



St Andrew The Apostle School
Newsletter 16.01.26



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the School,

As we move into the new calendar year, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible effort our Key Stage 4 students have been putting into their studies. With Year 11 Mock 2 exams and Year 10 mid-course assessments fast approaching, we can see that these students are rising to the challenge.

For Year 11 and 13, the countdown is on; just 27 days remain before their next set of mocks. These assessments are a vital stepping stone toward the summer exams, and the focus and determination we've seen in lessons have been outstanding. Our students are showing maturity and resilience, qualities that will serve them well in the months and years ahead.

For Year 10, their journey is equally important. With 96 days to go before their own assessments, this is the perfect time to build strong habits. These mid-course exams provide a valuable opportunity to gauge progress and identify areas for improvement early, ensuring that every student is on track for success.

Practical Tips for Effective Revision

Parents and carers often ask how they can best support their children during this crucial period. Here are some practical strategies that make a real difference:

Create a Revision Timetable

Encourage your child to plan their time carefully. Breaking revision into manageable chunks and scheduling regular breaks helps maintain focus and reduces stress.

Use Active Techniques

Passive reading isn't enough and students should engage with the material. Techniques such as mind maps, flashcards, and teaching the material to someone else have been shown to boost retention. You can find support on our website [here](#).

Practise Past Papers

Familiarity with exam-style questions is key. Working through past papers under timed conditions builds confidence and highlights areas for improvement.

Prioritise Wellbeing

Sleep, nutrition, and exercise are just as important as study. A healthy routine supports concentration and resilience.

Seek Support Early

If a topic feels challenging, encourage your child to speak to their teacher or attend intervention sessions. Asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

While academic preparation is a priority, we are equally proud of the life of our school beyond the classroom. This term, our extra-curricular clubs have flourished, offering students opportunities to explore their interests.

A particular highlight has been the Key Stage 3 Debate Club, which has gone from strength to strength. The quality of discussion and the confidence displayed by our younger students have been remarkable. They have tackled complex topics with maturity and respect, embodying the values that underpin our school community.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the Greek Cypriot Brotherhood for their warm invitation to celebrate the New Year and to share in cutting the Vasilopita last Sunday. It was a privilege to be part of this event, and I am grateful for their hospitality and continued support of our school.

Christopher Martin | Headteacher

Faith Focus: Celebrating Our Saints and Living Our Values

As we journey through January, we are reminded of the richness of our Orthodox tradition and the lives of the saints who inspire us daily. This coming week is filled with opportunities to reflect on their virtues and celebrate those in our community who share their names.

On 17 January, we honour St Anthony the Great, the father of monasticism. His life of prayer and simplicity calls us to seek God above all else. We extend warm wishes to all named Anthony (Antonios) and Antonia—may you be blessed with wisdom and strength. St Anthony's humility reminds us of Respect for God and others.

18 January brings the feast of St Athanasios the Great, a defender of the faith and a beacon of courage. We celebrate those named Athanasios and Athanasia, praying that you continue to stand firm in truth and love. His unwavering stance reflects Responsibility in safeguarding what is right.

On 20 January, we commemorate St Euthymios the Great, known for his kindness and spiritual guidance. Blessings to all named Euthymios—may joy and peace fill your hearts. His compassion mirrors our value of Caring.

21 January honours St Maximos the Confessor, a saint of deep conviction and humility. Warm wishes to those named Maximos and Maxima. His forgiveness of those who wronged him reminds us of Forgiveness as a cornerstone of faith.

Finally, on 22 January, we celebrate St Timothy the Apostle, a faithful disciple of St Paul. We pray for all named Timothy (Timotheos) and Timothea, that you may live with faith and perseverance. His loyalty and honesty embody Trustworthiness and Fairness.

As we mark these name days, let us remember that each saint's life is a model of holiness and service. Take a moment this week to learn about their stories, offer a prayer of

