



St Andrew The Apostle School
Newsletter 24.10.25

STA **ST ANDREW
THE APOSTLE**



As we draw the curtain on the final week of term, I reflect on the strength of our school and a final week filled with purpose.

I must begin by expressing my thanks to the many parents, alumni and friends of the school who responded so generously to my recent letter regarding our book donation initiative. Your support has been very much appreciated. Whether through legacy donations of £100 or the act of gifting a single book—just four clicks on your phone—your contributions are helping to enrich the lives of our students. Developing our library such that it is full of books and is being used consistently for learning and enjoyment is a key aim of the school this year.

This week has also seen our students rise to the occasion in pursuit of their academic goals. Our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils have been preparing for their Mock 1 examinations, which start soon after half term. Their focus and determination have not gone unnoticed, and I commend them for the seriousness with which they are approaching this milestone.

Meanwhile, our Year 8 students embarked on a trip to Bletchley Park, where they explored the remarkable history of wartime codebreaking. Beyond the educational value, the visit offered a reminder of the sacrifices made by so many during the Second World War. I was moved to hear how our students engaged with the stories of those who served, reflecting with maturity and reverence on their legacy.

This was followed up with code-breaking lessons in class, and you can read about that in this newsletter.

This spirit of remembrance will continue next month, when our Year 7 students will lay a wreath at Southgate Cemetery on Brunswick Park Road in honour of those who gave their lives in service. This act of commemoration is not symbolic—it is an expression of our values: respect for tradition, gratitude for sacrifice, and a commitment to peace.

As we enter the half-term break, I encourage all families to enjoy a period of rest and renewal. Time spent together, away from the bustle of school life, is precious. I also ask that this rest be balanced with continued learning. Students should take time to revise, complete assignments and engage in quiet study. Preparation now will ensure a confident and purposeful return to school.

In all these things, we are guided by the light of our faith and the strength of our community. I am proud of what we have achieved this term, and I look forward to the next half term as we prepare for our Grand Opening and Christmas celebrations.

Christopher Martin | Headteacher

Faith in Action: Trustworthiness and the Name Day of Iakovas

As we approach the end of term, it is fitting to reflect on the spiritual heartbeat of our school—our shared values and the vision that guides us. At St Andrew the Apostle, we are proud to be the first state-funded Greek Orthodox secondary school in Britain. Our commitment to academic excellence is matched by our dedication to nurturing respectful, well-educated young people who live out values of caring, respect and responsibility.

This week, we marked the name day of Saints Cosmas and Damian, twin brothers and early Christian physicians who lived in the third century. Known as the “unmercenary” saints, they offered healing without charge, embodying compassion, humility, and service. Their legacy reminds us that true greatness lies in using our gifts to serve others. In both the Eastern Orthodox and Western Christian traditions, they are honoured for their unwavering faith and selfless care for the sick. Their example resonates deeply with our school’s ethos. Just as Cosmas and Damian lived lives of integrity and generosity, we encourage our students to be brave when things get difficult, to care for others, and to speak truth with strength. These values are not abstract ideals—they are lived daily in our classrooms, assemblies, and wider community.

Whether through acts of remembrance, charitable giving, or simply showing kindness to a peer, our students are learning to walk in the footsteps of those who came before them. As we look ahead to the next half-term, let us continue to foster a spirit of service and reflection, inspired by the lives of Saints Cosmas and Damian and rooted in the values that make our school a place of purpose and belonging.

By the School Chaplaincy Team



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 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:

FOUNDATION STAGES JAZZ ENSEMBLE MUSIC THEORY RECORDER GROUPS

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND Department for Education CHARITY NO. 1150174 COMPANY NO. 8510735 MORE INFORMATION: WWW.BEATRUST.ORG.UK



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



FOUNDATION 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



Live Music
Make Music

Voice Trumpet Horn Cello Viola Piano Clarinet Double Bass Oboe

INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL LESSONS



- 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:



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

WWW.BEATRUST.ORG.UK

Build a Library - Mark Your Legacy!



