Children's Christmas Jumper & Lunch Day

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Class parties throughout the school day

**Thursday 15th December 2022** - Christmas Service at 11am (*all welcome but limited seating at Holy Trinity Church*)

**Friday 16th December 2022** - Term finishes at 1.30pm

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023** – INSET Day (school closed to children)

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023** – Spring Term begins at 8.45am

### A Message from our new Headteacher

In January, we will be welcoming our new headteacher, Kate Stevens. She has written a message for the St Aidan's community:

I am very excited to be joining St Aidan's as headteacher in January. Since my appointment in May, I have been able to visit the school on a number of occasions and have met with staff, governors and many pupils. During these visits I have always been struck by how welcome I have been made to feel by everyone; how kind, happy

and respectful the pupils are, and the evident dedication of the staff. I feel very privileged to be joining what is evidently a very special school.

From my experience, I know that a successful and happy school depends on all of us working together. As parents and carers, you make an important contribution to your children's achievements, and I'm excited to build on the relationship between you and the school.

I will be holding a number of events over the next term, including coffee mornings and meet and greets, and I look forward to meeting many of you there. I will also be available at the school gate before and after school, so please do say hello.

In the meantime, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. *Kate Stevens*

### Food Bank

Holy Trinity Foodbank is exceptionally busy at the moment, helping around 200 people every week with an emergency supply of food. From Monday at St Aidan's, we will be collecting food donations which we will deliver to Holy Trinity Church as part of our Christmas service on 15th December. As well as non-perishable items such as long-life milk, tinned goods and breakfast cereals, Christmassy items such as mince pies, cakes, biscuits and stuffing are also warmly welcomed. No alcoholic items please.

Food donations do not fully cover the needs of the local community and the majority of the food distributed each week is purchased by the foodbank, funded by financial donations. If anyone is able to make a one-off or regular donation, the foodbank's bank details are:

Sort code: 30-96-26 (Lloyds Bank) Account number: 79266968 Account name: Holy Trinity Foodbank Stroud Green.

Please email [donate@holytrinityfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:donate@holytrinityfoodbank.org.uk) If you do make a donation - as a registered charity, the foodbank is able to reclaim Gift Aid on donations made by UK taxpayers, increasing their value by 25%, and they would appreciate the opportunity to send you a Gift Aid declaration form. Thank you very much for your support.

### **Governing Body Update**

We would like to thank Alan Burns and Jennifer Paker for their support for St Aidan's as they step down as governors this term.

Alan has been a governor for nearly eight years, having started when his children were at the school. He has chaired the Resources committee for many years as well as taking on a number of other link governor roles. His expertise as an accountant and his pragmatism were very much valued on the governing body.

Jennifer has been an active member of the Care and Communication committee and has been heavily involved in policy review and development as a governor. She also brought her professional expertise to bear when we recruited for our headteacher post. We look forward to still seeing Jennifer around in the playground!

There are now two vacancies for parent governors on the governing body. We will be advertising these posts in January, in accordance with the parent governor election policy which can be found on our website. The term of office for a parent governor is 4 years and parents, carers and guardians of current St Aidan's pupils are eligible to stand. Please look out for the letter with detailed information about the vacancies in the new year.

### **Governing Body**

During each Autumn term, the Governing Body looks back on the last academic year at St Aidan's and produces a report to reflect on what has been achieved. The report for 2021-22 has now been shared on our website and can be accessed here:

[Microsoft Word - Gov school report 21/22.doc](https://www.staidansprimaryschool.org.uk/Microsoft%20Word%20-%20Gov%20school%20report%2021/22.doc)  
([staidansprimaryschool.org.uk](https://www.staidansprimaryschool.org.uk))

### **Christmas Party**

Tonight is the PSA Christmas party and disco. The two discos (KS1 5-6pm, KS2 6.15-7.15pm) are for St Aidan's children only. The party is for parents, carers, wider family and friends. We are not advertising it to the wider community, but please do bring along other guests.

Tickets (£3 each for everyone) have been on sale at drop-off all through this week and will also be available on the night. Disco tickets include a hot-dog; party tickets include a mince pie.

### **Parkland Dragons Football**

This message is for parents of children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 who enjoy playing football.

The Parkland Dragons is a MIXED football club run by St Aidan's parents, and most of our players are also St Aidan's children. We have two teams in the Camden and Islington League:

U10 (for the current Year 4 and 5)

U11 (for the current Year 5 and 6).

We have two practices a week, Mondays and Saturdays (played at the park Spring to Autumn, and at hired pitches during the winter months).

We charge £35 pcm for all players except those who receive free school meals, and offer discounted rates for siblings and the children of club officials.

Our main spending is for a) pitch hire and b) affiliation to the League with whom we are registered for matches. Accounts are published regularly.

We are run and staffed entirely by volunteers, mostly the parents of children in Year 5 and 6.

We are currently planning for the Club's future when a number of members move on next year, and would be interested in hearing from:

- any pupils from the current Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 who might be interested in playing for the Club next year;
- any parents or carers who would be interested in getting involved next year.

We provide training for coaches, and it's a delightful community to belong to. For many of our players, it has been a chance to develop football skills, learn to play as part of a team, and take part in regular competition. Our motto is 'Fun, Friendship and Football'.

Please speak to Michael (parent of Noah and Billy) about coaching; Alice (parent of Alexander, Year 6) about management roles; and to the multi-talented Steve Booth (parent of Lara and Ollie) about either of those roles. (Alice's number is 07730 005194, and I am happy to ring people back at a time of their choice.)

### **Merry Christmas**

St Aidan's would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



ST AIDAN'S  
**Christmas  
Party**

**9th DECEMBER**

**SCHOOL HALL**

**KIDS XMAS DISCO & FREE HOTDOG**

*Key Stage 1: 5-6pm*

*Key stage 2: 6.15-7.15pm*

**BALL COURT**

*Bar, food, mulled wine, mince pies,  
bottle tombola, Santa's lucky dip,  
St Aidan's school choir and more...*

**5 - 8 pm**

**ENTRANCE £3**