

ACS NEWSLETTER

04 April 2021

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

Monday 04 April - Monday 18 April
Easter Holiday

Wednesday, 03 May
Remote Learning day

Thursday, 05 May
Year 7 Parents Evening

Monday 30 May - Friday 03 June
Half Term

Friday 01 July
Staff Training (No students in school)

Message from the Headteacher

As we begin the Easter break it affords us the opportunity to remind ourselves of some of the enormous changes this term. With COVID restrictions relaxed we have returned to KS3 students moving around the building between lessons (previously students were based in form rooms); students are no longer expected to wear face coverings; and we now have a common end time for the school day (2:45pm on Monday and 3:10pm on other days). Many aspects of school life have returned to normal. We held pre-public exams for Years 11 and 13, mid-year assessments for other year groups, resumed year assemblies and returned to live parent events, such as Year 9 Option Evening, Year 10 Parents Evening and last Thursday we welcomed our 2022 Year 7 cohort to the Ealing Road site for the first time.

As the summer term approaches our thoughts turn to the first GCSE and A Level examinations for three years. We are holding a very extensive revision programme for Year 11 and Year 13 students over the Easter break. The first GCSE paper is scheduled for Monday 16 May, however, we expect Year 11 and Year 13 students to continue to come to school for support and revision during their normal teaching time when they are not sitting examinations. During this time we will run as many pre-examination revision sessions as possible. Our students have always found this the most beneficial use of their time between examinations, both before and after the May half term.

I am very proud of some of the incredible student and staff achievements and awards we have received this term. As we have been identified as a lead behaviour school across Brent, Barnet and Enfield, we now run two NPQLBC teacher training groups for teachers across these three boroughs; our Year 9 Boys Football Team were crowned Brent Champions 2021-2022; our Year 12 teams won the Artemis Profit Hunt in up-market Green Park while another team won the Brent Green, Clean and Sustainable Start-Ups competition. Mr Rayleigh has been developing our relationships with local businesses and we recently held a Business Breakfast with representatives from Brent Library Service, St George (Berkley Group), Brentford FC, MacDonald's and the West London Enterprise Careers Hub.

At the start of the summer term we will be looking very carefully at student uniform and student attendance. Please take a few minutes to review the detailed **letter** sent to all parents last week. Please note that we will also be making significant changes to our Mobile Phone Policy. From September 2022, mobiles with internet access will be banned from our school. We will only permit basic phones which allow children to call and text, but will not allow access to the internet.

Finally, we will have a slightly later start to the summer term on Tuesday 19 April. Students should be on site at 9:45am as we will hold a staff training session for the first hour of the day. Another date for your diary is Tuesday 3 May when students will remain at home for a remote learning day. Please make sure they are able to access the internet safely at home and can log onto Google Meet and Google Classroom.

Thank you for all your support through this very challenging time. I wish you all a restful and peaceful Easter break.

Inspiring alumni day with Doctor Jason Seewoodhary and Sonal Halai



On Tuesday, 1st February, Alperton Community School welcomed back two very distinguished former pupils, Dr Jason Seewoodhary who attended Alperton in the 1990s, and Sonal Halai who attended Alperton in the 2000s.

Jason currently works as a GP in Richmond and as a hospital doctor in Hillingdon Hospital, where he specialises in diabetes and endocrinology, obstetrics and gynaecology, and has completed research

into STEM cells and molecular biology. Sonal went on to become a quantity surveyor. Her current projects include the refurbishment of apartments in Knightsbridge and a number of new builds in Sudbury.

On their arrival at Ealing Road they were met by two Year 9 students, Russell and Safaa, along with Mr Rayleigh who gave them a full tour of our new building. The students asked them many questions about their current roles and what they could remember about attending the school. After lunch, they both had some photos taken in front of our new school and then walked across to Stanley Avenue. Our two new Assistant Head girls, Rafiatu and Ilayda, met the guests and gave them a full tour of the upper-site school.

