



Friday 17 December - Christmas edition

## ACS NEWSLETTER

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

We have once again arrived at the Christmas break with a degree of uncertainty as to what will happen in the New Year as we are experiencing an exponential growth in coronavirus cases due to the omicron variant. September now seems like a very long time ago and so much has happened in the meantime. Once again, the amazing resilience and resourcefulness of our students has shone through – they continue to astound me with their thirst for knowledge and desire for learning. In spite of all the changes and challenges thrown at them they are always ready to work hard and make the very best of every situation. Please make sure they take a well-deserved break and they take this opportunity to rest and refresh for the New Year.

The Government has announced that every student should take a lateral flow test on their return in January. Please make sure you take some time to read **this letter** which sets out the dates and times students are expected to return to school in the New Year.

I am once again indebted to our staff who have supported our students throughout the term and who have adapted to an incredible array of changes to our school, the curriculum and assessment. As well as the many changes to the way the school is organised, we have again moved to online parents evenings, and may even have to move to remote teaching through Google Meet in January. We will provide more information on this if necessary.

Parents and carers of free school meal children should now be aware that they will receive food vouchers over the Christmas break through Edenred. Please note that Breakfast Club will continue to run on both sites for all year groups. Any student arriving between 8:00am and 8:20am will be able to pick up a free breakfast from the school canteen.

Congratulations to Ms Rufo and Mr Hart who have been appointed as Deputy Headteachers and also Ms Zaraqat who has been appointed Assistant Headteacher for the Sixth Form.

I wish you and your family a very peaceful and restful Christmas and New Year.



### Season's Greetings

*From the Governors,  
Headteacher and Staff at  
Alperton Community School,  
we wish you a very peaceful and  
restful Christmas and  
New Year.*





## Mid-Year Exams Information

All students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will take mid year exams based on the curriculum taught during this academic year. This is an important opportunity for students to demonstrate their understanding of the subjects taught under formal exam conditions similar to those they will experience when taking GCSE and A Level exams. Please [click here](#) to access the letter sent to parents earlier this week, and [here](#) for practical, research backed guidance on revision techniques and parental support.

## Alperton Community School students take part in the Wembley Art Trail launch



On Thursday 11 November, the charity Artists in Residents (AiR) and Alperton Community School students participated in the Wembley Art Trail launch together with Brent Council.

Two colourful pedestrian crossings were unveiled alongside a vibrant new shop front and a large mural. AiR has worked with the council and local community to produce these public art pieces. Design workshops took place in autumn 2020 with over 700 local students and community members participating.

The artwork, funded by developer contributions, will further add to the vibrancy of Wembley and Ealing Road. Please [click here](#) to view an article from Brent Council with more details about the event.

## The artwork 'Sydney' of the celebrated artist Sam Gilliam on display at our school

On Wednesday 17 November, thanks to the charity Artists in Residents and The Lindon Gallery, staff and students of Alperton Community School had the rare opportunity to experience first hand the artwork 'Sydney' of the celebrated artist Sam Gilliam. Sam, born on 30 November 1933, is an African American multi-media artist, associated with colour field painting and the lyrical abstractionist movement. The artwork 'Sydney' was produced by Gilliam in 1967 and is valued over \$1m.



Throughout the day, staff and students took part in short workshop talks led by the gallery's curator to help the students learn more about Gilliam's work and to give them the opportunity to ask questions. Artists in Residents and Lindon & Co are collaborating on Onework, a creative partnership designed to bring museum-quality works of art to schools in areas of high deprivation across London, so that students have the opportunity to experience great works of art at close quarters. Please [click here](#) to view a brochure with more information about OneWork and Sam Gilliam.

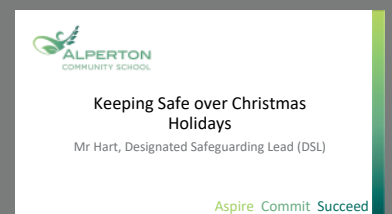
## DT exhibition at Christmas Fair

Our Year 8 and 12 students have created some amazing DT products that were showcased at a local Christmas Fair in Alperton last weekend. Please see [click on the image below](#) to see some of their amazing products:



## Keeping Safe over Christmas

Please see the presentation below from our Safeguarding Lead for information and advice on how to keep safe over Christmas Holidays.



## PD Session with George the Poet

Many thanks to George The Poet and charity Artists in Residence for the fantastic training session delivered on 15 November. Staff and students enjoyed an insightful conversation about art, education and community and a moving poetry performance.



# Christmas Jumper Day



On Friday 10 December, our school took part in the "Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day" to help raise money for children in need. On the day, our staff wore their most wonderful woolies and donated £2 to the Save the Children Charity.



# Progress on the clay sculptures for Grand Union Canal Development in Alperton

Back in May three of our students were selected to model for a public art sculpture for the new Grand Union Canal Development in Alperton. The sculpture will be prominently located just off Beresford Avenue and outside the new community centre and aims to inspire and celebrate the area and people of Alperton.