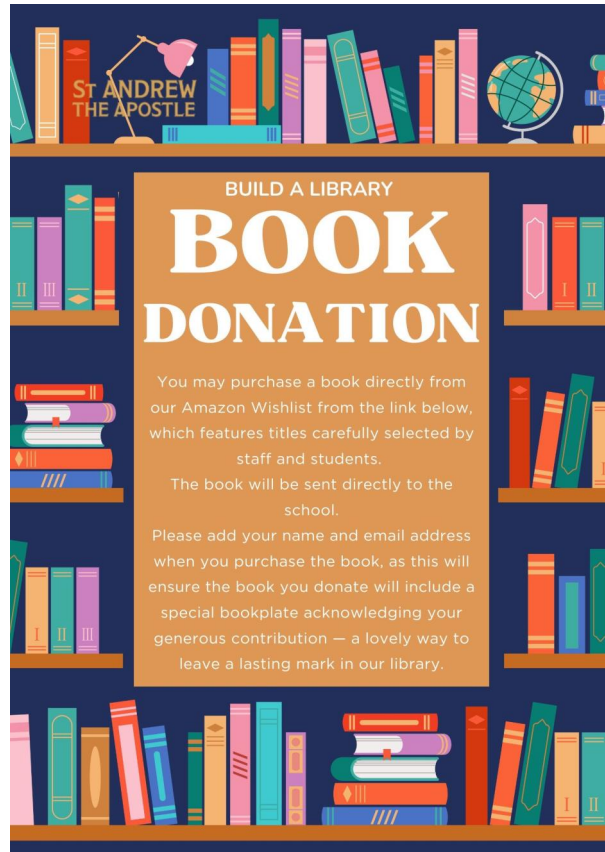
We are incredibly grateful to the families who have shown such heartfelt support for our school library.

We have currently had over 30 preloved book donations and 18 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. Each book gifted is a doorway to imagination, learning, and discovery and your kindness ensures these doors remain wide open. You may access our Amazon wish list [here](#) to join in building our school Library.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Costa family, the Valassi - Bourtzinakos family, the Michaels family, the Thein family and the Rubio-Lilley family, who have donated £100 to mark their legacy. Your contribution is a lasting investment in the future of our students. These donations help us create a vibrant, welcoming space where reading is celebrated and curiosity is nurtured.

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.



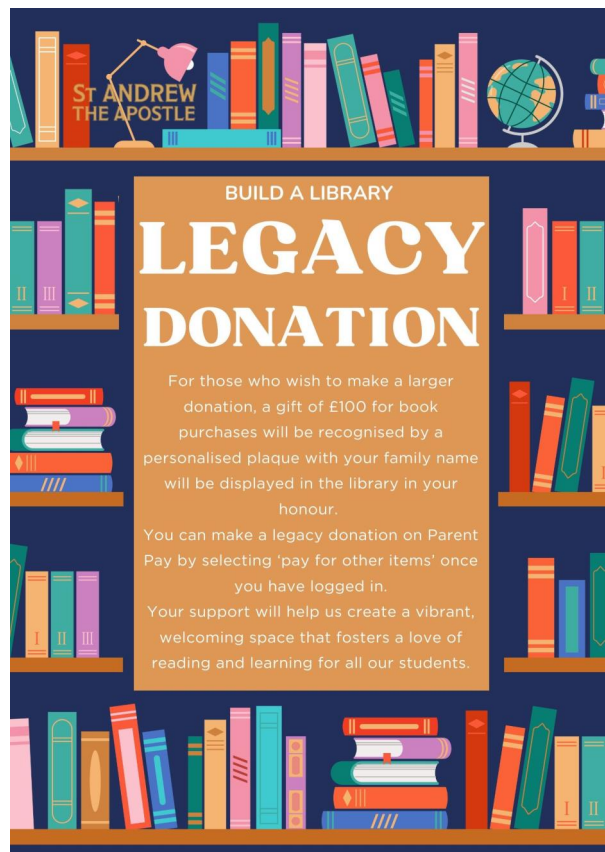
BUILD A LIBRARY

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.

Student Council Football Tournament Raises Over £800



On Friday 24 October, our school came together for an exciting and energetic Student Council Football Tournament, which ran throughout the day and involved all year groups. With over 270 students taking part, the event was a fantastic display of teamwork, school spirit, and charitable action.

Organised by the Student Council, the tournament was a huge success thanks to their dedication in advertising the event, encouraging student sign-ups, and rallying support across the school. Their efforts ensured that the day was inclusive, well-run, and enjoyable for everyone involved.

The tournament wasn't just about football—it was about making a difference. We are proud to announce that the event raised over £1000, with the funds going towards two meaningful causes: the development of our new school library, and support for an injured student at Kings School Brighton. These contributions will help enhance learning resources for all students and provide much-needed assistance to a fellow young person in need.

The day was filled with competitive matches, great sportsmanship, and a shared sense of purpose. It was a shining example of what can be achieved when students lead with passion and commitment.









Congratulations to everyone who took part, and a special thank you again to the Student Council for making this event such a success. We look forward to more student-led initiatives that bring our community together and create lasting impact.

Mr Browell | Head of PE

Save the Date! Celebrate Christmas with us.



STA ST ANDREW
THE APOSTLE

Christmas Show

“Peace is for life, not just for Christmas”

A night of Faith, Prayers, Music and
Drama.

Friday 12 December at 6.00pm

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

Sign up details to follow.

