

INTOUCH

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

NO.5 - FEBRUARY 2021



Welcome to issue 5. What a joy it is to see the wonderful things that our school community is involved in and the beautiful things that they create.

We very much enjoy celebrating this fullness of life at St. Aidan's and in this issue you'll find out about two of our students appearing in a BBC News podcast, the results of the Race to Lindisfarne, school sport success, our virtual Jazz Night, the Food Technology Lent-inspired pancake challenge, and creative Textiles and Art too.

We are looking forward to welcoming all students back into school soon, and wishing everyone well in the meantime.

Sixth form deadline for applications

Applications for September 2021 entry to our Associated Sixth Form will be coming to a close next week.

Please [click here](#) to access the prospectus and more information about each of the 40 courses available and click on the link below to complete your application.

APPLY HERE

The deadline for applications is **Friday 5th March 2021**.



Year 9 choosing GCSE options

As Year 9 students start to choose their GCSE options, careers information, advice and guidance is available to students who may require support with choosing subjects to study at KS4.

Career Advisers are available to see students and their parents/carers to discuss GCSE options and careers. To arrange a careers appointment please contact the Careers Department at careersstaff@staidans.co.uk

Virtual author visit

As part of author Chris Bradford's quest to 'Get Kids Reading', he has pre-recorded a FREE Lockdown Author Visit for all the schools that have supported him and his books.

Click to access:

A [12 minute pre-recorded author visit](#) with exclusive author book reading.

A [home learning activity pack](#) to provide a full, self-guided English lesson.



Sixth form broadcast

On Friday 29th January at 11pm, two of our students were asking some questions to Jon Sopel and Emily Maitlis on the BBC 4 Radio show, Americast. This is a really popular podcast that the students listen to in their Politics lessons and after a week of emails asking to be on the popular show, the presenters said yes! Hannah Reinsch, Pippa Linden Howe and Miss Reynard all appeared on the show asking questions and giving opinions. It was then shared as a podcast after the show and made number 3 in the Podcast chart! [Click here to listen](#).



AMERICAST

BBC NEWS

Race to Lindisfarne - the results!

It was amazing to see the response from students and staff to the 'Race to Lindisfarne'. The main aim was to encourage everyone to keep active and realise the benefits of doing so.

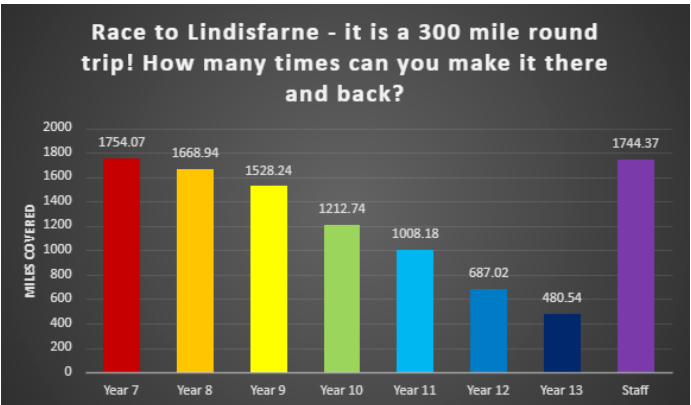
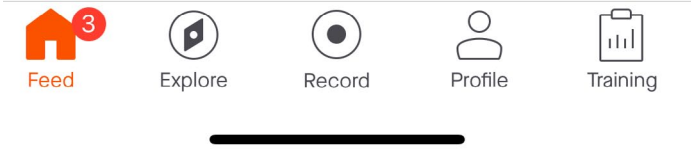
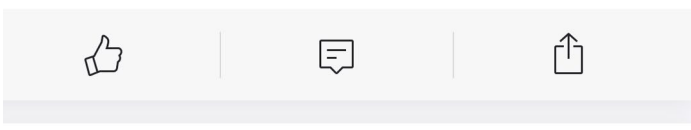
Well done to everyone who contributed; as a school we have totalled 10,084.1 miles - this is the equivalent of a trip to Australia!

Congratulations to Year 7 who narrowly pipped the Year 8s and staff to 1st place. An amazing total of 1754.07 miles was put in by them, which is nearly 6 return journeys to Lindisfarne or a trip to Istanbul.

There have been some fantastic individual efforts across all the year groups. The top contributors in each year group have earned themselves a £10 Amazon voucher which will have been sent to them via their school email. Well done to all our winners and to everyone who took part for a fantastic effort!

