



8 November 2024

Sporting Alumni - Koni Ivanov (Brentford Football Club)

On Thursday 6 November we welcomed Koni Ivanov back for a special assembly to inspire and motivate students across years 7-11. Koni spoke to students about his journey to becoming a professional footballer with Brentford FC and the challenges he faced and overcame pursuing his dream goal. Koni explained his key tips for success, books which inspired him, his daily habits and a day in the life. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions and pose for photos afterwards. We thank Koni for giving up time in his busy schedule to speak with our students. Best of luck for the Under 19 European Championships later this month from staff and students at STA.

Mr Browell | Head of Year 11 & PE



Under 14 Girls Football - Cup Success

Our Under 14 girls football team faced St Michael's school in the borough cup this week and continued their winning streak with two goals from Tiana K to see us through to the next round 2-0.

The unchanged defence of Kimia, Kiella, Emily and Sadè kept another clean sheet as Eve dropped into goal to support due to absences through injury.

Robena (Year 7) made her debut and played brilliantly upfront making lots of excellent runs and having a few shots on target.

Eve was awarded Player Of The Match and Tiana was celebrated as Players' Player.

Miss Walt | ELT & Teacher of PE

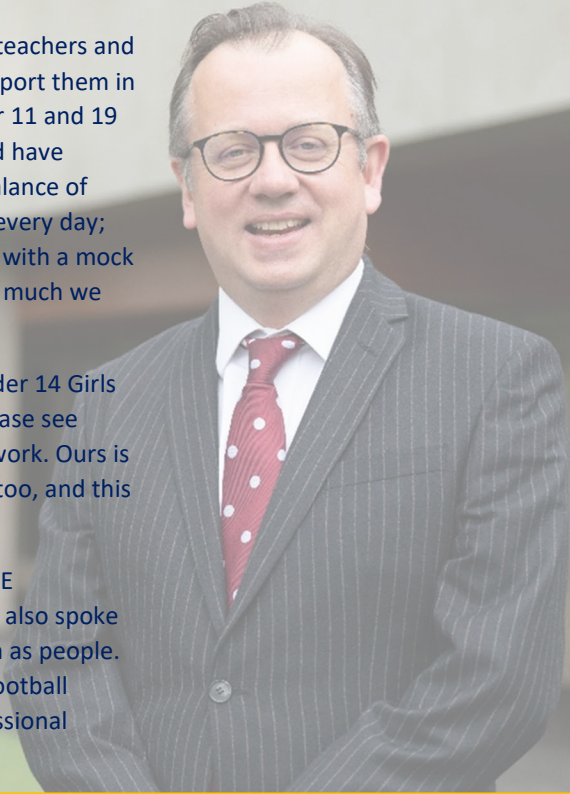


Message from the Headteacher

I trust parents/carers and students had a well-earned break over half-term. Some of our teachers and students were in school as Year 11 and Year 13 students had intervention sessions to support them in preparation for their impending mock examinations, which start of 14 November for Year 11 and 19 November for Year 13. We see students in these year groups working extremely hard and have arrived back in school with renewed vigour after half term, showing they had the right balance of work and rest over the break. We keep reminding them of our key messages: work hard every day; commit to the process; have faith. As well as providing the obvious challenge that comes with a mock exam series, we are also reminding them that this is a moment on their journey and how much we value them as individuals.

There has been a sporting theme that has carried across this first week back with the Under 14 Girls football team having a great win over an all-girls school that is much larger than ours. Please see report above! Part of the foundation success of our school sports teams is built on teamwork. Ours is a smaller school where every child is known and cared for. Students all know each other too, and this helps when they collaborate in extra-curricular activities and when learning in lessons.

We saw wonderful collaboration when we visited lessons this week as we reviewed the PE curriculum. Students, both in GCSE and core PE, not only worked brilliantly together they also spoke highly of our fantastic PE staff – how they support students as learners and develop them as people. A shining example of this was a visit from Koni Ivanov, Brentford Under 18 professional football player, who visited the school on Wednesday to talk to students who are potential professional athletes. It was great to see Koni and we thank him for spending time with our students.



Upcoming Key Dates and Information

- Thursday 14 November – **Y11 Mock Examinations begin**
- Tuesday 19 November – **Y13 Mock Examinations begin**
- Thursday 28 November – **Year 12 Parents Evening**
- Thursday 5 December – **INSET Day**
- Tuesday 10 December – **Flu Vaccine**
- Friday 20 December – **Last Day of Term (Student dismissal 12.35pm)**
- Click [here](#) to access **Term Dates**

Philip Hills
Dr Philip Hills, Headteacher

Form Time Reward



Years 7 and 8 had a wonderful start to the second half of the autumn term. A huge congratulations to 8M and 7M who earned the most praise point scores and enjoyed their form time rewards with games and hot chocolate!