The poster features a dark blue background with white silhouettes of the Nativity scene: an angel on the left, Joseph and Mary with the infant Jesus, and a shepherd with a staff and sheep on the right. A large white star is positioned above the infant Jesus. The text is centered and uses a mix of white and gold colors.

European Day of Languages

This term, our students from Year 7 to Year 11 celebrated the European Day of Languages with great enthusiasm! All the forms participated in engaging quizzes, including a fun round where they had to recognise different flags and another round featuring famous landmarks from around the world. It was a fantastic way for everyone to learn about different cultures.

Our winners were as follows:

-
- *Year 7: Philip and Simon*
 - *Year 8: Matthew*
 - *Year 9: Matthew*
 - *Year 10: Philip and Simon*
 - *Year 11: Simon*
-

Everyone had a fantastic time, and all participants were rewarded with prizes for their efforts. This celebration was a wonderful opportunity to appreciate the diversity of languages and cultures in our school community.

Ms Errami | Head of MFL



Year 8 Codebreakers in Action

Year 8 students took part in a follow-up lesson inspired by their visit to Bletchley Park, diving into the world of wartime codebreaking. Using Caesar Cipher Wheels, they decoded secret messages and learned how cryptography played a vital role during World War II.

Working in teams, students tackled increasingly complex codes, mirroring the collaborative efforts of Bletchley Park's codebreakers. The activity encouraged strategic thinking, communication, and perseverance—key skills both then and now.

The classroom buzzed with energy as students rotated cipher wheels, tested ideas, and celebrated successful decryptions. Some students were so inspired they now plan to design and build their own cipher wheels out of wood during DT club.

This hands-on experience brought history and mathematics together, helping students appreciate the importance of teamwork and problem-solving in real-world contexts.

Mr Dogan | Head of Maths







Sixth Form Students Impress with Political Presentations



This week, our Year 12 Politics students delivered impressive presentations on pressure groups during their lessons, showcasing both academic depth and strong communication skills. Through independent research, they explored why some pressure groups succeed while others struggle, and they examined factors like media influence, funding, and public support.

Their ability to present complex ideas confidently and to engage their peers reflected excellent oracy development and critical thinking. This initiative has not only deepened students' understanding of democratic processes but also empowered them to think critically about the mechanisms of influence in society. The students, who presented, made a reference to pressure groups such as Greenpeace, the Marcus Rashford Free School Meals Campaign, Stop HS2, the Ghurkha Justice Campaign, The Snowdrop Campaign, Stop the War Coalition (2003).

It is inspiring to see our students grow into thoughtful, articulate young people ready to engage with the world around them.

Ms Koveri, Deputy Head of Sixth Form and 2ic Humanities.

Trips at STA

Year 8 Students Explore the Secrets of Bletchley Park





On Monday 20 October, our Year 8 students took part in an exciting and educational trip to Bletchley Park, the historic home of British codebreaking during the Second World War. The visit was designed to deepen their understanding of mathematics, history, and modern-day cyber security.

The day began with a guided tour of the site, where students learned how Bletchley Park's brilliant minds, including Alan Turing, cracked the German Enigma and Lorenz codes. These breakthroughs were instrumental in shortening the war and saving countless Allied lives.

Mathematics played a central role throughout the day. Students discovered how codebreakers used logic, probability, and pattern recognition to decipher enemy messages. They saw how mathematical thinking was essential to solving real-world problems under immense pressure—an inspiring link to their classroom studies.

After the tour, students explored a range of interactive exhibitions that brought the wartime efforts to life. From replica Bombe machines to immersive displays, the exhibitions highlighted the evolution of codebreaking and the early development of computing.

A key part of the day was a hands-on cyber security workshop. Here, students learned about the importance of protecting personal data in the digital age. They explored encryption techniques and tackled challenges that tested their problem-solving and critical thinking skills—skills that are increasingly vital in our technology-driven world.

One of the most enjoyable activities was sending Morse code messages to Bletchley Park staff, who then decoded the messages and let students know exactly what they had written. This fun and engaging task demonstrated the precision and logic required in early communication systems.

The trip was a fantastic success, offering a unique blend of historical insight, mathematical application, and modern relevance. Our students returned with a renewed appreciation for the power of mathematics and its impact on both past and present challenges.

We are especially grateful to the Jack Petchey Foundation, whose generous funding made this enriching experience possible.

We look forward to more opportunities that bring learning to life beyond the classroom.

