



St Andrew The Apostle School Newsletter 05.09.25





Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been one of great excitement and pride at St Andrew the Apostle School, as we welcomed our new Year 7 students into our community — and they stepped together into our brand new school building for the very first time.

Our Year 7s arrived packed with energy, curiosity, and a little nervousness, which quickly gave way to confidence as they found their place in our community. They've made a fantastic start: settling in beautifully, engaging positively with staff and peers, and showing all the qualities we value as a school rooted in the Greek Orthodox faith — caring, responsibility, and a deep respect for learning.

The move into our new, purpose-built school building has made the start of term feel especially significant. With state-of-the-art facilities, specialist classrooms, and spacious communal areas, our new home will have a transformative impact on teaching and learning. For more details and photos of the new site, we invite you to visit:

<https://standrewtheapostle.org.uk/new-school-building>

We are grateful to all the staff who gave their time and energy over the summer to prepare the building and ensure everything was ready for the start of term. Their hard work, professionalism and commitment to the school have not gone unnoticed, and we thank them sincerely for going above and beyond to make this transition so smooth. In particular, I'd like to thank Mr Hounsell and his team for ensuring that we were ready from day one.

We also take this opportunity to celebrate our recent GCSE and A-Level results, which have once again reflected the strength of our academic programme. Our outcomes will undoubtedly place us well above national averages and show the excellent progress our students make during their time with us.

At A-Level, our students achieved places at a range of top universities and competitive courses. Some standout destinations include:

- **Sidney** – Mathematics at University College London
- **Gabriella** – Artificial Intelligence and Philosophy at King’s College London
- **Giorgio** – Business with Finance at City University
- **Vlad** – Chemical Engineering at the University of Leeds
- **Natalia** – Bio-Veterinary Science at the Royal Veterinary College
- **Holly** – Law at City University
- **Angela** – Psychology at City University

We are incredibly proud of all our students — not just for their results, but for the determination, resilience and character they have shown throughout their time with us.

As we begin this new school year — in a new building, with new students, and with much to celebrate — we look forward with gratitude, optimism and ambition for our entire community.

To all our families, new and returning, thank you for your continued support. We are excited for what lies ahead.

Christopher Martin | Headteacher

Faith

At St Andrew the Apostle, we believe that learning is not only about developing knowledge and skills, but also about nurturing values, inspiration and faith. Around our school, you may notice Bible quotes displayed on classroom doors. These have been carefully chosen to show how scripture can guide and inspire us in every subject area. For example, a verse about sharing and multiplication may be linked to maths, while one about creativity might be connected to music. In this way, we encourage students to see how the teachings of the Bible can shape their learning, help them reflect on the world and give deeper meaning to the subjects they study.

[Bible Quotes](#)

These quotes also serve as a daily reminder of the Christian values at the heart of our school community—caring, respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness and forgiveness. By linking scripture to learning, we aim to foster a supportive and reflective environment where every child can thrive both academically and spiritually.

We would love families to be part of this journey. If you have a favourite Bible verse that you feel connects to a school subject—whether English, art, history, or beyond—we invite you to share it with us. Your suggestions may inspire our future displays!

As we continue our journey into the new academic year, it's important to reflect on the values that lie at the heart of our school community. Rooted in the teachings of the Greek Orthodox faith, our school's values guide and shape everything we do. They remind us that education is not just about academic achievement, but also about growing in wisdom, compassion, and service to others.

Our core values of Caring, Trustworthiness, Fairness, Forgiveness, Respect, and Responsibility are lived out daily in the actions and attitudes of our students and staff. Whether through acts of kindness in the classroom, a commitment to excellence in learning, or taking responsibility for the welfare of others, these values help us to build a community that reflects the love and teachings of Christ.

Next week, we celebrate a special occasion in our school calendar — the name day of Evathia, one of the many beautiful traditions in the Greek Orthodox Church. Name days are an important part of our spiritual lives, and we take this opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the name "Evathia," which means "good grace." It is a reminder to each of us of the grace of God that surrounds us, and the call to live lives that reflect His love and kindness.

To all those in our community named Evathia, we offer our heartfelt congratulations and blessings for this special day. May the grace of God continue to guide and strengthen you. We also invite the entire school community to take this opportunity to pray for one another, to share in the love of Christ, and to celebrate the ways in which our faith shapes and unites us.

As we reflect on our values, let us remember that faith is the foundation of everything we do — guiding us to be people of hope, compassion, and respect. It is in living these values that we are truly able to serve God and our community, creating an environment where every student can grow spiritually and academically.



STA has moved into its permanent home!

The start of the new school year has been a momentous one for students and staff as we move into the school's permanent home on 1 September 2025.

Staff and students have acclimatised in the first week of term with a carefully planned integration in order to recreate the wonderful ethos of our school in our new home.

All parents will be able to visit the school with their children in the first half term.

Prospective students for our 2026 intake will be able to see the school on our Open Evening on 7 October 2025, which starts at 5.30pm. Visitors will see our new Design Technology classrooms, our 4G astroturf pitch, auditorium and Drama/Music facilities.

The 12-year project to identify a site, secure planning permission and build our permanent home has been the culmination of the vision for the school by a group of local parents, led by the late Yiannis Pareas, our founding Chair of Governors.