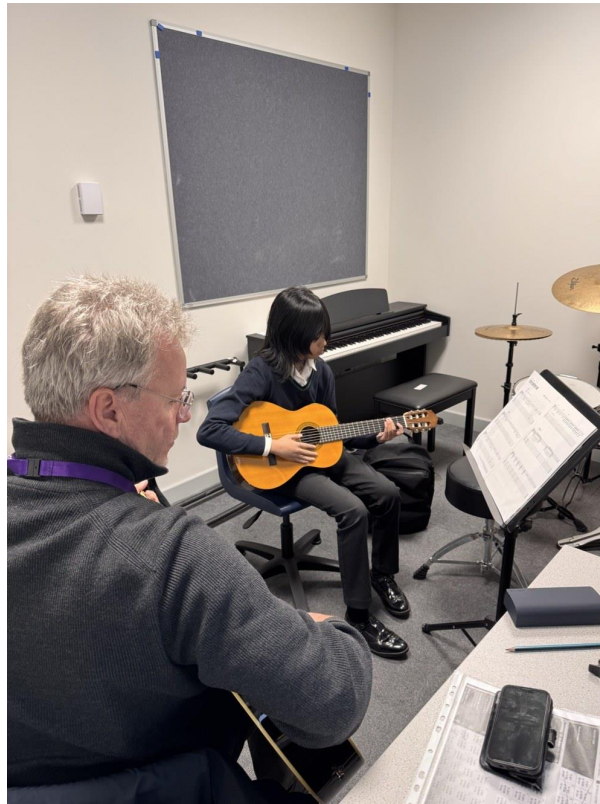
thanksgiving, and reach out to friends or family celebrating their name day with a kind word or blessing. In doing so, we live out our school values every day.



APOSTLE NEWS

[Click here to read our student Newsletter!](#)

Musician of the Week: Mischa



*This week, we are delighted to celebrate **Mischa** as our **Musician of the Week**. A wonderfully talented student, Mischa has been impressing us all with her skill and confidence on the guitar. Whether she's performing in class or practising independently, her dedication shines through in every note she plays. Mischa's musicality, focus, and love for the instrument make her a joy to watch, and we are incredibly proud of her progress. Well done, Mischa—keep strumming, keep shining, and keep inspiring those around you!*

Music: Learn an Instrument or Join a Band – Sign Up Now

We are delighted to share that instrumental tuition and our Music Academy opportunities are open for applications through BEAT (Barnet Education Arts Trust). Learning an instrument or joining a band is a fantastic way for students to build confidence, creativity, and teamwork skills, while enjoying the fun of making music together.

For new parents:

You can register for lessons via the BEAT website: <https://beatrust.org.uk/learn-to-play/school-based-tuition/>. Once registered, students will be placed on a waiting list, and places will be offered as vacancies arise, usually at the start of each term.

For existing parents:

You do not need to re-enrol. BEAT will contact you directly with payment details for the new term.

Spaces are limited and allocated on a first-come basis, so we encourage parents to register early to avoid disappointment.

Music at our school continues to thrive, and we look forward to welcoming even more young musicians into lessons and ensembles this year.

A reminder for all students:

Choir takes place every Monday lunchtime. Year 9 bands rehearse on Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes, and the Year 11 band rehearses on Thursday lunchtime. Any student can sign up and I am so happy that so many students have been attending.

Mr Lasithiotakis | Lead Teacher of Music

BEAT BRITAIN'S EDUCATION TRUST **Live Music Make Music**

GUITAR ENSEMBLE CHOIRS TRAINING STRINGS ACADEMY BAND ROCK & POP

AGES 3 TO 21 YRS OLD!



BEAT MUSIC ACADEMIES

"Excellent teaching that is affordable, accessible, and supportive. I appreciate the encouragement and relaxed approach. The kids love coming here" - Parent Survey 2024

Previous Performances:

- ▶ Royal Albert Hall
- ▶ St John's Smith Square
- ▶ artsdepot
- ▶ European Tours
- ▶ Duke's Hall
- ▶ StoneX Stadium

Scan here to find out more:



FOUNDAATION STAGES JAZZ ENSEMBLE MUSIC THEORY RECORDER GROUPS

Supported using public funding by  CHARITY NO. 1150174 COMPANY NO. 8310735 MORE INFORMATION:

 **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND** **WWW.BEATRUST.ORG.UK**

BEAT BRITAIN'S EDUCATION TRUST **Live Music Make Music**

GUITAR ENSEMBLE CHOIRS TRAINING STRINGS ACADEMY BAND ROCK & POP

AVAILABLE SESSIONS

- Foundation Stages
- Training Bands/Strings
- Rock & Pop
- Training Choirs
- Academy Bands/Strings
- Music Theory
- Recorder Groups
- Academy Choirs
- Tabla Classes
- Starter Bands
- Guitar Ensembles
- Jazz Ensemble