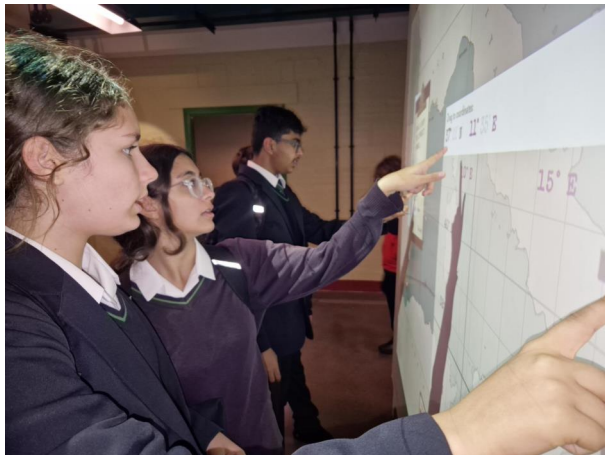
Mr Dogan | Head of Maths and Business Studies



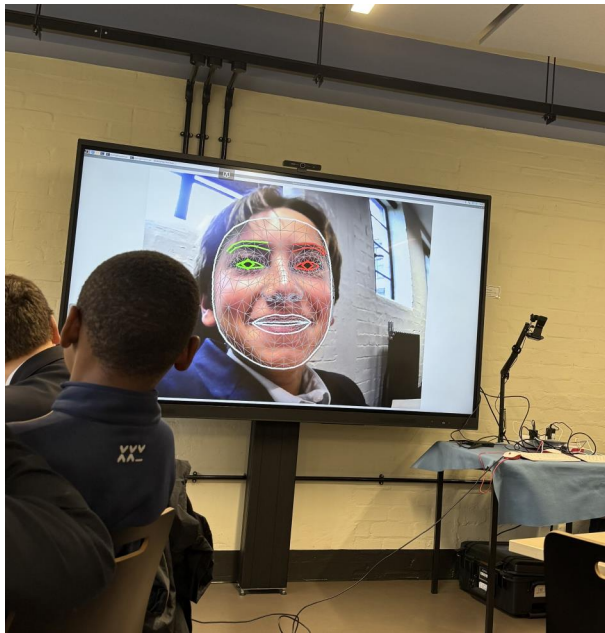


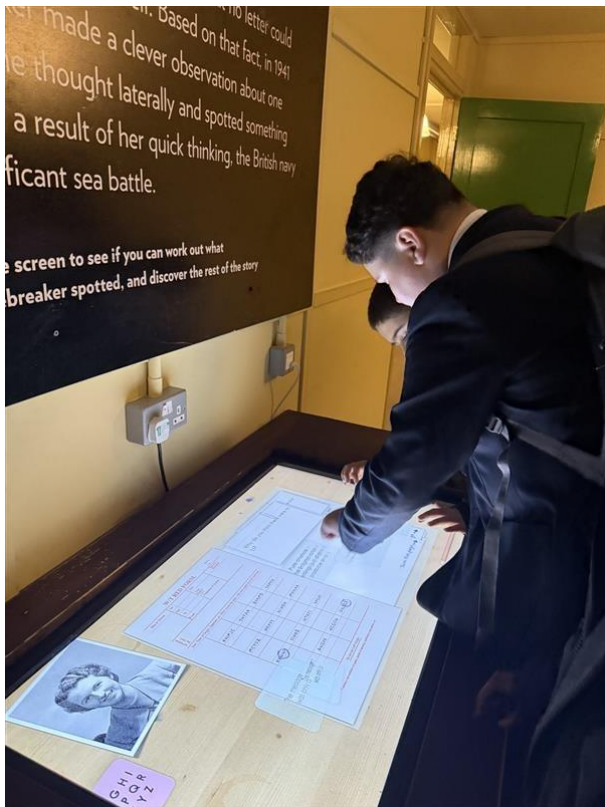






















Sports at STA

Year 8 & 9 Boys vs Saracens



St Andrew students kicked off their first home game of the season against a strong Saracens side, determined to secure their first win after a draw and a loss. The match began with a slow start, and Saracens took an early lead, but our students kept composure and Bilal's deflected shot brought us level just before half-time.

In the second half, Saracens struck again with a long-range free kick. Our students responded with confidence—Ali converted a penalty, and Miguel added a brilliant, chipped finish after a long kick from Avash, putting us ahead 3–2.

As the clock ticked down, our team showed real resilience, especially our back four who worked tirelessly to hold the lead. Unfortunately, Saracens managed to equalise in the final moments with a ball over the top. The match ended 3–3.

Although we were just moments away from a win, we're proud of the way we played and the fighting spirit we showed throughout. It was a performance full of heart, teamwork, and determination.