Ms Lisle was particularly pleased to be the first crowned winner amongst all the tutors! I am looking forward to see which form groups will win the competition this term!

We also celebrated our first bronze star winners this week. Well done to the following in achieving your first start of the year!

Year 8: Iffah, Anya, Avery, Lily C, Kimia, Augusta, Emi Dj, Grace, Anu, Sesiliya, Alex M and Zoe.

And, pictured with Ms Lisle, from Year 7, Lucia, Idrees and Lusandro.

Ms Nelson | Head of Year 7 and 8

Faith – Remembrance Day

As we approach Remembrance Day on 11 November, we gather as a community to honour those who have made sacrifices for our freedom and peace. This day holds deep significance for our school, rooted in respect—a value we cherish as fundamental to the Greek Orthodox faith and to the ethos of our school.

Remembrance Day is a moment to reflect on the courage, resilience, and selflessness of individuals who, like the martyrs in our faith, gave of themselves for a greater good. We remember Saint Victor and Saint Stephanida, martyrs of Damascus who devoted themselves to Christ. Saint Victor, a Roman soldier, demonstrated unwavering commitment to his faith, enduring torture for his beliefs.

His steadfastness serves as a powerful reminder of the strength we can find in our convictions. Saint Stephanida, who supported him in his trials and faced persecution herself, exemplifies compassion and loyalty—hallmarks of true respect for others and their values.

For us as a school, 11 November also encourages reflection on the sacrifices and service of all those who have lived out their faith in ways that bring peace to our world. As we teach our students about respect, we help them recognise the importance of honouring others’ dignity, especially in moments of challenge or difference. Respect is not only about politeness or kindness; it is the foundation for building strong, understanding communities that value each person's unique journey and contribution.

On this Remembrance Day, let us encourage our students to learn from the examples of Saint Victor, Saint Stephanida, and all those who have shown bravery and integrity. Through this reflection, we help instil in them the true essence of respect, so they may grow into compassionate, thoughtful individuals who appreciate the richness of our shared history and faith.

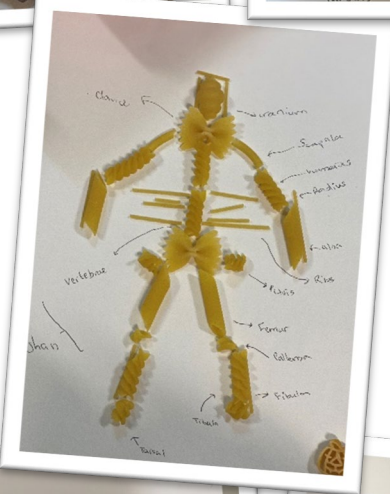
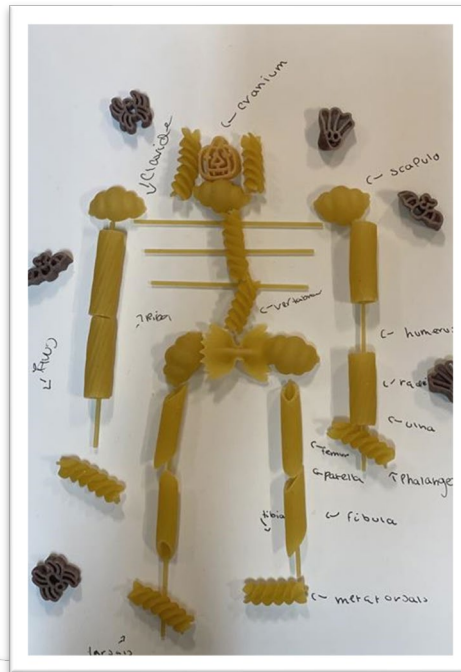
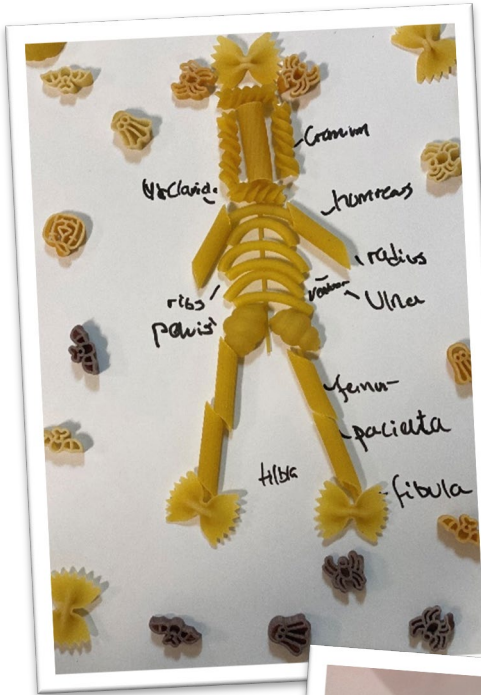