BARNET YOUTH STRING ORCHESTRA

ONE VOICE CHOIRS

BARNET YOUTH WIND ENSEMBLE

BARNET YOUTH BRASS BAND

BEAT MUSIC ACADEMY EAST

Saturday Mornings
East Barnet School, 5 Chestnut Grove, East Barnet
EN4 8PU


BEAT MUSIC ACADEMY CENTRAL


Wednesdays & Thursdays After-School
Dollis Primary School, Pursley Rd, London NW7 2BU

BEAT MUSIC ACADEMY WEST

Saturday Mornings
St Mary's and St John's School, Sunningfield Road, Hendon,
NW4 4QR

FOUNDAATION STAGES JAZZ ENSEMBLE MUSIC THEORY RECORDER GROUPS

Supported using public funding by  CHARITY NO. 1150174 COMPANY NO. 8310735 MORE INFORMATION:

 **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND** **WWW.BEATRUST.ORG.UK**

BEAT **Love Music Make Music**

Voice Trumpet Horn Cello Viola Piano Clarinet Double Bass Oboe

INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL LESSONS

AGES 7 TO 21 YRS OLD!

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

- Lessons available in schools
- All teachers DBS checked
- All levels welcome from beginner to advanced
- Almost every instrument available
- Individual or small group tuition
- Lessons after-school & on weekends at BEAT Music Academies

Scan here to find out more:

Trombone Tuba Bassoon Violin Guitar Flute Drums Saxophone

Supported using public funding by CHARITY NO. 1150174 COMPANY NO. 8310735 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO ENROL: WWW.BEATRUST.ORG.UK

Department for Education ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

An Unmissable Musical Experience – Trinity Orchestra Live!



*We are excited to share a fantastic cultural opportunity with our school community! On **Saturday, 24 January 2026**, the prestigious **Trinity Orchestra** will perform at the **Harrow Arts Centre**. The concert begins at **7.30pm**, with a special introduction to the music at **7:00 pm**. This is a **rare opportunity** to hear an expert talk about the music **before it is performed** – a true guide for the listener that will enrich your experience and deepen your understanding of these incredible works. The program includes:*

-
- *Holst – The Planets*
 - *Falla – The Three-Cornered Hat (Suite No. 2)*
 - *Hans Zimmer – Earth*
 - *Schubert – Psalm 23*
-

Conducted by **Andrew Morley** and **John Wyatt**, this promises to be an unforgettable evening of music.

*And here's something extra special – you'll spot a **very familiar face from our school community performing with the orchestra!** What an amazing achievement and a wonderful chance to see one of our own contributing to such a prestigious event. Let's show our support and make this a night to remember!*

Tickets:

- *Adults: £17*
 - *Concessions: £14*
 - *Under 18s: £5*
- *Available online at www.harrowarts.com or via the Box Office: **020 3773 7161**.*
-

More Dates for Your Diary – Trinity Orchestra 2026 Season

*All performances take place at **St Edmund's Church, Northwood Hills:***

- **Saturday 7 March 2026 | 2.30 pm & 4.15pm**
-

Family Concert: Musical Superheroes

*Featuring heroic themes from Superman and The Avengers, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony,
and more!*

• ***Saturday 16 May 2026 | 7.30pm***

Britten – Four Sea Interludes

Haydn – Trumpet Concerto (*soloist: Katie Bannister*)

Mussorgsky – Pictures at an Exhibition (*orch. Ravel*)

• ***Saturday 27 June 2026 | 7.30pm***

Prokofiev – Sinfonia Concertante

Rachmaninov – Symphony No. 1

*For more info and updates, visit www.trinityorchestra.org.uk or call **020 8428 5924**.*

Mr Lasithiotakis | Lead teacher of Music


 President: Owain Arwel Hughes CBE
www.trinityorchestra.org.uk
 Registered Charity No. 1114976

Saturday 24 January 2026
 Concert 7.30pm | Hear about the music at 7pm
Harrow Arts Centre, Hatch End HA5 4EA

TRINITY ORCHESTRA PERFORMS



HOLST
THE PLANETS

Andrew Morley conductor Christian Halstead leader

FALLA The Three-Cornered Hat (Suite No. 2)
HANS ZIMMER Earth
SCHUBERT Psalm 23 (conducted by John Wyatt)


 Reserved seating:
 £17 adults
 £14 concessions
 £5 under 18s

Online: www.harrowarts.com
 Box Office: 020 3773 7161
 On the door (subject to availability)

Please note a £1 non-refundable transaction fee applies for online & phone bookings


Artist of the Week: Theo




Congratulations to Theo in Year 8 for being named our Artist of the Week! Theo impressed us with his stunning abstract oil pastel drawing of a fish, inspired by the style of Georgia O'Keeffe. His creative use of colour and bold composition truly captured the essence of abstract art. Well done, Theo!

