



St Andrew The Apostle School  
Newsletter 09.01.26





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*Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the School,*

*Welcome to 2026!*

*I hope that everyone enjoyed a restful and refreshing break over the holiday season. It's important to take time to recharge, and we trust that families were able to spend quality time together and return ready for the exciting year ahead. As we step into 2026, we are enthused for what this new term will bring.*

*We are delighted with how positively our students have returned to school. It has been clear that they are living out the core values that define our community—Respect, Responsibility, Forgiveness, Fairness, Caring, and Trustworthiness. These values are the foundation of everything we do and seeing them reflected in the attitudes and actions of our students is rewarding.*

*Thank you to parents and carers for reinforcing these principles at home—they make a real difference.*

*It was also a pleasure to see so many of you at the Year 11 Parents Evening on Thursday. These events are an important opportunity to strengthen the partnership between home and school, and your engagement is invaluable. I was pleased that so many parents and students*

*left feeling confident that they knew how to tackle the Mock 2 exams, starting in only 34 days.*

*Looking ahead, we have an exciting week with five fixtures across various sports. These occasions are not only about competition but also about teamwork, resilience and representing our school with pride. We wish all our teams the very best and look forward to celebrating their efforts and successes.*

*On the academic front, a key focus for the coming weeks will be the Mock 2 examinations. These assessments are an important milestone for our students, providing a clear picture of progress and helping to identify areas for improvement before the summer exams.*

*We know that all students will revise thoroughly and accurately. We have spoken in school that quality revision is far more effective than simply spending hours with notes. Use active strategies such as practice questions, summarising key concepts, and testing yourself regularly. Parents can support by creating a calm, structured environment for studying at home.*

*As always, we remain committed to working together to provide the very best education and opportunities for our students.*

*Thank you for your continued support; it is greatly appreciated.*

*Let's make 2026 a good one.*

***Christopher Martin | Headteacher***

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## **Faith in the New Year**

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*As we begin 2026, we're invited to reflect on renewal and purpose within our faith. Today, 9 January, the Greek Orthodox Church honours **Saint Polyeuktos**—a Roman soldier who profoundly embraced Christ after a vivid vision of wearing a radiant garment. Boldly, he tore down pagan edicts and idols, declaring that we must “obey God rather than men.” Ultimately, he gave his life by the sword, baptized in his own blood, and was later venerated for his unwavering commitment to faith.*

*Saint Polyuktos embodies **Responsibility** and **Courage**, aligning with our school values. His readiness to stand firm in truth—regardless of consequence—reminds us to uphold moral integrity and act with conviction, even when it’s difficult.*

***Upcoming Greek Orthodox Name Days (9–16 January):***

***9 January*** – Polyuktos: celebrating our brave martyr.

***11 January*** – Theodosios: in honour of St Theodosius the Great, founder of communal monasticism and a model of **Caring** and **Service**.

***12 January*** – Tatiana: commemorating Martyr Tatiana of Rome, known for her steadfast faith and compassionate intercession, embodying **Forgiveness** and **Trustworthiness**.

***14 January*** – Sava and Nina: celebrating St Sava, who founded the Serbian Orthodox Church, and St Nina, Enlightener of Georgia. Both are champions of **Respect**, **Compassion**, and **Leadership**.

***15 January*** – Paul or Pavlos: remembering St Paul of Thebes, the first desert hermit, whose life models **Wisdom**, **Self-discipline**, and devotion.

***16 January*** – Petros: marking the **Veneration of the Precious Chains of Apostle Peter**, symbolizing **Freedom in Christ**, forgiveness, and strength in adversity. **Living Our Faith through the Saints**

*These weekly commemorations encourage us to reflect on how the lives of Saints mirror and reinforce the values we cultivate at school:*

***Respect & Forgiveness:*** Like Tatiana, who forgave her persecutors.

***Responsibility & Trustworthiness:*** Like Polyuktos, who acted with bold moral clarity.

***Caring & Compassion:*** Like Theodosius and the founders Sava and Nina, selflessly serving others.

***Wisdom:*** Like Paul the Hermit, committed to truth and introspection.

***Courage:*** By remembering Apostle Peter’s chains, symbolising liberation and steadfast faith.

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# APOSTLE NEWS

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

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## Musician of the Week



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*We are thrilled to celebrate Sofia's incredible musical talent! Coming from a highly musical family, Sofia shines as a dedicated violinist, bringing passion and energy to every performance. Her enthusiasm for extra-curricular activities and concerts is truly inspiring, and she consistently demonstrates kindness, hard work, and commitment both inside and outside the music classroom. Sofia is a wonderful example of how talent and character go hand in hand—well done, Sofia!*

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

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*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**

The poster features the BEAT logo at the top left and the slogan 'Live Music Make Music' at the top right. A pink banner lists categories: GUITAR ENSEMBLE, CHOIRS, TRAINING STRINGS, ACADEMY BAND, and ROCK & POP. A circular badge on the left states 'AGES 3 TO 21 YRS OLD!'. The central image shows a large ensemble performing in a grand hall. Below this, three circular insets show students playing saxophone, guitar, and piano. A large white graphic with pink borders contains the text 'BEAT MUSIC ACADEMIES' and a testimonial: 'Excellent teaching that is affordable, accessible, and supportive. I appreciate the encouragement and relaxed approach. The kids love coming here' - Parent Survey 2024. A 'Previous Performances' list includes Royal Albert Hall, St John's Smith Square, artsdepot, European Tours, Duke's Hall, and StoneX Stadium. A QR code is labeled 'Scan here to find out more:'. The bottom pink banner lists 'FOUNDATION STAGES', 'JAZZ ENSEMBLE', 'MUSIC THEORY', and 'RECORDER GROUPS'. The footer includes logos for Arts Council England and the Department for Education, along with the website 'WWW.BEATRUST.ORG.UK' and funding details.