Then each of them gave a careers talk to 20 sixth formers in the Stanley Avenue library. Both talks were hugely inspirational and informative and it was so great for the students to hear from people who had attended this very school. Jason made the point that anyone can achieve straight As in their A-levels, they just have to work hard and ensure that they continuously ask for help and support from their amazing teachers and put 110% in to their studying. Before they departure Jason and Sonal were formally presented by Mr McKenna with a thank you card, a piece of art produced by our students, a Poem Anthology book written by Alperton students and staff and chocolates.

It was yet another truly remarkable day welcoming back such wonderful former students who were extremely complimentary about our school. Jason wrote to say "it was an honour and privilege to contribute to our school. What an amazing school you have – I was really impressed by the excellent educational facilities you have and by your wonderful students and the new building".

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

National Apprenticeship Week

To celebrate the National Apprenticeships Week, on Wednesday 9th February we invited to our school Brent Connexions, Brent Works, Quintain and The Brent Council Apprenticeships Team. They delivered a very engaging assembly to our Year 13 students and we wish to thank the guests for such an inspiring session. To find out more about apprenticeship opportunities, please [click here](#).

Children's Mental Health Week

At the beginning of February, we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week. The theme of this year's was 'Growing Together'. To find out more about how you can support your child's mental health and wellbeing, please check out the resources below from Children's Mental Health Week website:



Careers handbook

To help you make an informed decision about your child's career we have put together a digital handbook with information about careers opportunities and resources that you and your child can explore together. To access the e-book, click on the image below:



Classroom display

One of our Year 8 students created this beautiful 80x120cm display for one of our classrooms. He completed this very detailed work in only two days! We are well impressed and hope to see more of his amazing works soon!



Design & Technology Work of the Month

Our Design & Technology department has put together an exhibition of artworks created by our students. Please take a moment to check out below the best entries of the month and get inspired by the creativity of our students.



DT - WORK OF THE MONTH
March

Exam certificates collection

Summer 2021 Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers can come and collect their exam certificates from 21 March onwards from the school reception at Stanley Avenue between 8am and 4pm (Monday to Friday). Please click on [this link](#) for more information.

Aleprton students take part in a full-day Gamelan workshop



On Wednesday 26 February a group of 24 students from years 7, 8 and 10 took part in a full-day Gamelan workshop. Gamelan music originates from Indonesia and it has a calming and almost meditative sound with its repetitive qualities and an almost hypnotic pulse. The students were taught about the traditions of playing Gamelan music and explained they should never step over the instruments since it is considered to be a sign of disrespect. The instruments used in this style of music are called Kenong, Gong Ageng, Bonang, Saron, Slenthem and Kempul.

The students were shown how to play the instruments as a group, learning a full 32 note piece, called Ricik, Ricik (pronounced Richie, Richie). Gamelan music is never played as a soloist, it is always played as one group, with every player

hitting the same core pitches at the same time. The tuning of this style of music has 5 different notes and is known as Slendro – in Western music we can identify this with the Pentatonic scale. The students, Miss Ernestine and Miss Fretwell had a lot of fun learning how to play these very unique instruments and we hope that Inspire-Works will be able to join us again in the future to deliver more wonderful sounds from around the world.



ACS students win the prestigious Brent 'Green, Clean and Sustainable Start-up' competition

Congratulations to our Year 13 students Corey, Vishal, Haider and Diyana who won the Brent 'Green, Clean and Sustainable Start-up' competition defeating Claremont and Crest in the pitching final. The winning presentation, Upcycle4:Brent, set out the rationale and plans of a financially viable model for upcycling furniture. The pitch and responses to the questions asked by the panel of judges were excellent.

The competition was organised by a company called 'Career Camp' who are a social enterprise that delivers employer-led skills training and have been working with our students for the past year as part of an innovative training programme designed to connect Brent schools to leading digital, creative and media businesses through a unique employer-led training format.



During the competition, Councillor Thomas Stephens, who is the Lead Member for Education, Employment and Skills at Brent Council, said 'It was genuinely a very difficult choice but Alperton's idea could easily take off in reality and they gave an amazing presentation which had been both professionally produced and really well articulated.' The four students showed incredible commitment and resilience throughout the programme and will get to share the £250 prize fund. Please click on [this link](#) to watch their pitch.