Eve Leads the U14 Girls to Victory and Inspires Future Success

Last year, our U14 girls' football team made school history by reaching — and winning — their first ever Borough Cup Final! Under the outstanding leadership of team captain Eve, the girls displayed exceptional teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the competition. Eve's leadership both on and off the pitch was recognised with the Jack Petchey Award for outstanding leadership and for truly embodying our school values. As part of the award, Eve was given the opportunity to choose how to spend the grant — and she decided to invest it back into her team. With the funds, we invited a professional coach from Chelsea Academy to deliver an exclusive training session for the girls. Despite the unexpected downpour, the team showed incredible resilience and enthusiasm, throwing themselves into the session with full commitment. Their hard work paid off as they refined their technique, improved their confidence, and strengthened their bond as a team. Eve's example reminds us that great leaders lift others up — and her impact will continue to inspire our players for seasons to come. Congratulations to Eve and the entire U14 girls' squad on an unforgettable achievement!

Miss Walt | Assistant Headteacher & Teacher of PE





Competition Time!

Young people aged from 11-19 years are asked to investigate, analyse and write about history. The subject categories cover local history, the modern world and especially aspects of 20th-century history.

[Young Historian Awards 2026 – take part \(Secondary prizes\) / Secondary / Historical Association](#)

The Historical Associations' public speaking competition open to school Year 10 - Year 13:

[The Great Debate 2026 / Secondary / Historical Association](#)

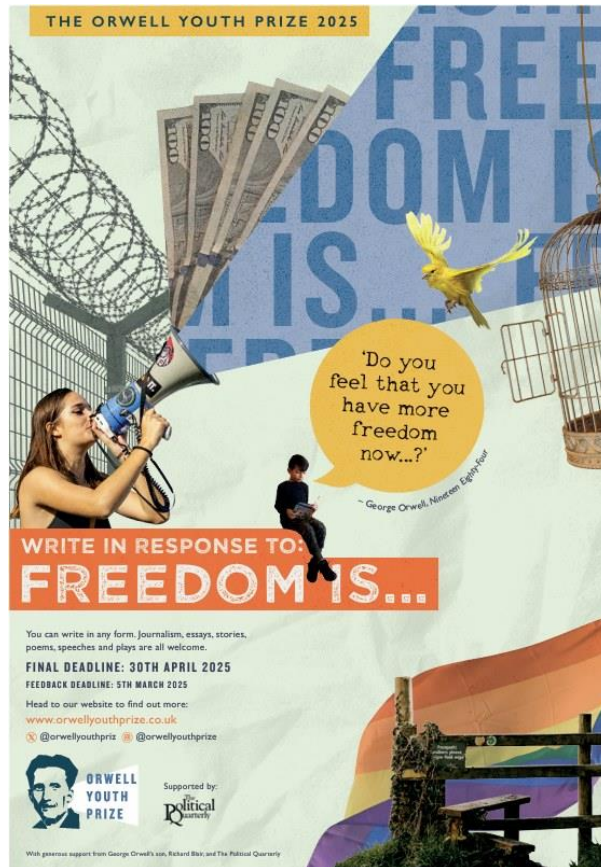


An exciting opportunity to enter a competition and to express your opinion on 'Freedom is...'

The Orwell Youth Prize 2025 is now open for entries on the theme of 'Freedom is...'

Enter [here](#) by 5 March 2025 and receive personal feedback on your draft! <https://www.orwellfoundation.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/A4-poster.pdf>

The Orwell Youth Prize uses the writing of George Orwell to inspire you to write about your own ideas and experiences. It's open to everyone at secondary school or college in the UK, or on a UK curriculum.



Taking part in competitions enhances students skills because:

It builds Confidence and Motivation

-
- *Competitions give students a platform to showcase their talents and hard work.*
 - *Success, or even just participation, can boost self-esteem and encourage them to aim higher.*
-

It encourages Deep Learning

-
- *Preparing for competitions often requires going beyond the standard curriculum.*
 - *This fosters independent learning, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.*
-

Sparx Reader

Sparx Reader

Sparx Reader is an online reading programme which enables students to practice careful reading at home.

This vital skill is essential in gaining knowledge in secondary school: in primary school students 'learn to read', but in secondary education students 'read to learn'. Therefore, regular careful reading is an essential part of students' weekly learning and practice at home.

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. In Year 11 students are using Sparx Reader to familiarise themselves with the plot of Jekyll and Hyde before the more in-depth study of the text in lessons.

In September, our students of Years 7 to 10 have already read 662 books and spent 1350 hours of careful reading.

Well done and keep up the good work!

Ms Bassington | Head of English





Congratulations to our top October readers from each year group:

Year 7 Top Readers:

Sophia V: 2,816

Lara J: 2,724

Natalia S: 2,598

Year 9 Top Readers:

Anu O: 6,901

Konstantinos G: 2,724

Mark M: 2,427

Year 8 Top Readers:

Wealth O: 4,550

Moyosoreoluwa S: 3,786

Ruhamma T: 3,032

Year 10 Top Readers:

Ali O: 2,148

Kyla B: 2,010

Arvin B: 1,855

Ms Bassington | Head of English

A Trip down Memory Lane!