The selected students took part in modelling workshops with sculptor Brian Alabaster during the summer and below you can see some photos showing the progress of the sculpture so far.



# Alumni day with Doctor Chet Trivedy



On Wednesday 20 October, Alperton Community School welcomed back a very distinguished former pupil, Dr Chet Trivedy, who attended Alperton back in the 1980s.

Chet has had the most incredible and colourful career journey. He has spent the majority of his life in medicine and is currently a senior consultant in Emergency Medicine at the Brighton and Sussex University and a senior lecturer at The Queen Mary University of London (QMUL). He is also the founder of the Tulsi foundation as well as a medical advisor for the Wildlife Conservation Trust and the doctor for the England Cricket team. He is a true example of what students can achieve after they have studied at ACS and we are very grateful he took the time to come and visit the school and inspire our students.

# Parenting Workshops

All parents and carers of young people between 11 and 17 living in Brent are invited to attend the Brent Early Help Spring series of parenting workshops. For more information, please click here: <https://bit.ly/3xI03nV>

**Parenting Workshops**

"My daughter no longer wishes to wear traditional clothing" "My son went missing for days" "My daughter refuses to say where she goes when she leaves the house"

**Calling all parents and carers of young people between 11 and 17 living in Brent. We invite you to attend the Brent Early Help Spring series of parenting workshops.**

- Workshops will support, empower and inform.
- Gain knowledge and tools to help keep your children as safe as possible.

**Workshop 1: Gangs: Parental Awareness**  
When: Thursday 20th January 2022 10.30-12.30pm Where: Online, join via Microsoft Teams  
This workshop will focus on providing parents with information about gangs and the associated risks to young people and what to do if you are worried. Parents will learn about how gangs operate and what young people and signs to look out for.

**Workshop 2: An Introduction to Understanding County Lines for Parents**  
When: Thursday 25th January 2022 10.30-12.30pm Where: Online, join via Microsoft Teams  
A parent's guide to understanding what County Lines are, how they are funded and operated, who is targeted and how they impact the lives of young people and their families through exploitation. Parents will learn about signs to look out for.

**Workshop 3: Parenting: Your Style, Your Child**  
When: Thursday 3rd February 2022 10.30-12.30pm Where: Online, join via Microsoft Teams  
A host of 100 different languages are spoken in the London Borough of Brent. It is the most diverse borough in the UK. This workshop will explore how this diversity impacts on parenting and how parents can support their children's learning and development.

**Workshop 4: Next Steps**  
When: Thursday 10th February 2022, 10.30-12.30pm Where: Online, join via Microsoft Teams  
Messages from the Brent Early Help Service including from the Youth Offending Team, Specialist Support Services and Westminster Drug Project will guide and facilitate discussion regarding the following topics:

- Gangs
- Cultural, sensitive parenting
- Drug awareness
- What do parents want to see happen next?

If you would like to attend any of the Workshops please email [parenting@brent.gov.uk](mailto:parenting@brent.gov.uk) (interpreters available)  
Family Wellbeing Centres provide a wide range of services to support parents and children. To register and book activities please go to [www.brent.gov.uk](http://www.brent.gov.uk) and search for Family Wellbeing Centres.

EACH **WEP** AIR **Brent**

# CALLING ALL FORMER STUDENTS

If you're a former student of Alperton Community School, we would love to hear from you!

Your experiences since leaving could help to motivate and inspire our current students to feel more confident in making decisions about their future. We'd love you to join our alumni network and stay connected with the school. You can choose how and when to help – you could act as a career role model, provide work experience, become a mentor in person or online, or help with donations, fundraising or even apply to become a governor.

It doesn't matter when you left us, whether you're in further education or employment, whether you still live nearby or have moved further away, there are still ways you can help.

In order to sign up, just follow this link and fill on the online form



**PARENTS – keeping kids & teens safe on phones, games & devices (and offline too) this Christmas**  
Join us & guests to get holiday and new-device ready!

Parents and careers are invited to join an Xmas Facebook Live Q&A session organised by LGfLDigiSafe on 20th December at 7.00pm to help keep your children safe during the holidays. For more info, please click on this link: <https://bit.ly/3loFEuV>

## Mental Health care for Young people

Check out the Best For You NHS website, a new and innovative way of approaching and delivering mental health care for children and young people.

## You Are Not Alone (YANA)

Congratulations to our year 12 student Nicholas for his input in selecting a name for a new project run by the MIND charity, a mental health charity that provides advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem.