Greek Cypriot Brotherhood - Vasilopita Cutting event



I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Greek Cypriot Brotherhood for kindly inviting me to celebrate the New Year and take part in the Vasilopita cutting last Sunday. It was an honour to attend, and I truly appreciated their warm hospitality and the ongoing support they offer our school community.

Mr Martin | Headteacher

Student Council Fundraising - Help for Harry

Our Student Council organised a fundraising football tournament before Christmas with some of the money raised going towards stocking our school library. However, the Student Council wanted to donate funds to a charity that is supporting Harry, who is a student at King's School in Hove, East Sussex, which is another Russell Education Trust school. Harry needs support in his rehabilitation from a spinal injury. He is currently in Year 11 at King's but has a link to North London because he, along with his brother, is a lifelong Arsenal supporter. The money raised will support ongoing physiotherapy, specialist equipment and major home adjustments that are needed to help him.

Students and staff were able to donate £535.00 towards helping Harry – please see the photo below of Mrs Price, the Headteacher at King’s School, gratefully accepting the funds on behalf of the charity that supports Harry from Mr Easton, who has worked at both King’s and St Andrew the Apostle School.



*If you would like to donate money to support Harry, you can do so via this link:
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/harryclapham>*

Mr Easton

Student Council Update – Setting Our Goals for the Spring Term

The Student Council met on Thursday 8 January 2026 to set clear and ambitious aims for the coming term. This meeting focused on strengthening our role in school life and ensuring that our work has a positive impact on both our community and beyond.

Our Key Aims for This Term:

Charity Partnerships

The Council will choose and decide on three charities—one local, one regional, and one national—to collaborate with going forward. This will allow us to make a difference at multiple levels and give students the opportunity to support causes that matter.

Teaching and Learning Collaboration

We plan to begin implementing a school-wide collaboration project that connects students and staff across departments. This initiative will focus on sharing best practices, promoting peer learning, and creating opportunities for student voice in shaping learning experiences.

Next Charity Event

Planning is already underway for our next major charity event, with all funds raised going towards the selected local, regional, and national charities. This event will be designed to bring the whole school together in a fun and meaningful way while supporting important causes.

These aims reflect our commitment to leadership, community engagement, and social responsibility.

Stay tuned for more updates as we finalise charity selections and share details of the upcoming event. Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Student Council's work.

Mr Browell | Extended Leadership Team & Head of PE

Year 10 Girls Shine at Their First Basketball Tournament



The Year 10 Girls' Basketball team delivered an excellent performance at the Barnet Schools Tournament in what was impressively their first ever competitive match. From the opening whistle, the team showed determination, teamwork and a willingness to learn—qualities that shone brighter with every game they played.

As the evening progressed, the girls grew in confidence and quickly built upon each experience on court. Neiva, Angie and Akshara demonstrated exceptional defensive resilience, showing real strength in blocking and holding their positions under pressure. Sofia, Michelle and Eve excelled with sharp interceptions and confident dribbling, helping to transition the ball effectively into attacking opportunities. Meanwhile, Emily and Melina were outstanding

in driving the ball up the court and contributing vital baskets, ensuring the team remained competitive throughout each fixture.

A special mention goes to Janiah, who was deservedly awarded MVP of the tournament. Her excellent contribution to scoring, outstanding defensive skills, ability to block any player driving into the key, and her uplifting positivity in uniting the team made her a standout performer.

Their collective effort, resilience and determination culminated in a well-deserved bronze medal—an incredible achievement for a team making their competitive debut. The result reflects not only their growing skillset but also their commitment to working together and supporting one another.

Miss Walt | Assistant Headteacher & Teacher of PE



Year 8 Basketball – First Game of the Season



Our Year 8 basketball team kicked off their season with a spirited performance against Christ College, one of the strongest teams in the borough. Despite a 16–5 defeat, the match showcased determination, teamwork, and plenty of promise for the season ahead.

From the opening whistle, our players demonstrated resilience and energy, refusing to be intimidated by the opposition’s reputation. The defensive effort was commendable, with every player working hard to limit scoring opportunities and maintain pressure throughout the game. Offensively, the team created several chances and converted them into well-earned points.

