

29 November 2024

Exciting News from Our Christmas Show!

Our wonderful dancers have been working incredibly hard to prepare their **four** dances as we approach the festive season. The talent we have is outstanding, and they are all super excited to show off their skills at the show. Thank you to our choreographers, across all year groups, who have made the preparation process that much easier. A special mention to siblings Bella and Lucia who are putting in several hours of hard work behind the scenes, and to our Year 10 students, Raya and Isabella who are working tirelessly to perfect their pointe routine, as well as working with the Year 7 students on their routines.

Tickets are just **£5** and are available now on **ParentPay**. Don't miss this chance to support our young musicians and enjoy an evening of festive music that will fill you with holiday cheer.



Date: Friday 6 December 2024

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: Building 4 Hall



Year 9 Angela G - Kick Boxing Champion

Congratulations to Year 9 student Angela Griffiths who become a double gold medal champion last weekend. The regional kick boxing tournament took place at the Tottenham Community Sports Centre. Angela is sponsored by Adidas, who kindly sent her boxing gloves and sports bag in preparation for the event. Angela won both her fights to take the double championship. A huge congratulations to Angela from all staff and students at STA, keep up the excellent work.

[Dive into Apostle News: Issue 7 - Click to Explore!](#)

APOSTLE NEWS

29 November 2024

What a wonderful week it has been at our school as we came together to mark St Andrew's Day! It was a privilege to welcome Father Gregory, who delivered a service to mark this occasion. His words reminded us of all of the values we hold dear, and I was so proud of our students who read Bible verses that they had selected during the service. Their confidence, clarity, and thoughtfulness were a credit to themselves, their families, and our school community. You can see pictures of this event [here](#).

As part of the celebrations, each student received a specially designed badge to commemorate the day, and the school was decorated, with a balloon arch welcoming students. It was a lovely shared-experience that strengthened our sense of community.

Our staff also took time to mark the occasion together during our Monday briefing, reflecting on the significance of the day. No celebration is complete without a little treat, and we enjoyed sharing chocolates – a small way to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our teachers and support staff.

I also wanted to particularly thank the Editors of 'The Apostle News' and Ms Casey for their work with our students to prepare such a fantastic student newspaper. You can see this by clicking on this [link](#).

Last week, I had the opportunity to tour our new school site, which is currently being built. It was inspiring to see the progress being made and good to meet with the B+K site manager and colleagues from Russell Education Trust, who are working tirelessly to ensure everything is on track. The new facilities are set to be completed by September 2025, and the possibilities they will bring for our students and staff are incredibly exciting. I can't wait to share more updates with you as the project unfolds.

I'd also like to thank our Canteen contractors who have provided £1,000 for an Eco-Project. Our student council, under the leadership of Ms Bicarregui, have been tasked with considering how they would like to spend this money in school. If your child does have any ideas, please ask them to speak with the member of the Student Council who is in their form.

As always, I am grateful for the support of our entire school community. Together, we continue to create a school environment where students thrive.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend,

Christopher Martin | Deputy Headteacher

Upcoming Key Dates and Information

- Thursday 5 December – **INSET Day**
- Friday 6 December – **Christmas Concert** – book now on ParentPay
- Tuesday 10 December – **Flu Vaccine**
- Thursday 12 December – **Trafalgar Square Choir Trip**
- Tuesday 17 December – **Christmas Fair** – now on ParentPay
- Wednesday 18 December – **Christmas Jumper Day**
- Thursday 19 December – **Certificate Evening**
- Friday 20 December – **Last Day of Term (Student dismissal 12.35pm)**
- Click [here](#) to access **Term Dates**

🏆🏆 U14 Girls Football Success 🏆🏆

The girls success in the football league continues as the side faced The girls' success Wren Academy this week.

We played an excellent, high intensity game from the first whistle, with Tiana and Myna dominant in midfield. The back line was made up of captain, Eve, Sade and Keila who were outstanding throughout the game, making crucial tackles and blocks. Our attackers: Melina, Layla, Jess, Emily and Lucia played with flair and skill as they worked the ball in the attacking half.