**Y.A.N.A.**  
**You Are Not Alone**  
Are you aged 16 – 25?  
Do feel alone or lonely?  
Looking to make new friends?  
HPEH Mind are here for you; we are here to bring you community and connection.  
Do you want to feel empowered?  
Do you want to build your self resilience and self confidence?  
We can offer you support through:  
• One to one check ins  
• Peer support groups  
• Interactive group sessions  
• Train the Trainer Programme

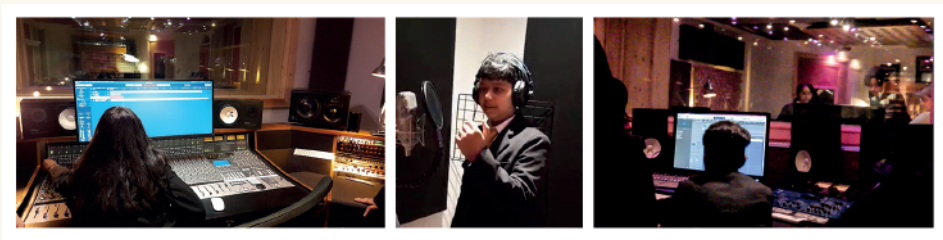
If you would like more information on ways we can support your mental health then scan this code using the camera on your phone, call us on 0208 571 7454 or email us at [YANA@mind-uk.org](mailto:YANA@mind-uk.org)

**MIND**  
Hammersmith, Fulham, Ealing and Hounslow  
[www.mind.org](http://www.mind.org)

## Year 10 music group attended their first Music Studio Session

At the end of October, the Y10 ACS Music Group attended their first Music studio session with Anji Turner, Clerk to school governors. The group took up roles as producers, engineers and recording artists. They spent 2 hours being professionals, developing their skills and producing work for their coursework. The students really enjoyed the session and they can't wait to be back in the studio next month.

Their music teacher, Ms Ernestine, said she was very proud to see the hard work the students put in and their enthusiasm, and they're all looking forward to the next session. A big thank you to Anji Turner and a special thank you to Mr O'Donnell who stepped in at the last minute to support with supervision.



## Online Safety Christmas tips

With school almost over, it's a chance for some family time. Prising children away from screens can be tricky, so the poster below from National Online Safety gives you some tips for making the most of the online world this Christmas! It takes a look at a number of tips such as video calling family members, playing video games as a family and listening to your favourite seasonal songs online.

## The inaugural NPQLBC Conference at Alperton Community School



In December we welcomed to our school 30 primary and secondary school colleagues to the inaugural NPQLBC Conference. We are pleased to say that Alperton Community School is the lead school across Brent, Barnet and Enfield for the delivery of the National Professional Qualification for Leading Behaviour and Culture.

The first training session that took place on Tuesday 7 December at our Ealing Road school

will be followed by 6 two hour sessions for the remainder of the year. Thank you to everyone who attended and we look forward to the next training session!



# Safeguarding newsletter

Please click on the image below for the latest edition of our Safeguarding Newsletter with tips and advice on how to keep your child safe.



# COVID-19 COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Please click on the links below for COMMUNITY and EMERGENCY support information available in your area.

[BRENT COUNCIL](#)

[EALING COUNCIL](#)

[HARROW COUNCIL](#)

# Dates for your Diary

Wednesday, 5 January  
Start of Spring Term (08:30am)

Thursday, 20 January  
Year 8 Parents Evening (1)

Thursday, 27 January  
Year 8 Parents Evening (2)

Thursday, 10 February  
Year 12 Parents Evening (1)

Thursday, 24 February  
Year 12 Parents Evening (2)

## Donations to SUFRA charity

A big thank you to all staff and students who gave items towards the SUFRA charity collection. SUFRA was very pleased we were able to donate over 30 bags of food & they sent us this email:

Dear Alperton Community School,

On behalf of the team at Sufra NW London, I would like to thank you for your kind and generous donation to support our guests; including families living in extreme poverty, refugees and asylum seekers, those experiencing homelessness and social isolation. With reduced welfare support and rising levels of poverty across the UK, charities like us have had to meet the increased need within the community. Demand on the need for our food parcels increased by a shocking 332%, with over 5,000 individuals supported last year alone. It is with your support that we are able to help the many individuals and families who turn to us for help with the essential food, advice and support needed to survive. By working together and harnessing your goodwill we build a stronger community where no one suffers alone in silence.

If you would like any further information about our work, please do not hesitate to contact us on 020 3441 1335 or get in touch with [admin@sufra-nwlondon.org.uk](mailto:admin@sufra-nwlondon.org.uk).

Thank you once again for your kind support.

Check out our article: [Covid-19: A Year in the Life of a Food Bank](#)

Sufra NW London



## A fantastic performance of 'A Christmas Carol' at Alperton Community School

Congratulations to our Drama Department for putting together a fantastic production of 'A Christmas Carol' which was performed in front of an enthusiastic audience on Friday 10 December. This was our first live drama performance at Alperton since Covid began and over 40 talented and dedicated students were selected for the play.

The students worked incredibly hard and rehearsed every day since the start of the half term. We are very proud of all their hard work and commitment. Please see below some photos and a recording of the live performance.