The scoring was shared among Reece, Kamil, and Pierre, highlighting the collaborative nature of the team’s play. Kamil, operating as point guard, impressed with his composure and vision on the court. His ability to control the tempo and distribute the ball effectively earned him the Most Valuable Player (MVP) award, voted by his peers at the end of the match.

Special mention also goes to Pierre, who made his debut appearance for the school in the center position. His strong presence under the basket and commitment to both ends of the court were key positives in this opening fixture.

Although the final scoreline favoured Christ College, the performance was full of encouraging signs. The team showed great character and laid a solid foundation for the rest of the season.

With continued effort and development, there is every reason to believe that Year 8 basketball will go from strength to strength.

Mr Browell | Extended Leadership & Head of PE

Extra-Curricular Clubs – Spring Term

We're excited to announce that our full programme of extra-curricular clubs has officially commenced for the Spring Term. Students will have access to a wide variety of lunchtime and after-school activities, designed to enrich learning, build friendships, and develop new skills.

Whether you're passionate about sports, music, arts, literacy, numeracy, debate, or horticulture, there's something for everyone. Clubs are open to all year groups and offer a fantastic opportunity to explore interests beyond the classroom.

For clubs running at lunchtime, students will be issued lunch passes to allow early access to the dining hall—ensuring they have time to eat before attending their chosen activity.

To sign up, students must use Student Portal:

- 1. Log in to the portal*
 - 2. View your **dashboard***
 - 3. Click on **clubs***
 - 4. Find your preferred club and click **enrol**.*
-

Please note - If students have already enrolled for the club during Autumn Term, students do not need to re-enrol for the Spring Term.

We encourage all students to get involved and make the most of what's on offer. Please see attached lunch and after-school timetables.

Extra - Curricular Lunch Time Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Library - Study Plus Group (Ms Azad)	Library - Study Plus Group (Ms Azad)	Year 11 Public-Library Style revision (TA)	Library - Study Plus Group (Ms Azad)	Library - Study Plus Group (Ms Azad)
Year 11 Public-Library Style revision (TA)	Year 11 Public-Library Style revision (TA)	Year 9 Band Practice (Mr Lasithiotakis)	Year 11 Public-Library Style revision (TA)	Year 11 Public-Library Style revision (TA)
Chess Club (Mr Kattoor)	Mind the Gap (Ms Nicolas)	The Inner Circle KS5 (Ms Sorgente)	Year 11 Band Practice (Mr Lasithiotakis)	KS3 Reading Club (Ms Pallas)
Choir (Mr Lasithiotakis)	Cultural Greek Dance (Ms Ntaountaki)	Debate Club (Mr Watch)	Strategy Club (Mr Dogan)	
Post Advice and Support (Ms Koveri)		IT Surgery (Mr Ahmed)	Drama Club KS4 (Ms Nelson)	
		Apostle News Club (Ms Casey)		
		Drama Club KS3 (Ms Nelson)		
		Paired Reading Club (Ms Bassington)		

Extra - Curricular After School Schedule 3pm to 4pm

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Learning and Practice club (TA)	Learning and Practice club (TA)	Learning and Practice club (TA)	Learning and Practice club (TA)	Learning and Practice club (TA)
Young Writers Club (Ms Casey)	Art Club KS3 & Year 10 (Miss Lisle)	Debate Club KS3 (Dr Beadle)	DT Club (Ms Ayres)	Level 3 Algebra Club (Mr Dogan)
Basketball Club (PE Team)	French Club KS4 (Ms Errami)	Netball (PE Team)	Physics Club KS4 (Mr Chalepas)	Electric Car Club (Mr Chalepas)
Negotiation Club (Ms Rafique)	Allotment Club (Ms Mahmuti)		Science Club KS4 (Miss McCaffrey)	
	Criminal Psychology (Ms Cebir)		STEM Club KS3 (Miss Msrar)	
			Chemistry Club KS4 (Ms Frost)	
			Dance Club (Miss Watt)	

A Walk Down Memory Lane

This time last year, we were honoured to welcome the Minister of Education to STA. The visit was a memorable occasion, highlighting the incredible work happening across our school community. The Minister toured our facilities, met with staff and students, and praised the dedication and achievements that make STA such a vibrant place for learning. It was a proud moment for us all and a reminder of the impact we have in shaping the future of education.

