

27 September 2024





# **Open Evening – Tuesday 24 September 2024**

Thank you to all our St Andrew students, who represented the school to an impeccable standard. We would also like to thank all the families that visited us for the night and signed up to our open morning tours. Slots are filling up fast! If you would like to secure your tour,

















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#### Message from the Headteacher

We've had a hectic but highly enjoyable week. It was wonderful to be able to show over 500 people around our school at our Open Evening on Tuesday. It was standing room only for the two set piece talks and, as usual, our pupils were the stars of the show as Mica and Damien in Year 7, Stav, from Year 11 and Gabriella from Year 13 explained to our visitors what St Andrew means to them. I would like to record my gratitude, too, to all the parents of pupils who came in to give guided tours. And talking of tours, we will be showing visitors around the school at 9.00am and 4.00pm every day for the next few weeks, so if you do know of any families who had planned to come but could not make it, do please direct them to our website for further details.

Our Year 7s had a superb outward-bound trip to Gilwell Park last Friday and were blessed with the last of the summer sunshine – you can see the pictures of their trip below. It wasn't quite as sunny for our footballers in the park on Wednesday, but it was good to see that both the Year 10 boys and the U15 girls battled well in difficult conditions. The latter were especially unfortunate to lose their Middlesex Cup game 3-4 in the last minute of extra time, but our team included a lot of girls from younger age groups, which bodes well for the future and, hopefully, the English Schools FA Cup.

The school continues to attract very promising teachers; please see below for two of our new cohort, who have already made a confident start!



#### **Welcome to our New Teachers**

Hello, I am the new Business Studies teacher at St Andrew the Apostle. I recently completed my PGCE and was fortunate to have my second placement here at STA, where I knew I wanted to continue my teaching journey. These past few weeks have been both wonderful and exciting as I have had the opportunity to get to know my students and help my Year 7 form settle in, which has been an amazing experience! I am really looking forward to the academic year ahead and all that is to come.

Miss Rafique | Teacher of Business Studies





Hello, I am a new Science teacher with a Physics specialism at St Andrew the Apostle. From an early age, I have always liked to explain why everything happens around us and I have been curious for answers. My father always recalls the many questions I would ask every day! I decided to study physics in Greece which then was followed by working in different fields such as hospitality, online trading, making music and even converting a van into a camper van! In 2015 my first job in education was in ECS school as a science technician. After three years of enjoying the silence of the lab, I decided to make the leap into the classroom. I worked for 6 years as a teacher in ECS, teaching all year groups, including A-Levels, whilst also running a science club. I enjoyed seeing the development of individuals and helping them progress at the various stages of their school life.

During my interview at STA, words came naturally from my mouth as I realised for the first time how much I have learned the last 9 years. I am very excited that I have joined the STA community as a science teacher and form tutor. I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome. There are many very talented pupils in all the year groups, and I know they will make great progress – with the correct guidance and hard work, the sky's the limit!

Mr Chalepas | Teacher of Science









"BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER, FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER, AS GOD FORGAVE YOU." EPHESIANS 4:32

27 September 2024











27 September 2024

#### Faith – Venerable Chariton the Confessor, Abbot of Palestine 28 September

Saint Chariton the Confessor was born at Iconium in the province of Lycaonia and suffered there during a persecution against Christians in the reign of Emperor Aurelian (270-275). The example of the holy Protomartyr Thekla (September 24), who was also a native of his city, encouraged him to confess Christ, since he had a great devotion to her.

Saint Chariton bravely denounced the pagan gods and staunchly confessed faith in the one True God, Christ the Saviour. He underwent fierce tortures but, by God's Providence, he survived. The persecution ended after Aurelian's death in 275. Saint Chariton was among the many Christians who were released from prison and he resolved to dedicate his entire life to the service of the Lord. Although he escaped death, he grieved because he had not received the crown of martyrdom.

After arriving at Jerusalem on a pilgrimage to the holy places, he fell into the hands of thieves. They tied him up and threw him in a cave, intending to kill him later. After they left to find people to rob, the saint prayed fervently to God expecting to be put to death. He did not ask God to deliver him, but instead he entreated

At this time a snake crawled into the cave and began to drink wine from a vessel setting there. Later it vomited forth its deadly venom, poisoning the wine. When they returned to the cave, the evil men drank the poisoned wine and they all perished. Thus, their wicked lives came to a fitting end. Saint Chariton gave thanks to God, and then he gave away the gold which the malefactors had stolen, distributing it to the poor, to churches, and to monasteries. He began his ascetic struggles in the place of his miraculous rescue, and there he built a church. In time a monastery was established: the renowned Pharan Lavra in Palestine. Saint Chariton's fame drew many disciples to him. He governed them with paternal affection, and he elevated them to the highest degrees of virtue.

Saint Chariton compiled a strict Rule for his monastery. Yearning for solitude, the monk withdrew farther into the desert in to avoid the praise of men, but he never rejected anyone who sought his spiritual guidance. He founded two more monasteries: the Jericho (called the Monastery of Saint Chariton) and the Souka, which was called "the old Lavra." He also brought many Jews and pagans to the Faith. At the end of his life, Saint Chariton struggled in a cave atop a hill near the Souka monastery, but he did not cease to provide guidance for all three of the monasteries which he founded. He fell asleep in the Lord peacefully and at an advanced age on September 28, 350.







### **DT News**





Year 7 have finalised their designs for their wooden toy robots and are now getting stuck into the making. We've already started training on our machinery and its be amazing how quickly students have grasped the techniques they've been shown, it's also been a joy to see the excitement of new experiences on their faces.









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#### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

KS3 and KS4 students enjoying DT club this half term, making and designing their own cushion covers! They are learning sewing and decorating techniques over the next few weeks. We can't wait to see the finished results!



















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27 September 2024

Parents: feeling too busy rushing around to find out what your son/daughter is learning at school? Check out the curriculum online on our website to find out more: https://standrewtheapostle.org.uk/curriculum



**Designated Safeguarding Leads** Click below for more information







## Join Friends of St Andrew (FOSA)

Friends of St Andrew is a group of parents that provide invaluable support for our school. They need your help to raise funds for specific projects and would welcome more members to give time and help lead the group. FOSA supports many of our events including our Open Evening by offering refreshments and talking to prospective parents. If you would like to be involved in supporting or leading this group, please contact them through the school using the usual channels.

### Friends of St Andrew



#### Useful links and information for Parents:



FREE PARENT WEBINAR SERIES

REGISTER NOW





# Instagram gives parents more control over teen accounts

Meta says parents will be able to "guide" a safer experience - critics say the firm itself should do more.

www.bbc.co.uk

# Root Word of the Week $(\underline{dec/deca}$ - [Greek & Latin] = $\underline{ten}$ )

The Decalogue (the Ten Commandments)

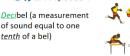




disciplines)



Decathlon (sporting





#### **Extra-Curricular Clubs and Timetable**

It has been wonderful to welcome so many students to clubs and extra-curricular activities from the start of year.

A reminder that:

- Clubs are free for students to attend
- Students should sign up on the student portal
- Clubs will change each half term

Click here to view the schedule for the first half term should students wish to attend.

A huge thank you to our sports leaders in Y10, Y11 and Y12 for their support also.