After a very composed and controlled finish from Melina, we went into the break 1 - 0 up. The second half began with the same energy and it wasn't long before Myna scored her first goal for the school team, making the score line 2 - 0. Tiana finished the game off with 2 goals in quick succession, taking the final score to 4 - 0.

A huge well done and special mention to our two Year 7 players, Layla and Lucia who are making heaps of progress each game!

POTM: Tiana K 🏆

Miss Walt | Acting Assistant Headteacher & Teacher of PE



Faith

At our school, we are guided by our core values, and this week, we considered *caring*. Caring is at the heart of our community—whether it’s caring for one another, for our faith, or for the world around us. This value was reflected last week during the celebration of St Katherine’s Day at St Katherine’s Church.

The service, led by Father Damien, reflected on the life and legacy of St Katherine. Known for her wisdom, courage, and deep faith, St Katherine dedicated her life to spreading the love and teachings of Christ. Her care for those around her and her unwavering commitment to truth remain an inspiration to us all.

We also take this opportunity to wish Father Damien well and thank him for leading this celebration with such warmth and devotion.

Looking ahead, we are excited to mark another important day in the Christian calendar—St Andrew’s Day—on Saturday. To honour St. Andrew, we held a special service in school this week, graciously delivered by Father Gregory. We extend our thanks to Father Gregory for leading this service and helping us reflect on the life of St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland.

St Andrew was one of Jesus’ first disciples, known for his humility and his dedication to sharing the message of Christ with others. He is a powerful example of caring through service and faith, offering his life to bring hope and love to the world. To help students connect with his story, we distributed St Andrew’s Day badges, reminding them of his work and the impact one person can have when they care deeply for others and for their faith.

The badges were a thoughtful way for students to carry the message of St Andrew with them, considering how we can apply his lessons in our own lives. The children wore them with pride, symbolising their connection to this remarkable Saint and their commitment to embodying the value of caring in their own actions which we see in school every single day.

These celebrations remind us of the richness of our Christian faith and the inspiration we can draw from the Saints. Just as St. Katherine cared for the truth and St. Andrew cared for spreading the Gospel, we are called to care for those around us. Whether it’s through acts of kindness, words of encouragement, or moments of reflection, we can all strive to make a positive difference in our community.

As parents, you play a vital role in nurturing this value at home. Together, let’s continue to encourage our children to live out the lessons of caring in their everyday lives, inspired by the lives of saints like Katherine and Andrew, who showed us what it truly means to walk in faith.

Father Gregory – St Andrew’s Day



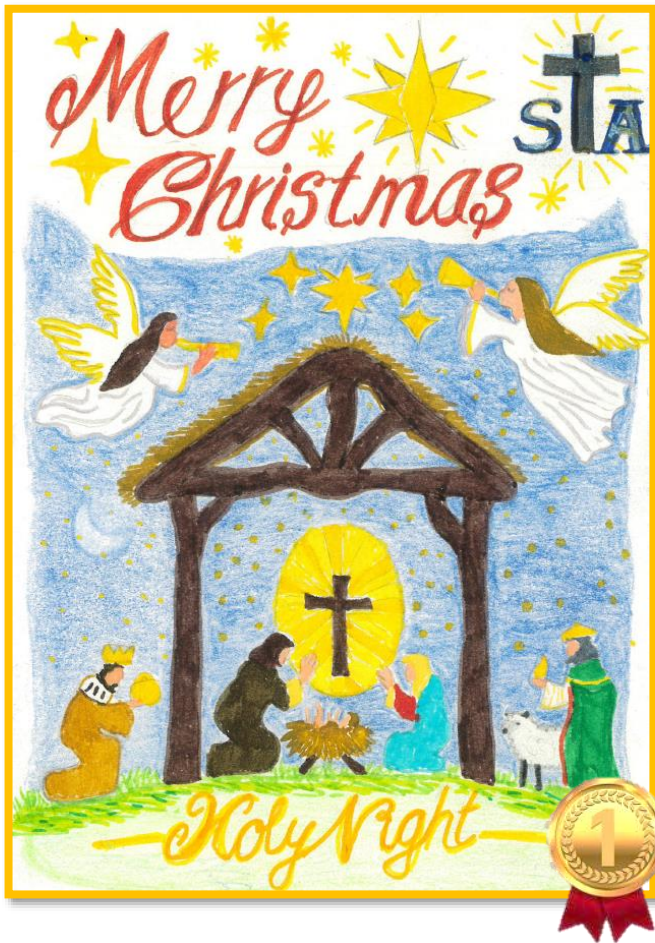
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Christmas Card Competition winners and entries