Visit of the Minister of Education



The minister of education paid a visit to St Andrew earlier today, touring the school and classrooms, observing lessons and engaging in discussions with students and staff. During the tour, the Minister observed various lessons from several departments. The minister was impressed by the student's enthusiasm and dedication whilst also commending the teachers for their hard work.



Meet the Staff



Hello, my name is Mr Christou and I am the Exams and Data Manager at St Andrew the Apostle School since December 2018. From the first day I joined I have really enjoyed my time, the school is very welcoming, supportive and all colleagues work extremely hard to support

students in achieving great results every year. Students are polite and well behaved and there is a real community feel about the school.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my family, travelling, weightlifting and playing football, I fell that your body is a reflection of your mind and its important keep both strong and active. If I was hosting a dinner party the three celebrities, I would invite would be Jurgen Klopp and Michael Jordan there would some interesting conversations and they could share their secrets to success.

I am passionate about helping students succeed and in particular are very proud when I see lots of happy faces on results day.

Sparx Reader

Sparx Reader

At St Andrew, students in Years 7 to 10 are expected to earn at least 300 points per week (which equates to approximately 30 min of careful reading) through reading a wide selection of fiction books of their choice from an online library.

Our students of Years 7 to 10 have already read 1,313 books and spent 2,671 hours of careful reading.

Well done and keep up the good work!

Ms Bassington | Head of English

Congratulations to our top December readers from each year group:

Year 7 Top Readers:

Serena R: 25,826

Melissa M: 8,433

Tia M: 7,289

Year 8 Top Readers:

Year 9 Top Readers:

Anu O: 6,923

Mark M: 2,696

Gabriel F: 2,219

Year 10 Top Readers:

Ayaz I: 6,923

Ali O: 10,283

Wealth O: 4,402

Ras D: 4,546

Moyosoreoluwa S: 3,081

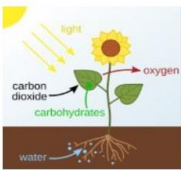
Ria B: 1,600

Ms Bassington | Head of English


Root Word of the Week

Root Word of the week SJA


PHOTO (Greek) = light



Photosynthesis (the process plants use to convert light into energy)



Photograph (an image created using light)



Photochemistry
(chemical reactions caused by light)

Build a Library - Mark Your Legacy!

We are incredibly grateful to the families who have shown such heartfelt support for our school library.

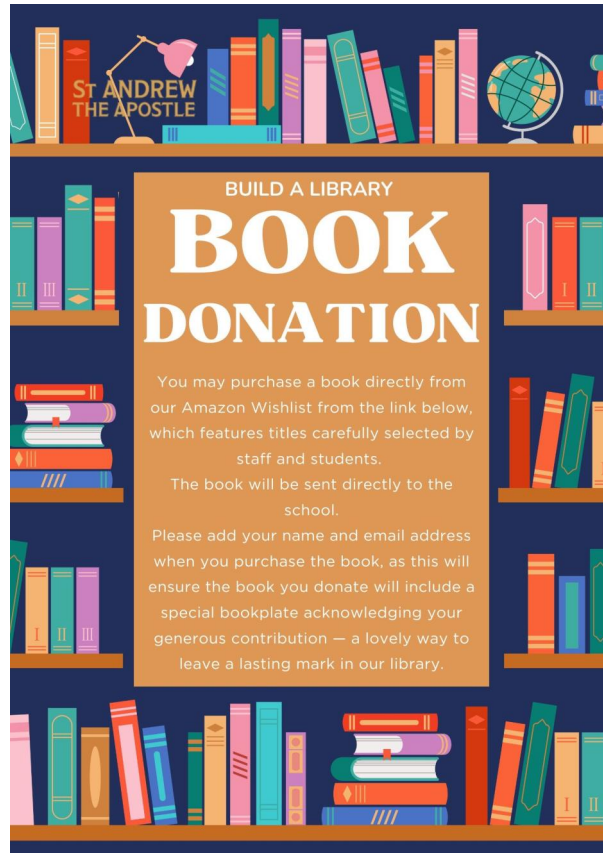
We have currently had over 48 book purchases, and this continues to grow. Your generous donations of books have enriched our shelves and opened up new worlds for our students to explore. You may access our Amazon wish list [here](#) to join in building our school Library.

Please ensure to add your full name to the note at checkout.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to the all the families who have donated £100 to mark their legacy. Your contribution is a lasting investment in the future of our students.