Medics Bulletin

Please click on the image below to check out the latest edition of the PiXL Medics Bulletin for information and advice about getting into Top Universities.



Safer Internet Day 2022

On 8 February we celebrated the Safer Internet Day! Check out the tip belows for parents and carers with suggestions on how to help your child stay safe and positive online and how to express themselves safely.



Inspiring assemblies with Team Force Atlantic



Alperton Community School would like to say a huge thank you to Sgt Laura Barrigan and WO2 Katherine Robinson for delivering two engaging and inspiring assemblies to our Year 8 and Year 9 students on Monday 28 February. They encouraged students to believe that the possibilities ahead of them are endless, regardless of gender or class. In the words of Sgt Barrigan "Your only limitation is the limitation of your imagination".

This presentation was incredible and got our students thinking about their own careers, personal exploration, aspiration and making their own choices in the future. Our students learned about the requirements for personal and team organisation and reflected on the challenges of the time - being in lockdown. The Force Atlantic team has shown us what it takes to lead and support, to be adaptable and to be ready for the possibilities that lay ahead. Our students are now wondering if a World Record holder is sitting amongst them! To read more about this inspiring assembly, please [click here](#).

Alperton wins the Brent Year 9 Boy's Football Championship 2022



Congratulations to the Year 9 Boys Football Team who defeated Ark Elvin 7-4 in the Year 9 final and became the Brent Champions 2021-2022. Thank you to Mr McKenzie-Moore for coaching the team and for supporting them during home and away fixtures. The Year 9 played the final of the Brent Shield against Ark Elvin on Tuesday 22nd March. They demonstrated a fantastic team spirit throughout the game and they truly deserved the win. Well done everyone!

Year 12 and Year 13 ACS students visit the House of Parliament

At the beginning of March, the Year 13 Politics students and the Year 12 Health and Social Care students visited the House of Parliament. The students participated in a workshop on law making which they found very useful and were able to watch a debate from the public gallery. They also had a tour of the Parliament and the opportunity to meet Ian Blackford, leader of SNP in the House of Commons. The students found the experience very rewarding and were delighted to have had the chance to take a photograph with Ian. To read some of the students' comments about the trip, please [click here](#).



ACS art students take part in the Red Nose Day artistic celebrations



On Friday 18th March our creative A Level art students took part in an exciting Art Paint Off event at the Alperton Art Studios by the canal. Everyone really enjoyed the event, including the many visitors from the public, local MP from Brent and NHS Mental Health representatives. The A Level students were joined by our younger art, drama and music students who took part in what proved to be an inspiring afternoon, full of entertaining painting, singing and spoken word. Some of the outcomes will be auctioned off to benefit the Red Nose Day Charity.

Alperton teacher's Economics class published in the Financial Times

FT

FINANCIAL
TIMES

Some great news from our Business and Economics department! An article analysis regarding asking prices for UK homes written by our economics teacher Noaf Al-Diraa has been published in the Financial Times. The article picked by Noaf contains suggested questions about the housing market in the UK and is part of the Financial Times free schools access programme. This was the second article published by Noaf and she intends to contribute with more articles in due course. Please [click here](#) if you wish to read the articles she has published.

Students attend the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Southbank Centre



On Wednesday 23 March fourteen students attended the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra performance of Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, Shostakovich's *Cello Concerto No.1* and Walton's *Symphony No.1*, conducted

by Vasily Petrenko at the Southbank Centre Royal Festival Hall. Before attending the performance the students walked past many talented street performers, from bands to solo saxophists. They were also able to see the sights of the London Eye lit up with Big Ben in the distance, which the students really enjoyed.

During the performance, they were blown away by the power of the orchestra and the energy and excitement of Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, as the motifs bounced from one section to the other; flipped between dynamic changes and moments of still to bursts of sound. Najjha commented that she felt she was in a dream during the calm and tranquil moments in the Shostakovich's *Cello Concerto No.1*. The students were just glued to the sound, with dropped jaws and eyes wide open! Mrs Ernestine had to hold back their applause during the movements of Walton's *Symphony No.1*, every movement was applause-worthy!