St Andrew the Apostle School and the Russell Education Trust is grateful to both our building partners, B+K, and the Comer Group which provided the land as part of the wider development of North London Business Park.











GCSE Success at St Andrew the Apostle School!



St Andrew the Apostle School was filled with joy and celebration on Thursday 21 August, as students and staff marked another outstanding year of GCSE results. This year's achievements surpassed even last year's record-breaking performance, with students making remarkable progress—averaging over three-quarters of a grade improvement per subject.

Among the top performers were **Zara**, who secured an incredible *eight grade 9s* and will be studying *Maths, History, and Psychology* at A Level, and **Gabriel**, who earned *eight grade 8s* and will pursue *Maths, History, Politics, and Biology*. Many students have chosen to continue their academic journey at our Sixth Form, while others are heading into vocational training and apprenticeships.

Mary Karaolis OBE shared her pride in the school community:

“These results are a testament to the hard work of pupils, teachers, and parents. The school is rapidly gathering momentum ahead of our move into superb new buildings in September.”

- **English and Maths** results saw a notable rise in the number of students achieving top grades (9–7), both individually and combined.
- **Humanities and Performing Arts** also flourished, reflecting our commitment to a broad and balanced curriculum.

Students and parents alike were thrilled with the results. Teachers and staff are incredibly proud of every student, whose achievements reflect not only academic excellence but also the resilience and work ethic needed for future success.

Parents praised the school’s **Christian ethos** and **culture of achievement** as key factors in their children’s growth and success.

Congratulations once again to all our students—you’ve made us proud!











Creative Writing Competition



We entered eleven students' stories from Years 7 to 9 last July and all of them have been selected for publication in 'Grim Tales – Futures Torn', which is amazing! The Young Writers Editors wrote to us to say that "Having all your students' work chosen is something to be proud of..... We were impressed with their writing."

The collection will be published on 27 October 2025. There are possible further prizes which will be announced next term.

Each student in the meantime receives a Certificate to mark their achievement and a bookmark.

Well done to all our creative young writers below. Apostle News hopes to showcase each student's story once the official publication comes out.

Year 8

Moyosoredowa 8P – *Beauty and the Beast*

Moneli 8P – *A Twisted Tangle*

Avash 8J – *The Fox Bride*

Danilo 8J – *The Curse of the Brutal Beast*

Year 9

Konstantinos 9P – *Need for Revenge*

Max 9J - *Eerie*

Maritsa 9J – *Truth Be Told*

Year 10

Nicole 10S – *Opposites Attract*

Isabella 10S – *Happily Ever After*

Osasogie 10S – *Chaos and Courage*


Angela 10J – *The Unknown Boy*

The writing club will begin again from the week beginning 15th September.

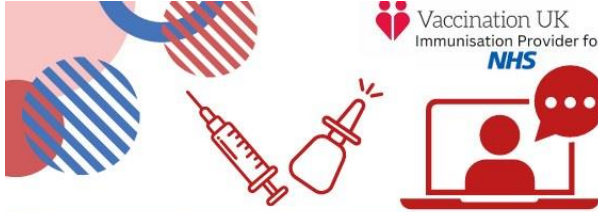
Ms Casey | English Teacher



1 - <https://www.resourcesforautism.org.uk/barnet-cf-autism-hub/>



Vaccination UK
Immunisation Provider for
NHS














FREE PARENT WEBINAR: THE FLU VACCINE IN CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Join us for a presentation discussing the flu vaccine in children and young people.

Topics covered:

- ✓ Why does my child need the vaccine
- 💡 Side-effects and safety
- 👃 Nasal vs injection (pork gelatine content)
- 📊 Flu data from previous years
- 🗣️ Q&A session



 Wednesday 17th Sept	 Thursday 18th Sept
 8:00 - 9:00pm	 6:00 - 7:00pm
 Click here to join	 Click here to join
 363 003 291 454	 310 543 675 2095
 jc3J83z5	 gT7P9ci3

2 - [Join conversation](#)



BELS Advisory Team for Autistic Children and Young People

BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents And Carers. An Online Parent/Carer Training Course Autumn Term 2025

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. Please only sign up for one of these courses and please do not sign up if you have already attended this course, or the Cygnets Course.

<p style="text-align: center;">BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents and Carers. Autumn Term 2025 One, A 6-session morning course.</p> <p>Dates and times: Monday 8th September 10-11.30am Monday 15th September 10-11.30am Monday 22nd September 10-11.30am Monday 29th September 10-11.30am Monday 6th October 10-11.30am Monday 13th October 10-11.30am Sign up here: BACPAC Autumn 2025 One</p>
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3 - [BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents And Carers, Sept. & Oct. 2025. Sign-up form.](#)

<p style="text-align: center;">BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents and Carers. Autumn Term 2025 Two, A 6-session evening course.</p> <p>Dates and times: Monday 3rd November 6-7.30pm Monday 10th November 6-7.30pm Monday 17th November 6-7.30pm Monday 24th November 6-7.30pm Monday 1st December 6-7.30pm Monday 8th December 6-7.30pm Sign up here: BACPAC Autumn 2025 Two</p>

4 - [BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents And Carers, Nov. & Dec. 2025. Sign-up form.](#)

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 & Ms Bicarregui.