If you would like to support the school through a legacy donation, you can sign in on Parent Pay and select 'pay for other items' once you have logged in.

Thank you for being part of our story.



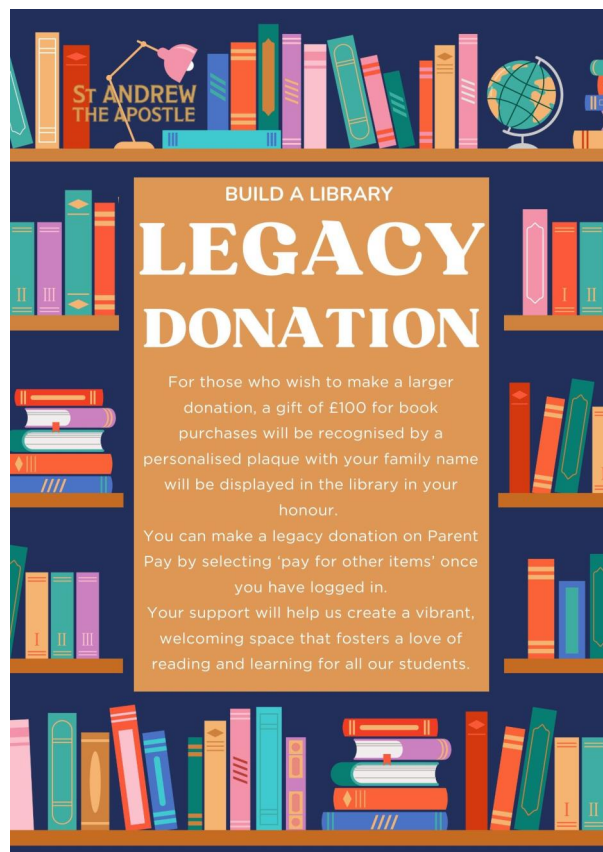
BUILD A LIBRARY

BOOK DONATION

You may purchase a book directly from our Amazon Wishlist from the link below, which features titles carefully selected by staff and students.

The book will be sent directly to the school.

Please add your name and email address when you purchase the book, as this will ensure the book you donate will include a special bookplate acknowledging your generous contribution — a lovely way to leave a lasting mark in our library.



BUILD A LIBRARY

LEGACY DONATION

For those who wish to make a larger donation, a gift of £100 for book purchases will be recognised by a personalised plaque with your family name will be displayed in the library in your honour.

You can make a legacy donation on Parent Pay by selecting 'pay for other items' once you have logged in.

Your support will help us create a vibrant, welcoming space that fosters a love of reading and learning for all our students.

Volunteer Librarian Vacancy Available



VOLUNTEER LIBRARIAN



A flexible, rewarding opportunity for someone who enjoys working with children and young people, and wants to make a meaningful contribution to a learning environment.

You'll support the day-to-day running of the library and help create a welcoming, well-organised space that encourages reading and discovery.

What We're Looking For

- A genuine love of books and reading
- Friendly, patient, and approachable nature
- Good organisational skills and attention to detail
- Confidence working with children of all ages
- Basic computer literacy (training provided)
- Reliability and a willingness to learn



020 3195 5444



vacancies@standrewtheapostle.org.uk



St Andrew the Apostle School
Brunswick Park Road,
Barnet, London,
N11 1EH



Scan QR Code to apply!

Scan QR Code to visit our
Instagram page!



A high achieving school for Barnet and beyond

1 - [Volunteer Librarian at St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School, London, | MyNewTermClick Here to Apply!](#)

Celebrating Our Environmental Achievement

Gold Level TFL Award

Congratulations to STA for achieving the Gold Level TfL STARS Award! This recognition celebrates the school's outstanding commitment to sustainable travel and active transport.

STA has demonstrated leadership in promoting safer, greener journeys to and from school. The Gold Level status reflects the school's dedication to creating a healthier environment and inspiring positive change across the borough.



Sustainability at STA: Over 9832 Bottles Saved!



STA has made an incredible impact by saving over 12,089 plastic bottles since the start of the school year, thanks to the installation of brand-new water fountains in our new building. This initiative not only promotes sustainability but also encourages students and staff to make environmentally conscious choices every day. Well done to everyone involved!

STA's Carbon Cut: 4,291kg of CO₂ Saved!



