

Dear Families,

We had a wonderful end to the last half-term with our #TogetherWeCreate (Arts) week. The way staff and pupils committed to the activities was wonderful to see, and we are delighted that we can provide this extension of our Arts curriculum to ensure that pupils are exposed to such an important part of life. Highlights included visiting workshops and performances in Drama, the educational visit for Music where some groups saw Cirque du Soleil rehearsing, as well as the exceptional outcomes produced by the pupils in Art, DT, and Food.

Although the last half-term presented more covid-related staff absences than ever before, I am delighted that we are now returning to even more normality. The educational visits in the last week of the half-term, along with visitors coming on site to enrich pupils' experiences is very positive. In the coming weeks we have more Futures visits, the WildEd project will take place, Dr Kathy Westen will return to speak to parents face-to-face, and we will re-start the tours of the new building for families, and we will try to combine these tours with tasting events, where you can sample the lunches served by our kitchen team. We will email details as we arrange them with the kitchen.

You will have heard that the covid restrictions have now been removed. Pupils are no longer advised to wear masks to school, and are no longer advised to take part in regular asymptomatic testing. In the event of a local outbreak, we may be advised to reinstate some of these measures. The advice from the government is still to take up the vaccination when offered.

I know that many of you have expressed concern at the lack of barriers at the front of the school, and I am very grateful for your support in raising this with Barnet. The Highways team have been supportive, as are the Department for Education, and both are committed to getting barriers in place. Unfortunately, these things take time, but we have a meeting next week when I hope to learn the timescale.



Finally, please can I ask a favour, and request that you complete the Ofsted ParentView questionnaire, if you haven't already. <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

We look forward to welcoming you in to see some of the art installations in person as well as hearing from Dr Kathy Weston on Wednesday 23rd March in the evening.

Parenting Teens after the Pandemic: what every parent needs to know

In this talk, Dr Weston will talk about how the pandemic may have affected teens, parents and family life. She will cover sleep, gaming, screen-time, school attendance and give families tips that will actually work and make family life smoother as we come into the spring and summer months.

### Attendance

We are pleased to have seen an improvement in pupils' attendance over the last week. Please remember that the greatest predictor of pupil outcomes is their attendance and punctuality - this is far more important than prior attainment or IQ.

*This week every year group has had a rewards assembly with a focus on most improved attendance and highest attendance.*

Our target is **97%** and we are still slightly below that mark. Remember that missing just one day in a half-term will put a pupil below 97% for that half-term, and you will have seen in the recent attendance newsletter the impact it had on Year 10 performance in their recent exams.

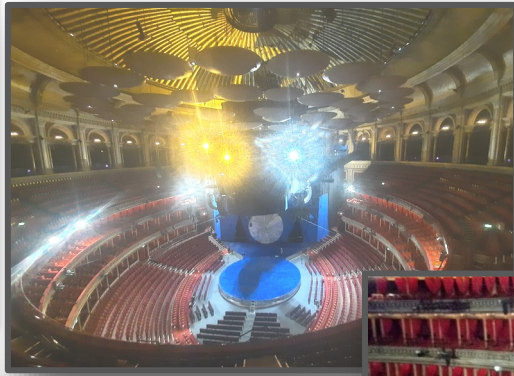
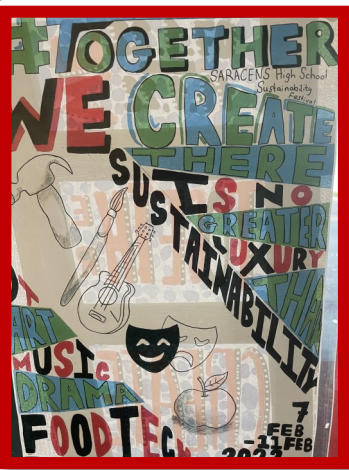
We want to support your child with getting in each day. Here is the team to help you:



There is a fundamental link between high attendance at school and high levels of achievement.

If a pupil has an attendance level of 90% they will have missed on average one day a fortnight of school. Over a school year this will represent four weeks of absence. If this level of absence were maintained for a five-year period, it would mean half a school year would have been missed.

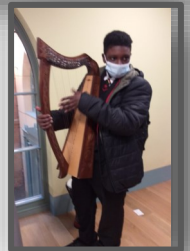
# #Togetherwecreate



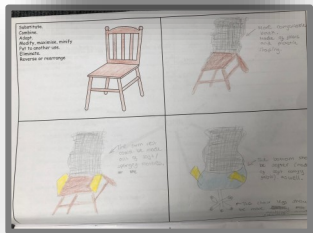
Music



Food



Drama



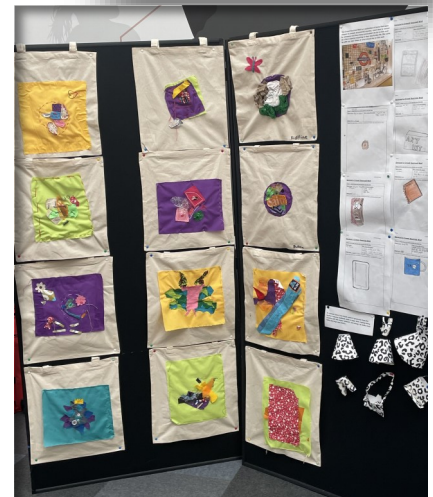
DT



Wheelchair Rugby



Art





**Cultural Capital**



## Academic year 2021 – 2022

### Spring and Summer term dates

Friday 1 April	Last day of Spring term
Monday 4 to Thursday 14 April	Spring term holiday
Friday 15 and Monday 18 April	Easter bank holidays
Tuesday 19 April	Summer term begins
Friday 29 April	Bank holiday (in lieu of day in Summer half term)
Monday 2 May	Bank holiday
Wednesday 11 May	INSET day – staff training (no pupils in school)
Monday 30 May - Wednesday 1 June	Summer half term holiday
Thursday 2 and Friday 3 June	Bank holidays (Queens Platinum Jubilee)

### Spring term events

Wednesday 2 March	NHS Covid vaccinations
Wednesday 9 & Thursday 10 March: 6pm	School production: 'The Time Machine'
Wednesday 9 March	Year 7: Your Life You Choose Day
Friday 11 March	Year 10 trip to Globe Theatre
Monday 14 March	Year 8 Inter-school history quiz
Tuesday 15 March	Speakers for Schools: Journalism
Friday 18 March	Comic Relief – Red Nose Day HPV Vaccinations: Year 8, 9 & 10
Saturday 19 March	Duke of Edinburgh Award: Year 9 practice walk
Monday 21 March	Year 9 visit to Middlesex University (3 houses)
Wednesday 23 March Evening event	Dr Kathy Weston talk: Parenting Teens after the Pandemic
Thursday 24 March	Year 9 visit to Middlesex University (3 houses)
Saturday 26 March	Saracens Rugby Club game at Tottenham Stadium
Monday 28 March	Year 10: Mock exam fortnight begins
Tuesday 29 March	Reading champs quiz