Distance | Elev Gain | Time
 2.46 km | 49 m | 17m 52s

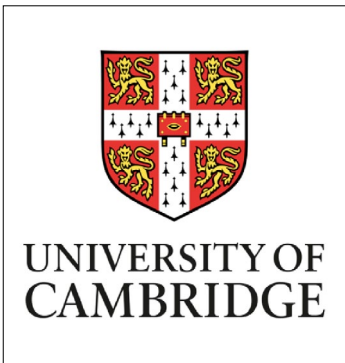
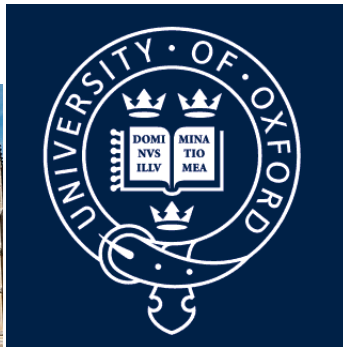
 **This activity completed 40% of the SKINS Compression 110 Challenge!**
 1h 50m



Oxbridge offers

We are delighted to report that we have had 10 offers across the Associated Sixth Form for places at Oxbridge.

Our thanks to the staff who have worked so hard to prepare the students for their interviews. Student photographs to follow.



Virtual 'Jazz Night'



Thursday 11th February should have been our annual 'Jazz Night' – a thoroughly enjoyable evening showcasing the incredible talent of our students.

The year wouldn't be the same without it, so our wonderful Music Department are busy producing a virtual 'Jazz Night', which will be ready for you to view very soon. Keep your eyes peeled, you're in for a treat!



Top 200 schools for sport

Each year, the School Sport publication lists the top 100 state and the top 100 independent schools for sport in the country. This year, the publication has combined the list to present the top 200 schools overall.

The list reflects competitive achievement in a range of sports throughout the year and honours those schools that take competition especially seriously. Based on 19 different sports and more than 120 different national competitions.

We are delighted to announce that St. Aidan's is 185th in the list. This is a fantastic result despite the restrictions to the areas of sport that we have been unable to participate in.

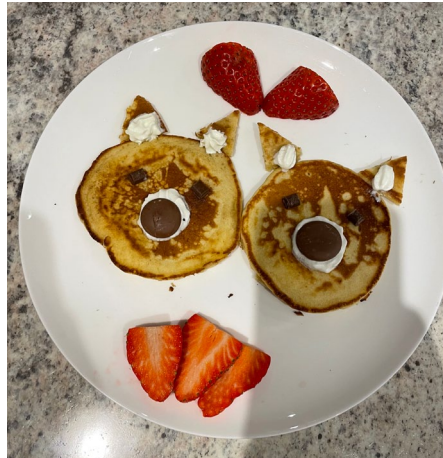
Congratulations to our staff and students, and a huge thank you to all of the PE Department and to those colleagues who give up their time to help with all of the extra-curricular sport.



Pancake challenge

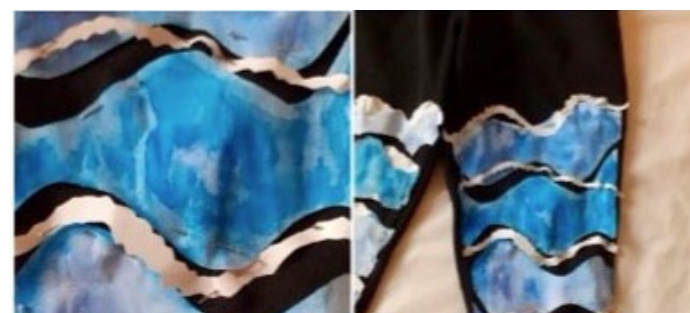
Over the half term break, the food technology department set the students a challenge to come up with the most creative pancakes they could make. They could choose to decorate a pancake, create a 3D pancake object or a scene out of pancakes.

Here are some of the amazing creations we have been sent!



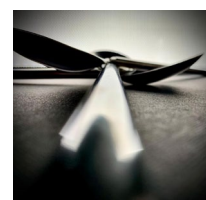
Textiles

Year 11 have been continuing to find creative ways of exploring their ideas whilst at home. These are some examples of developing designs and surface decoration.



Art in the kitchen!

Kitchen creativity from Mrs Searby's Year 8 Art students.



Year 12 Art - Liquid distortion

Great fun with Year 12 Fine Art students experimenting from home using liquid distortion. Aren't they fantastic?



Upcoming dates for your diary

- | | |
|---|---|
| 4 Mar: Year 9 virtual parents' evening | 17 Mar: POSTPONED staff training day (students in school) |
| 5 Mar: Deadline for Sixth Form applications | 18 Mar: Year 8 (C,D,E,G) virtual parents' evening |
| 5 Mar: Virtual Jazz Night | 23 Mar: Year 8 (P,S,W,Y) virtual parents' evening |
| 15 Mar: Year 11 reports to parents (TBC) | 26 Mar: Term ends |



May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you. May He guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you. May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

We hope you have enjoyed this edition of **INTOUCH**. Thank you for your feedback so far; please do send any further comments or suggestions to Cath Harrison (c.harrison@staidans.co.uk)