As they walked over the bridge on the way home, the students confessed that they would like to come back again to see the sights, and although it was 10.05pm and they were really tired, they said that they really enjoyed the performance and they look forward to hearing more beautiful works in the future.

Mental Health 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. For further help and advice about mental health, please visit the Every Mind Matters website.



NHS

EVERY MIND
MATTERS

Brent 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. These workshops are designed to provide parents with information and tools to help them gain a better understanding of how to keep their children safe. For more information about the workshops and their available dates, please see the poster below.

Parenting Workshops

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: Tuesday 20th April 2022 6.00-8.00pm. Where: Online. Join via Microsoft Teams.

Workshop 2: An Introduction to Understanding County Lines for Parents

When: Tuesday 3rd May 2022 10.30-12.30pm. Where: Online. Join via Microsoft Teams.

Workshop 3: Parenting: Your Style, Your Child

When: Thursday 12th May 2022 6.00-8.00pm. Where: Online. Join via Microsoft Teams.

Workshop 4: Next Steps

When: Tuesday 17th May 2022 6.00-8.00pm. Where: Online. Join via Microsoft Teams.

If you would like to attend any of the Workshops please email ParentingProgramme@brent.gov.uk (interpreters available).

Family Wellbeing Centre provides a wide range of services to support parents and children. To register and book activities please go to www.brent.gov.uk and search for Family Wellbeing Centre.

EACH WEP AIR Brent

Easter snacks and treats ideas

Check out the leaflet below from our catering company Innovate for a few tips from their Chefs to help you with some ideas for Easter themed snacks and treats that you and your family can enjoy at home over the holidays.

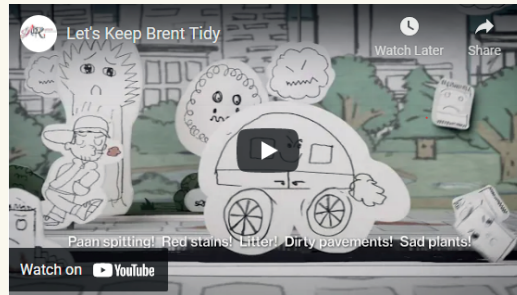


Easter Holidays & Food Programme

Join the Brent Easter Holiday Activities and Food Programme 2022 for a week of fun activities and workshops including drama, arts and crafts, singalongs and dance, Easter Egg Hunt and parenting workshops. To find out more about the programme and how to apply, please see the poster below.



Engaging workshop with AiR artist in residence, Andy Hammond



Many thanks to Andy Hammond and AiR charity for delivering a wonderful series of workshop to our year 7 students on how to narrate animations! The product of these fun and engaging workshops was this amazing video made for Brent Council as part of an environmental campaign to keep Brent clean and tidy. The voices and drawings in the video are all by Alpertown students and the video is due to be screened at Cineworld

Cinema in Wembley. During the workshops they also created artwork for the campaign's banners. These bright and colourful banners have been displayed along Ealing Road to encourage everyone to #KeepBrentTidy! Well done everyone for your hard work!



The ACS Eco Leaders are relaunching the Eco School programme



The ACS Eco Leaders students have joined the Eco Committee and they are keen to relaunch the Eco School programme interrupted during the Covid pandemic. The Eco Schools is the largest educational programme in the world, engaging millions of pupils across 70 countries, empowering children to drive change and raise environmental awareness.

Thanks to the remarkable dedication of the Eco Committee, ACS won the Green Flag Award in 2019. The new ACS Eco leaders are keen to resume the programme and renew our Green Flag Award.

The Eco Committee met on Tuesday 29 March during lunchtime to discuss initiatives to improve their school and the local environment and come up with more suggestions about how to better protect our planet. The Eco Leaders are carrying out a successful paper-recycling programme and they also conducted a litter pick-up on the canal near Sainsbury on the 29th of March as part of the Great British Spring Clean. It was a fun and educative experience as they discovered a duck nest with an egg inside. The students were excited to collect five large bin bags of rubbish and they can't wait to do it again! True litter heroes!

NEED EXTRA HELP WITH FINANCES?