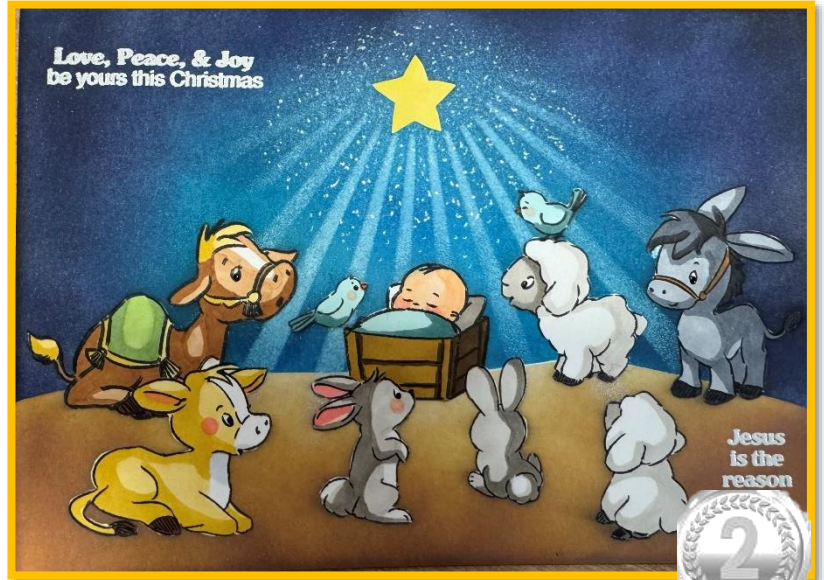
We had so many wonderful entries to the Christmas card competition this year!

The winners are as follows and have been announced in assemblies this week. Thank you so much for your participation, already we cannot wait until next year!