Sixth Form Open Evening

It was a pleasure to meet so many parents and carers at our 6th Form Open Evening on Wednesday night. After my brief presentation about the achievements and culture of our sixth form, our brilliant Head Boy Giorgio and Year 12 students Liana and Kristofar spoke about the advantages of our small class sizes, excellent teaching and support they receive.

Ms Koveri finished by talking about all the trips, extra-curricular and super-curricular opportunities we offer. It was standing room only in the hall and highlighted the special community of students, parents and teachers we have at STA.

To view our course guide and make an application to our sixth form visit: www.standrewtheapostle.org.uk
The deadline for applications is 31 January 2025.



This time last year, we welcomed you to our Sixth Form Open Evening in our old building.

Now, the time has come to invite you once again—this time to explore our brand-new buildings with amazing spaces for our Sixth form!

We're incredibly excited to show you around and share everything we have to offer. From modern facilities to inspiring learning spaces, there's so much to discover.

We can't wait to welcome you!

To register please follow link: [St Andrew the Apostle](http://www.standrewtheapostle.org.uk)

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2025

6.00PM TO 7.30PM

STA

ST ANDREW
THE APOSTLE

REGISTER NOW



www.standrewtheapostle.org.uk



1 - [St Andrew the Apostle](#)

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

A LEVEL COURSES

- BIOLOGY • BUSINESS STUDIES • CHEMISTRY
- CLASSICAL CIVILISATION • ENGLISH LITERATURE
- FURTHER MATHS • HISTORY • ECONOMICS • ENGLISH LITERATURE • FRENCH • FURTHER MATHS • MATHS
- MEDIA STUDIES • PHYSICS • POLITICS • PSYCHOLOGY
- RELIGIOUS STUDIES • PRODUCT DESIGN

BTEC COURSES

- SPORT

STA

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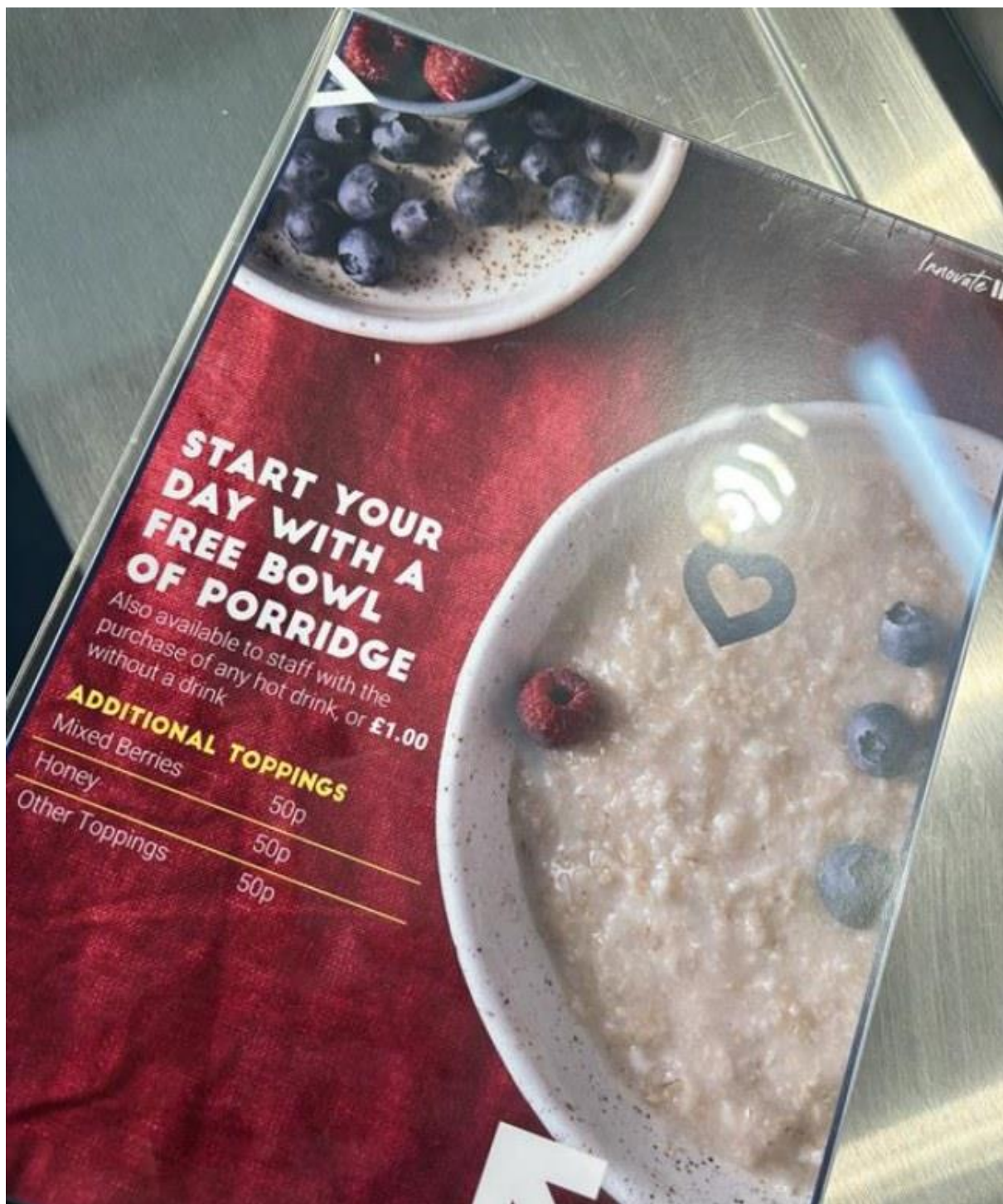
REGISTER NOW