If you are struggling with financial hardship, the links below provide information about support services available from your council and local organisations:

BRENT COUNCIL

Benefits and financial help

- Help with heating and utility bills
- Childcare and school support
- Food banks

Benefits and money advice

- Council Tax Support
- Housing Benefits
- Resident support Fund

Community Directory

A list with local organisations, groups, activities and services in Brent

Brent Hubs

A list with Brent partners who provide residents with free support and advice regarding benefits, employment, money management and debt advice, housing

EALING COUNCIL

Help with money-general advice

- money advice and budget planner
- debt advice
- what support is available for working families

Help with council Tax & bills

- council tax relief
- mortgage and rent
- utilities

Extra financial help for those in crisis

- local welfare assistance
- free school meals

A consortium of 10 local charities offering advice welfare benefits, Housing, immigration, education, children with additional needs and much more

Ealing Advice Service



KUMON

MATHS ENGLISH

**For more information, please
click here**

DISCLAIMER - The content provided is for informational purposes only and should not be taken as an endorsement of any kind by the School.

Brent VAWG Support Services

Please see below a leaflet from Brent Council with a list of services offering support in relation to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). A Gujarati translation of the leaflet is also available.

 Brent VAWG Services <i>National and Pan-London</i> National Domestic Abuse Helpline 8000300247 Women's Aid UK 24733466 If it's unsafe or you are unable to speak in the phone Men's Advice Line Support for men in domestic violence 0800670227 GLAOP / Rethink Domestic Abuse Helpline 0773742940 / 0800054563 Neighbourhood Helpline Support in your own neighbourhood 0800080414 Women and Girls Network Networking, education and advice for women and girls 0800186015 / www.wgn.co.uk Day Listening Trust National Domestic Abuse Helpline 0800030006 Poddy Self-help Anonymous 02529884107 Synergy Support for child victims/abusers of abuse 0204474601 / www.synergyuk.co.uk Repeal Support for people with learning disabilities and autism 0800787878 Repeal Support and advice for perpetrators of abuse 0800540406 / www.repeal.org.uk The Shaven Project Support for men with learning disabilities 0845343231 Forward Support for women and girls affected by violence including 24-hour helpline 0800018541 / 0777367365 Iran and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (KWRO) 0207344174 Little America Women's Rights Organisation (LAWR) 0770181474 / www.littleusa.co.uk The Irish & Irish Traveller Project Support for Irish & Irish Traveller Women and children 0204474601 The Forced Marriage Unit Information on forced marriage 020 7784 9151 Rights of Women Free confidential legal advice 0202246677	The Police Emergency – 999 For all other cases, Make Yourself Heard through the www.mylifehelpline.co.uk Crimestoppers Give crime information anonymously 08005111 www.crimestoppers.co.uk Local ADVANCE Support for minority ethnic men and female victims of domestic abuse 0800044838 / 0204544438 Chrysalis (one step ahead) From Tuesday 10.30am to 12.30pm 0754844447 / www.chrysalisuk.co.uk The Red Project Support for women involved in sex work 0207851170 / www.redprojectuk.co.uk Red Helpline Support for women 0146999910 / www.redhelpline.org.uk Red Domestic Abuse Housing Team 24-hour support team 0203 740 1111 London Victim & Witness Service Support for victims and family members 0207851170 (24 hours, 7 days a week) Second Step – advice resource for victims 0207851170 The Asian Women's Resource Centre Support for women experiencing domestic abuse, including support in securing a secure place to public housing 0203819701 FLAID Resilience Support for Black, Asian and minority ethnic women experiencing domestic violence and harmful parenting 0203819701 Relay Across European Emergency Centres Culturally specific support to Eastern European women experiencing domestic violence 0207540777 / www.relaycentres.co.uk EACH 1-800-1111, Confidential, friendly, 24-hour support and the language for women and families affected by violence www.eachuk.org West London Rape Crisis Support for women and children affected by all sexual offences, sexual harassment & related issues 0204544438 Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) Free 24-hour helpline 0845 3000
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Urgent Mental Health Support

Young people and parents can get urgent support from NHS mental health advisors. Check out the poster below for more info:

[illegible]