



Stanborough School Newsletter



5 March 2021

Nil desperandum auspice Deo - When God is on our side, there is no cause for despair.

Plans for School Reopening 9th March 2021

We are looking forward to inviting all students back to school next week and have put a rigorous plan in place to ensure they are kept safe when they return.

We are expecting all students to return to school for face-to-face teaching on 9th March 2021, whilst at the same time fulfilling our obligations to test them 3 times. Testing will only take place where consent has been given. On their first day back in school, students should go to the usual registration classroom and then follow their lesson timetable throughout the day.

Please look closely at the following start/finish times and make sure your child is also aware of the process:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Time of arrival	8:30am	8:30am	8:40am	8:40am	8:50am
Location	Front Student Entrance	Back Student Entrance	Front Student Entrance	Back Student Entrance	Front Student Entrance

End of school day

1. Parents in cars are required to wait in vehicles unless they need to go to reception. Parents must park in the car park and not the front of the school.
2. Key **Stage 3 students finish school at 3:30pm** and **Key Stage 4 students leave school at 3:35pm**. This will allow for social distancing and prevent congestion.

3. Students must depart from the school premises unless they have been given permission to stay behind. If KS4 students are required to leave at 3:30pm, parents must inform the school before 08.03.21. If students are being collected by parents on-foot, they are required to meet parents at reception.

Voluntary asymptomatic Covid-19 testing using lateral flow tests

As per the guidance from the DfE, the School has set up a safe and well-managed on-site lateral flow test facility. Testing is not mandatory and no-one is obliged to be tested. Parental consent must be given for students in Years 7 to 11.

The idea of the programme is to identify asymptomatic cases of COVID-19. The first test will take place for students on Monday 8th March. We will then offer a second test, a few days after students have returned and will then be asking students to test themselves at home using a 'home testing kit'.

The tests involve a swab to the back of the throat and one nostril. Students swab themselves, supported by trained staff. A test result is produced in 30 minutes. If a positive result is received, the student's parent / carer will be informed and the next steps will be taken to support that student and to identify proximity contacts. [This link](#) explains more.

Having already run this programme for staff on-site, we know we can do it in a safe and supportive way.

If you missed the deadline and still wish your child to be tested, please email Mrs Keshishian on mkeshishian@stanboroughpark.herts.sch.uk, where your child will be booked on to the next round of testing. Please also note the following important information:

Effective infection protection and control

1. Face coverings should be worn by adults and pupils when moving around the school. They do not need to be worn by pupils when outdoors. They must also be worn when social distancing cannot be maintained (Teachers will determine if face coverings are required in the classroom, taking into consideration the guidance above). If your child is exempt from wearing a face covering, please let us know via email by 08.03.21.
2. Everyone is advised to clean their hands thoroughly and more often than usual.
3. We will ensure good respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
4. We will be maintaining enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces.
5. We will continue to minimise contact and maintain social distancing wherever possible.
6. Students will be required to stay in their bubbles throughout the day. Our overarching principle is to reduce the number of contacts between staff and students.
7. We are aware that good ventilation reduces the concentration of the virus in the air. Therefore, we will be opening windows for natural ventilation.

Mr James

Interim Head teacher

Student wellbeing

In order to support students with their well-being and their transition to face-to face teaching, we will be inviting several guests into school next week to discuss various topics. These include Pastor Maureen Rock (Year 7), Pastor Sweeney (Year 8), Pastor Kirk (Year 9), Pastor Dejan (Year 10). The important topics to be discussed, include:

- A) Coping strategies during these difficult times
- B) Overcoming fears
- C) Dealing with the loss of a loved one

D) Taking care of themselves both physically and emotionally

Mrs Anderson

Chemistry Teacher

Virtual World Book Day 2021

World Book Day is a day designated by UNESCO as a celebration for books and reading. Because of Lockdown, we had to celebrate this day virtually with three main events. Tuesday, March 2nd Assembly was a preamble to Thursday's big event. Mrs Okelo, the School Librarian, was interviewed by Mrs Hussey (Assistant headteacher, Curriculum). They discussed the resources available in the School Library and the benefits of reading. Mr James (Interim Headteacher) also shared a poem by Karnav Rastogi, the youngest author and fiction writer of India.

World Book Day began with a 'Meet an Author' assembly and Pastor Richard Daly, BUC Communication and Media Director, was our guest speaker. He has published twelve books and offered support and encouragement to those who want to publish their poetry or stories. He asserted that everyone has a book in them and should get it out! In sharing his story as an author, he challenged the students and staff to also share their own stories, for in sharing their stories, lives can be changed.

The highlight of the day was the Whole School Quiz which was on Kahoot. All houses, represented by both students and staff were 'raring to go.' The quiz covered several topics. The top three contestants were:

First place: Tobi (Shaftesbury - Green House)

Second place: T'Oluwani (Livingstone - Red House)



Third place: Esther (Shaftesbury)

Congratulations to them! Feedback received rated the quiz 4.4 out of 5. Not only did the participants enjoy it, but they also learned something new.

Every good thing must come to an end. The day concluded with a reading period where all students and staff, spent the time reading a book of their choice. Pupils had to write a book review and were so enthusiastic that several book reviews were completed and submitted by the end of the school day.

Staff and pupils were encouraged to read the best-selling book of all time - The Bible. God's word will constantly renew our minds and transform our hearts. Thank you to all students and staff for making Virtual World Book Day 2021 a success.

Pauline Okelo
Librarian

Staff changes

We would like to thank Mrs Shet for her hard work over the last few weeks. She has taught Biology lessons across all year groups since the start of January (Maternity cover) and will now be moving on to a new role. Thank you, Mrs Shet, for all your hard work and ensuring that our students did not fall behind with their learning. Next week, we welcome back Mrs Gengan from Maternity leave, who will be teaching remotely for a few weeks and then return to face-to-face teaching at the end of March 2021.

Enrolment is open!

Please note that we are accepting pupils this year. Prospective parents who would like to discuss our admissions procedure further, please contact the school at info@spsch.org.

Church service 20th February

'We felt privileged and excited to take the Sabbath service at Stanborough Park church for the second time this year. We would like to express our thanks to the pastoral team for giving us this opportunity yet again.

A huge thank you to all of our students, parents and staff who enriched our service with their presence and talents. The Belgrave family focused our minds on our School's dependence on God for protection and strength. Some of our year 7 students (Ruby, Thespina and Micah) surprised us with their courage and hard work in putting together an uplifting and creative mime with the all-important assistance of Mrs Roswell who exhibited her singing talents as well! She lifted our souls to heaven and for this we will be forever grateful! Jaymee, Mrs Venter's youngest daughter, captured us all with her sweet voice and the amazing Children's story she told. It is important to mention that Jaymee edited the video herself! Pastor Firas, Thea's dad, enlightened us on the theme of Stewardship and Adventist education.

All in all, it was a blessing to praise God together despite everything that is happening around us! God blesses the efforts of those who work together for His glory! Stay tuned for our upcoming BUC Sabbath service this coming Saturday 6th March. We have the certainty that Jesus' name will be praised once again!

***'I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.***

***I will be glad and rejoice in you;
I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High'. Psalm 9: 1, 2***

Anna Papaioannou
International Programme Coordinator
Acting PA to Head teacher

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Contacting a member of staff

We are always looking at ways to increase parental engagement and have introduced a new way for parents to contact members of staff. If you need to contact a member of staff, please feel free to use the **Contact** page on our website. Members of staff will get back to you within 48 hours.

<http://www.spsch.org/contact/>