www.standrewtheapostle.org.uk



Start the Day Right: Free Porridge for All Students!



We're proud to offer free porridge every morning to all students, alongside a selection of other nutritious breakfast options that students can purchase. Whether it's toast, fruit, or cereal, there's something for everyone to enjoy before the school day begins.

We know that breakfast is the most important meal of the day — it fuels the body and mind, helping students stay focused and ready to learn. By making breakfast accessible to all, we're removing barriers and setting our young people up for success.

One student shared, "I was in such a rush this morning I didn't have time to eat at home. Having porridge at school meant I wasn't hungry through the day and I could concentrate in all my lessons."

Breakfast is available every school day from 7.45am in The Olive Tree, and we encourage all students to take advantage of this offer.



Celebrating Our Environmental Achievement

Gold Level TFL

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.



Cycling to School



Several students have started cycling to school as part of a collective effort to help protect the environment. By choosing bikes over cars or buses, they're reducing carbon emissions, promoting cleaner air, and setting a great example for sustainable living. It's a small change with a big impact—and a positive step toward a greener future.

Sustainability at STA: Over 6732 Bottles Saved in Just 6 Weeks!



STA has made an incredible impact by saving over 7462 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: 3,125kg of CO₂ Saved!



St Andrew the Apostle School is proud to announce that our new building has already helped save 3,125 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

The Basketball Bulldog Club

SEND Basketball Sessions

For Information

*The Basketball Bulldog Club is providing a number of inclusive SEND basketball sessions.
Please see the poster and the below link to register.*

- <https://barnetyouth.uk/event/Special-Educational-Needs-and-Disabilities-Basketball-Session/6548>
-

The sessions take place every Thursday, 5.00pm to 6.00pm at Copthall Leisure Centre.

Annalisa Cellini

Fit & Active Barnet Development Officer Greenspaces & Leisure

Communities, Adults and Health

London Borough of Barnet



BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents And Carers.



BELS Advisory Team for Autistic Children and Young People

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.

**BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents and Carers.
Autumn Term 2025 Two, A 6-session evening course.**

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](#)

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



Child in the 21st Century

ADHD Conference for Staff and Parents/Carers



Tuesday 02 December
09:30 - 12:30 - Online

We look forward to inviting you to our conference on building relationships between staff and parents & carers.



We are excited to invite Andrew Whitehouse as our keynote for the conference and will be thrilled to hear from some of our colleagues and Barnet parents.



[Book here:](https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/p9JrRkb0RL)
<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/p9JrRkb0RL>



Autistic Discovery Journey

AUTISTIC DISCOVERY JOURNEY (ADJ) PROGRAMME

Aucademy have been working with Barnet Education and Learning Service (BELS) to improve the narrative and culture in Barnet schools about Autistic experience.

BELS and Aucademy are very pleased to offer a group of young people (aged 13-19 years old & living in Barnet) the opportunity to attend an eight-week **Autistic Discovery Journey (ADJ)** programme together online.

For more info on Aucademy visit <https://aucademy.co.uk/>

REQUIREMENTS:

Open to anyone who identifies as Autistic - diagnosed or self-identified, who wishes to participate & engage in an educational programme.

Access to Zoom on a laptop or PC (phone/tablet may be manageable) and a quiet space - No expectation to use your camera or microphone if you do not want to.

Parent/carer consent is required for young people under the age of 18.

Chat box participation is embraced, especially if using mouth words is not your preferred method of communicating.



WHEN?

Wednesdays 4:30-6pm, online (via Zoom).
22nd October – 17th December. No session 29th October (half term) TBC.