Science Projects

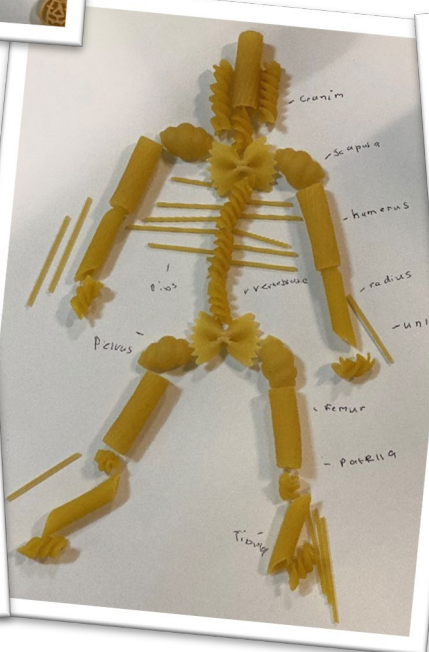
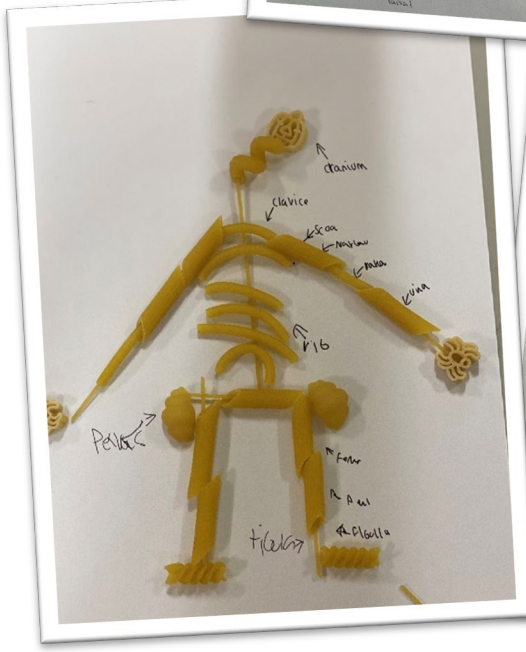
Students excellent work on their science projects showing a size plant cell and an animal cell.



8 November 2024



Year 7 STEM Club students using their creative skills to make skeletons out of pasta.



Year 11 and Sixth Form Oxbridge Talk with Gwyneth Hamand



We were delighted to welcome Gwyneth Hamand to speak with our Year 11 and Sixth Form students about the Oxbridge application process. As a respected figure in higher education, Gwyneth shared invaluable insights into what it takes to succeed when applying to Oxford and Cambridge. She emphasised the importance of demonstrating passion for student's chosen subjects and how taking responsibility for their learning journey can make a significant difference.

The event was a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn about the importance of preparation, resilience, and commitment in achieving their academic goals. Gwyneth also highlighted the value of a caring approach, not only towards their studies but also in how they support one another through this challenging process.

We are proud of how our students engaged with the session, asking thoughtful questions and showing a strong sense of responsibility for their future pathways. This talk will have inspired many to take the next steps with confidence and determination.

A special thank you to Mrs Koveri for organising an informative event.

Maths and Reading Leaderboard



Dr Frost – Top 10 users in School

Rank	Student	Total Mastery
1	Kavin (11/ma1) Algebra	19455
2	Sofia (11/ma1) Algebra	16675
3	Zara (11/ma1) Algebra	15953
4	Katina (11/ma1)	14210
5	Savan (12B/FM, 12E/Ma)	13654
6	Luca (10/ma1)	13297
7	Nicholas (11/ma1) Algebra	12749
8	Unyas (11/ma1) Algebra	12442
9	Gabriel (11/ma1) Algebra	12276
10	Ariana (11/ma1) Algebra	11753

Dr Frost Maths is an online learning platform designed to support students in mastering maths skills. It offers a range of interactive resources, including video tutorials, practice questions, and step-by-step solutions across all key stages. The platform is used for weekly homework, allowing students to practice and reinforce topics covered in lessons. It also provides personalised feedback to help track progress.