Mrs Ayres | Head of Art & DT



Steven Year 9



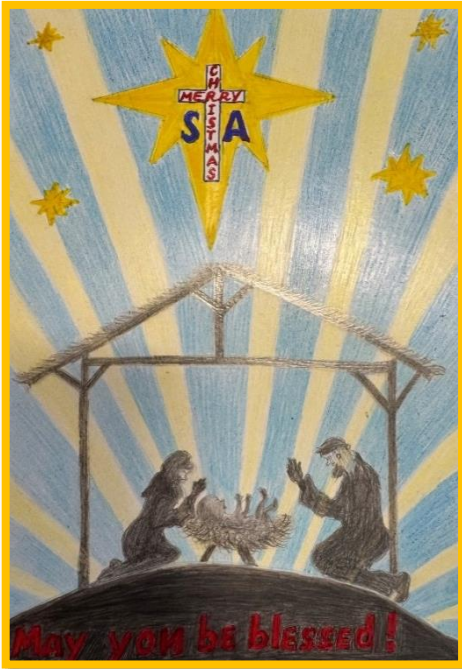
Kyla Year 9



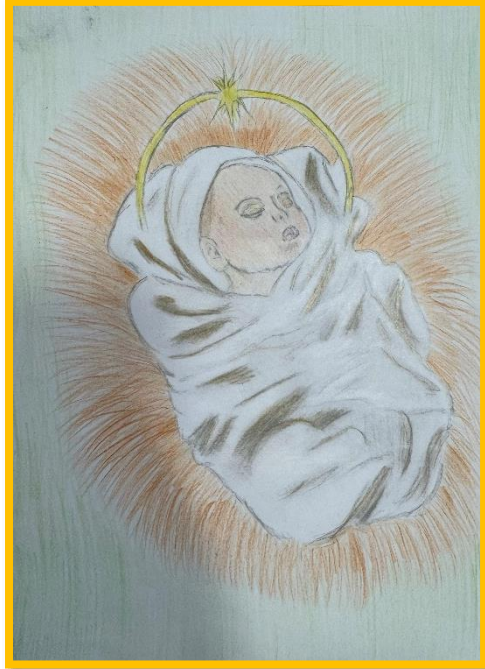
Christiana Year 10

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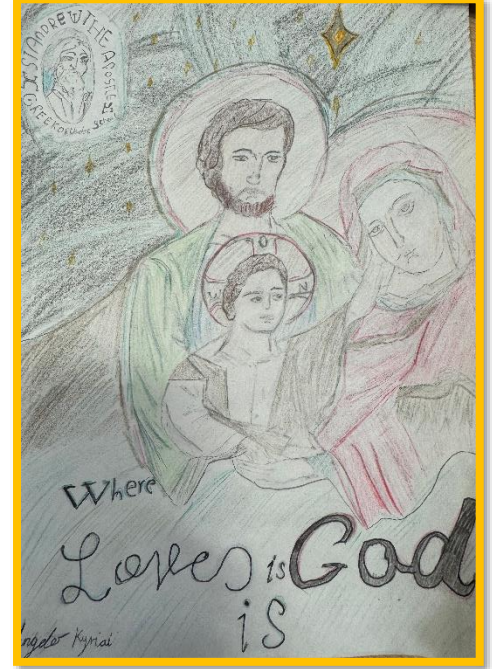
Highly commended student entries!



Denitsa Year 7



Oliwia Year 10



Angelo Year 7



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UKMT Senior challenge

The Maths department is proud to announce some wonderful successes achieved by students in Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 who participated to the UKMT Senior maths Challenge. We, as maths teachers, aim to continue promoting and inspiring our students through these initiatives which give pupils new points of view and strongly motivate them to pursue their studies in maths-related subjects.

The UKMT Maths challenges promote a love for problem solving, encourage mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques. The problems on the Senior Mathematical Challenge are designed to make students think and even though most are accessible, they still challenge those with more experience.

Well done to our students in their achievements and we look forward to seeing even more successes in the future.

Mr Dogan | Head Maths



Chemistry at STA

Year 7 Scientists got hands-on with Chemistry by testing pH levels using both universal and cabbage indicators, making for a colourful experiment. We ended by discussing their findings about the most acidic and alkaline solutions as well as evaluating which indicator was the best.

Miss Msrar | Head of Science



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St Andrew's Day Celebrations

Maths and Reading Leaderboard



Dr Frost – Top 10 users in School

Rank	Student	Total Mastery
1	Kavin Y11	19488
2	Sofia Y11	17754
3	Zara Y11	16094
4	Katina Y11	14467
5	Savan Y12	13695
6	Luca Y10	13654
7	Nicholas Y11	12848
8	Unyas Y11	12575
9	Gabriel Y11	12475
10	Yianni Y11	12060

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 practise 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	6972
2	Ayaz	2349
3	Dominic	2299
Year 8		
1	Tia	7902
2	Aurelia	7047
3	Alex	6623
Year 9		
1	Andreas	10890
2	Alaya	9827
3	Bowen	9338
Year 10		
1	Luca	13654
2	Hana	11305
3	Peter	9546
Year 11		
1	Kavin	19488
2	Sofia	17754
3	Zara	16094
Year 12		
1	Savan	13695
2	Christos	11148
3	Peter	10715
Year 13		
1	Gabriella	11877
2	Natalia	10832
3	Giorgio	8093

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:

Rank	Student	Total SRP
1	Ella	26570
2	Dominic	22970
3	Teshan	21287
4	Anu	9467
5	Mark	8988
6	Alaya	7606
7	Wonder	6821
8	Lusandro	5569
9	Anaya	5442
10	Idrees	5242

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 1,812 hours of careful reading and read altogether 658 books so far. Truly well done!