WHAT?

The Autistic Discovery Journey (ADJ) programme includes:

Working out where you are in your discovery journey and holding space for you, whatever stage you are at.

Understanding your experiences with the knowledge that you are/might be Autistic.

Building knowledge and awareness of your personal Autistic profile - what makes you, YOU.

Learning how to communicate your needs and boundaries to Others.

Learning coping strategies, including stimming, and how to improve your well-being and self-esteem.

Finding others with whom you share similarities, and feeling part of a community.

Teaching you about neurodivergence, opposing the disorder narrative - showing we have challenges and strengths.

If you are interested in joining this group, please contact:

Autism.Team@Barnet.gov.uk

With the subject title:

"Aucademy/BELS ADJ Autumn 2025"



Barnet SENDIASS Information Session

Barnet SENDIASS Virtual Information Session - The EHCP Annual Review Process

For Information

We are pleased to announce, Barnet SENDIASS will be holding a virtual information session for Barnet resident parents/carers of children and young people with special educational needs or disability:

- *Date: Wednesday 05 November 2025*
 - *Time: 10.00am to 12.00pm*
 - *Location: Online via MS Teams*
 - *Theme: The EHCP Annual Review Process*
 - *Presenters: Barnet Sendiass*
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Registration details will be available soon.

If you have any questions, please contact: sendiass@barnet.gov.uk

Ablavi Dagbo

Manager, Barnet SEND Information Advice & Support Service Caseworker

Family Services

BICs Family Minds Workshops



Supporting Children and Young People's
Wellbeing and Mental Health Service

BICs Family Minds: Supporting your Child's Emotional Wellbeing

This workshop is to gain a deeper understanding of your child's wellbeing and learn how to support their mental health in ways that respect and include your family's cultural background and practices. You'll gain practical tips, advice, and guidance on where to turn to for additional support and services if needed. By the end of the workshop, you will feel empowered with tools to continue help your child feel understood and supported. Wed, 5 Nov 2025 12:00 - 13:15 GMT

Supporting your Child to Manage Difficult Emotions

In this workshop we will cover what our stress response is and how it effects children and young people's ability to manage their emotions. You will learn skills to help support your child in managing difficult emotions as well as how you can model self-care and emotion regulation. Wed, 26 Nov 2025 12:00 - 14:00 GMT

Understanding and Managing Friendships

BICs are inviting you to join a virtual mental health workshop which aim to increase your knowledge on managing friendships and the difficulties that may affect your child or young person.

The workshop will increase your understanding of your child or young person's friendships and the difficulties that may arise. The workshop will help you to understand how anxiety plays a role in friendships difficulties and socialising, how this is affected by neurodivergence and how to empower your child or young person to develop boundaries around friendships and manage bullying. Wed, 26 Nov 2025 12:00 – 13:30 GMT

Is your child a young carer?



A young person who supports or lives with someone with a disability, illness, addiction or any issue that affects their day to day living, whether it be a parent, sibling, family member or friend, that young person automatically qualifies as a young carer. At Barnet Young carers, we support and acknowledge their caring roles.

- All children, once registered, will receive a Leisure pass for **FREE** swimming and discounted sessions within Better Gyms in the Barnet and surrounding areas.*
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YC Parental Referral Form <https://barnetyoungcarers.org.uk/parental-referral/>

YC Professional Referral: <https://barnetyoungcarers.org.uk/professional-referral/>

- A 1:2:1 mentoring programme which gives them the opportunity to meet with a qualified mentor (most of who have themselves been young carers) to boost confidence and offer emotional and moral support.*
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YC Parental referral form <https://barnetyoungcarers.org.uk/internal-forms/mentoring-parental-agreement/>

Mentoring Professional Referral <https://barnetyoungcarers.org.uk/mentoring-service/>

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- *Activities in school holidays eg theme park trips, theatre trips, arts and crafts courses, kayaking courses and much more. (once registered, you will automatically receive notifications of events).*
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Please complete the above referral form to register your child/ren. For any questions or queries, please feel free to contact me at any time on;

Sandra.Langham@barnetcarers.org

07955 286087

<https://barnetyoungcarers.org.uk>

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

Download the Studybugs app for reporting your child's absence.

A quick and secure way to report absence due to illness and send messages to school.

Studybugs

The advertisement features a blue background. At the top, there is an illustration of a laptop and a smartphone displaying the Studybugs app interface. Below this, the main text reads "Download the Studybugs app for reporting your child's absence." followed by a smaller line: "A quick and secure way to report absence due to illness and send messages to school." In the lower section, there is a QR code on the left, and two logos on the right: "GET IT ON Google Play" and "Download on the App Store". At the bottom, the "Studybugs" logo is displayed with a green plus sign icon.