St Andrew the Apostle School is proud to announce that our new building has already helped save 4,291 kilograms of carbon dioxide through our use of solar panels—a huge step toward reducing our environmental footprint. This achievement reflects our commitment to sustainability and creating a greener future for our school community.

SEND Information

BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents and Carers. An Online Parent/Carer Training Course

A comprehensive training and support programme for parents/carers of children aged 6-19, with a diagnosis of Autism. This course is available free of charge to families living in Barnet.

A 6-session online training course, covering topics including:

- An overview of what it means for your child to be Autistic.*
- Communication.*
- Sensory needs.*
- Understanding emotional regulation/'behaviour'.*

This course also gives parents/carers an opportunity to learn together and share experiences online. This course is now fully booked.

**BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents and Carers.
Spring Term 2026 One, A 6-session evening course.**

Dates and times:

Wednesday 7th January 6.00-7.30pm
Wednesday 14th January 6.00-7.30pm
Wednesday 21st January 6.00-7.30pm
Wednesday 28th January 6.00-7.30pm
Wednesday 4th February 6.00-7.30pm
Wednesday 11th February 6.00-7.30pm

Sign up form here: [BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents And Carers, Jan. & Feb. 2026. Sign-up form. – Fill in form](#)

**BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents and Carers.
Spring Term 2026 Two, A 5-session morning course.**

Dates and times:

Monday 23rd February 10-11.30am
Monday 2nd March 10-11.30am
Monday 9th March 10-11.30am
Monday 16th March 10-11.30am
Monday 23rd March 10-11.30am

Sign up form here: [BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents And Carers, Feb. & March 2026. Sign-up form. – Fill in form](#)

Planning for Adulthood Conference - Save the Date



Planning for Adulthood Conference Save the date!

Barnet Education and Learning Service (BELS), in collaboration with the Barnet Parent Carer Forum (BPCF), are re-running the successful Planning for Adulthood Conference.

This event is aimed at parent carers of young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Speakers will focus on topics to support young people on their journey into adulthood.



Tuesday 17th
March 2026



10:00 am -
early afternoon



Online

What to expect

The full agenda and sign-up details will be shared in the Spring Term



Keynote talk: Carrie Grant

Carrie Grant MBE:

- BAFTA award-winning broadcaster with two Honorary Doctorates and an MBE for her services to Music, Media & Charity.
- Leadership Coach.
- Carrie has been President of the Unite Union for Community Practitioners and Health Visitors and Patient Lead for The College of Medicine.
- Author of "SEND in UK Schools - A Parent View," and bestseller, "A Very Modern Family."
- Ambassador for Crohn's & Colitis UK, The Diana Award, The National Autistic Society, Nordoff & Robbins and Adoption UK.

Carrie is Mum to four multi-hyphenate children with SEND and various intersections, including adoption, neuro-divergence, gender, sexuality and race. For the past 14 years Carrie has run a support group for over 300 autism families.

Carrie has transitioned three children into adulthood with services involved, and is currently guiding her youngest into adulthood through the Section 20 system.

Services and organisations

Numerous organisations and local authority services have been invited to present information to support families on this journey.

Young people's voice

Contributions from young people sharing their experiences will be included throughout the conference.

Turtle Arts - Sign up Now



"It was amazing and I didn't want it to end!"

Aaron
Turtle Opera participant
2025

JOIN OUR FREE MUSIC & DRAMA PROJECT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

Four days of workshops with a professional composer and director, creating your own stories and music for an informal performance. A specialist team from Turtle Key Arts will support the group, enabling fun and friendships!

- FOR **11 TO 15** YEAR OLDS
- Dates **Tue 17 - Fri 20 Feb**
- Time **11:00am til 3:30pm**
- V&A Museum
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COMPLETE THE STEPS TO JOIN.



- Scan the **QR code** to reach the registration page.
- Submit the **online form** and we'll send you a reply.

- Call us on **020 8964 5060**
- Email ellie@turtlekeyarts.org.uk

Turtle Opera is produced by Turtle Key Arts in collaboration with V&A South Kensington, English Touring Opera and Royal College of Music. Funded by The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust.

Safeguarding at STA

At St Andrew the Apostle School we take safeguarding and child protection issues very seriously.

We believe that all those who come into contact with children and families in their everyday work have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Prior to employment all staff (paid or voluntary) are checked.

The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) for Child Protection is Ms Walt.

The deputy designated safeguarding lead's (DDSLs) for Child Protection are Mr Martin and Ms Bicarregui.



Attendance