Top 3 Students for each year group:

Rank	Student	Total SRP
Year 7		
1	Dominic	22970
2	Teshan	21287
3	Lusandri	5569
Year 8		
1	Ella	26570
2	Anu	9467
3	Mark	8988
Year 9		
1	Alaya	7606
2	Zoe	5511
3	Michelle	4157

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

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Exciting Extra Curricular Music Club Opportunities!

We're thrilled to announce the fantastic music clubs currently running, offering our students wonderful ways to connect through music and develop their vocal skills. Here's what's happening:

- **Tuesday Break Time Choir:** A fun and energizing start to the day, open to all who enjoy singing and want to be part of a lively group.
- **Tuesday Lunchtime Choir:** For students looking to take their vocal abilities further, our lunchtime choir is an ideal place to practise and make friends.
- **Thursday Year 10 Intervention:** Specifically supporting our Year 10 students, this session provides focused guidance and extra support for those pursuing music in their studies.

Mr Lasithiotakis | Lead Music Teacher

Christmas Gift Appeal

On behalf of school council, I am glad to launch St Andrew the Apostle School's Christmas gift appeal. Throughout this week we have gone into each year's assembly explaining how important this appeal is and how it links with our school values, especially kindness. This appeal brightens up Christmas for those who are less fortunate than us and is an opportunity of expressing our gratitude in being fortunate, by donating a gift or giving £1 to our form tutors.

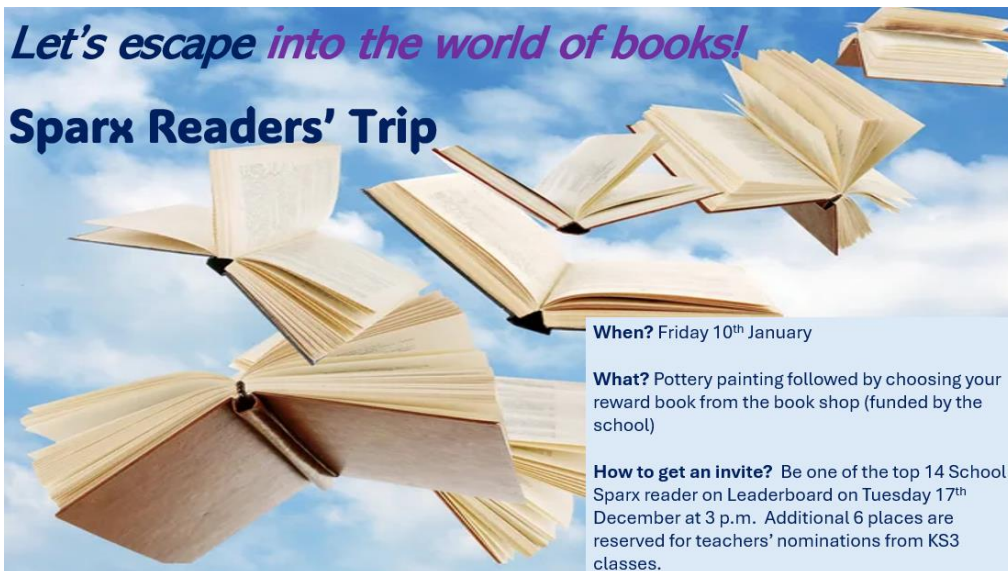
Christmas is often a time of excitement where gifts are something people usually anticipate; however, this isn't the case for many children across the borough; it is why we need to come together as a community along with Young Barnet Gift Appeal and support these people, bringing a smile to their faces on Christmas day!

Oliwia | Student 10J



Let's escape into the world of books!

Sparx Readers' Trip



When? Friday 10th January

What? Pottery painting followed by choosing your reward book from the book shop (funded by the school)

How to get an invite? Be one of the top 14 School Sparx reader on Leaderboard on Tuesday 17th December at 3 p.m. Additional 6 places are reserved for teachers' nominations from KS3 classes.

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](#)



Barnet Youth



Root word of the week

(*vers/vert*: Latin = *turn/change*)

Diversity
(*turned*
towards variety
of identity)



Extrovert
(outward-
turning
personality)



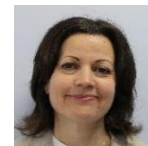
Subversive
(over*turning*
authority)



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Miss Walt



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