Top 3 Students for each year group

Rank	Student	Total Mastery
Year 7		
1	Teshan (7/Ma1)	6789
2	Ayaz (7/Ma3)	1569
3	Damian (7/Ma1)	1403
Year 8		
1	Tia (8/Ma1)	7644
2	Aurelia (8/ma1)	6806
3	Alex (8/ma1)	6374
Year 9		
1	Andreas (9/Ma1)	10840
2	Alaya (9/Ma1)	9603
3	Bowen (9/Ma1)	9296
Year 10		
1	Luca (10/ma1)	13297
2	Hana (10/ma1)	11280
3	Peter (10/ma3)	9256
Year 11		
1	Kavin (11/ma1) Algebra	19455
2	Sofia (11/ma1) Algebra	16675
3	Zara (11/ma1) Algebra	15953
Year 12		
1	Savan (12B/FM, 12E/Ma)	136654
2	Christos (12E/Ma)	11048
3	Peter (12E/Ma)	10715
Year 13		
1	Gabriella (13A/Ma)	11247
2	Natalia (13A/Ma)	10832
3	Giorgio (13A/Ma)	8068

For revision, Dr Frost Maths is an excellent tool, with resources covering a wide variety of topics, past exam papers, and challenges to help students prepare effectively for assessments.

Parents can also monitor their child's progress, ensuring they are keeping up with the work and improving their understanding of maths.

This platform ensures students get the support they need to succeed in maths.

Mr Dogan | Head of Maths & Business studies

Sparx Reader

Sparx Reader – Top 10 Readers in School this term:

Rank	Student	Total SRP
1	Dominic Y7	29422
2	Teshan Y8	28830
3	Anu Y8	15257
4	Ella Y8	13331
5	Lucia	8080
6	Olivia Y8	7902
7	Freddie	6433
8	Jessica	5723
9	Nijvwa	5355
10	Alaya	4879

Sparx Reader is an online reading platform allowing students to regularly read books for pleasure. Everyday reading is not only a relaxing activity, but also allows students to expand their ideas, vocabulary and improve understanding of any text they will face in exams or as adults.

Sparx Reader offers students a choice of books at their reading level, as well as ensuring they read books with understanding by completing check-in questions along the way. The platform is used for KS3 English weekly homework; students need to achieve minimum 300 points each week (this equates to approximately 30 minute of careful reading).

We are very pleased that many of our students exceed this target every week, with some top scorers achieving well above a thousand points a week. Since the launch of Sparx Reader a month ago, our KS3 students have completed amazing 1,193 hours of careful reading and read altogether 403 books so far. Truly well done!

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1	Dominic	29422
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3	Olivia	7902
Year 9		
1	Freddie	6433
2	Jessica	5723
3	Nijvwa	5355

Please ask your child what they are currently reading, and perhaps you can enjoy listening to them reading out loud a section of their current Sparx book.

Ms Bassington | Head of English

8 November 2024

STA ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE

The Art department invites you to take part in a Christmas Card Competition!

Your card must include:

- A religious themed design
- Colour
- A seasonal greeting on the front of the card
- Created by hand or using PC

Time to get festively creative!

Deadline: 22nd November

Please hand entries to Mrs Ayres, Miss Agathangelou, Mrs Gomez or Miss Lisle.

Prizes to be won!!

Prefix of the week

MAL (from Latin) = ‘bad/evil/wrong’

Malady (illness/bad health)



Malpractice (bad professional conduct)



Malevolent (wishing evil towards others)

Public Health Information

Has your child had the nasal spray flu vaccine?

As of 22 October, children aged 5 to 14 years have a higher rate of confirmed flu cases than any other age group. All school-aged children, up to and including year 11, are eligible for a free nasal spray flu vaccine. The vaccine usually produces a better immune response in children and evidence from last year’s flu season shows strong effectiveness for children in England with a 54% reduction in hospitalisation for those between 2 and 17 years of age. Delivery of the flu vaccine will be on Tuesday 10 December in St Andrew the Apostle School. Please complete the consent forms on time so your children do not miss out. For more information about the flu vaccine and other routine and seasonal vaccinations, visit www.nhs.uk/vaccinations

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.



Extra-Curricular Clubs and Timetable

[Click here](#) to view the schedule for the first half term should students wish to attend.



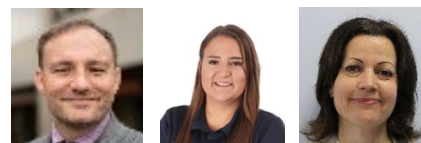
Parents: feeling too busy rushing around to find out what your son/daughter is learning at school? Check out the curriculum online on our website to find out more: [Curriculum](#)



BACE Winter holiday programme 2024 –
[Click below to see details](#)



Designated Safeguarding Leads
[Click below for more information](#)



Mr Martin Miss Walt Mrs Viala

elevate
education

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