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:



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ENGLAND

WWW.BEATRUST.ORG.UK

## Celebrating Success in School

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*During the last week of term before the Christmas break, we were incredibly proud to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our students across the school. Our Achievement Assemblies provided a wonderful opportunity to recognise and honour the hard work, dedication, and excellence shown by so many members of our school community.*

*During these assemblies, students were celebrated for their outstanding academic achievement across subjects—excellence that reflects our Ever to Excel values in action. Alongside academic awards, students were also recognised for their impressive progress, demonstrating determination, resilience, and a commitment to continually improving their learning.*

*We were delighted to award Form Tutor, SLT and Head of Year Awards to students who consistently embody our school values. These students show, day in and day out, what it truly means to be part of St Andrew the Apostle: respectful, hardworking, kind, and committed both to their learning and to our community.*

*A particularly special highlight this week was seeing an outstanding 68 Year 7 students achieve their Bronze Stars—a wonderful accomplishment so early in the year and a clear sign of the enthusiasm and effort they bring to school life.*

*We are extremely proud of every student who received recognition this week and of the positive example they set for their peers. Their achievements remind us of the incredible things that can be accomplished through perseverance, curiosity, and a love of learning.*

*Well done to all—keep striving to be the best that you can be!*

**Miss Walt | Assistant Headteacher**

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# Head of Year Awards



Ali Khodaei - 9 Matthew

"For consistently demonstrating a positive attitude and putting great effort into schoolwork. Always polite, respectful, and kind to others."



# SLT Award

Max Puzas - 9 James

"For consistently demonstrating the school values in lessons and across the wider school community. Always respectful to staff, showing kindness within the year group, and dedicating time to the school council by helping to organise events that benefit the whole school."







## Student Council Update – Setting Our Goals for the Spring Term

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*The Student Council met on Thursday 8 January 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**

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## Extra-Curricular Clubs – Spring Term

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*We're excited to announce that from next Monday 12 January, our full programme of extra-curricular clubs will officially commence 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:*

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

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## 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 Kalloor)	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)	

## Spring Term Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs

PE extra-curricular clubs will start on **Monday 12 January 2026**. At 3.00pm on the day of the chosen club, please meet a member of the PE Department at the Sports Centre. Please bring full PE kit in a separate bag. Full school PE kit must be worn for all clubs.

### Monday

*Activity: All Years Boys and Girls Basketball*

*Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm*

*Venue: Sports Hall*

### **Tuesday**

*No clubs due to staff meetings*

### **Wednesday**

*Activity: All Years Netball*

*Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm*

*Venue: Sports Hall and Playground*

### **Thursday**

*Activity: All Years Dance*

*Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm*

*Venue: Dance Studio*

**Students are required to sign-up to extra-curricular clubs using student portal app. Students click on extra-curricular clubs and select enrol for the relevant club. If unable to sign-up using the student portal app, please speak with a member of the PE Staff.**

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## **A Walk Down Memory Lane**

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### **From Building Site to Bright Future: Reflecting on Our First Term**

*It's hard to believe that just six months ago, this space was still a building site—full of scaffolding, hard hats, and the sound of construction. Today, as we step into a new year, we can proudly say we've completed our very first term in this incredible new building.*

*The transformation has been nothing short of remarkable. What was once a vision on paper is now a vibrant, welcoming environment where learning and growth thrive every day. Our students and staff have embraced the change with enthusiasm, and together we've made this building feel like home.*

*Completing the first term so successfully is a testament to the hard work, resilience, and dedication of everyone involved—from the construction teams to our staff and families. As we look ahead to the year before us, we're excited to continue building not just a school, but a community where every learner can flourish.*

*Here's to new beginnings and the bright future ahead!*

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*January 2025, we shared the article below with you—and it's truly mind-blowing to see how far we've come since then. From a construction site to a thriving school community, the transformation has been incredible. What was once just plans and progress updates is now a reality we're living every day!*

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#### New Building Progress Pictures



We are thrilled to see our new buildings coming to life, transforming the landscape with their modern design and vibrant presence. Watching the construction progress day by day fills us with anticipation for the opportunities and experiences they will bring. As each floor is completed and details are added, we can already envision the bustling activity and energy that will soon fill these spaces. It's a milestone for us, reflecting growth and a bright future ahead.



## Sports at STA

### *Year 11 Students Introduced to Handball*

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*This term, Year 11 students had the exciting opportunity to try their hand at a new sport – Handball. Under the guidance of Mr Hammond, students learned the fast-paced rules and techniques of this dynamic game, which combines elements of teamwork, agility and*

*strategy. The sessions were met with enthusiasm, and many students enjoyed the challenge of mastering a sport that was new to them. Handball is proving to be a fantastic addition to our PE curriculum, offering a fresh way to stay active and engaged.*

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## Meet the Staff



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*My name is Mrs Azad and I'm the Safeguarding and Inclusion Case Manager. I am enjoying working STA this past year, as I have learnt a lot from everyone including the students! Helping to support those that are finding things a bit tricky and students coming back to say thank you for the support, makes me feel privileged to be a part of their journey in school.*

*The best things about working at STA:*

*1. Family feel, everyone is supportive of each other and the care that is provided to the students is always above and beyond!*

*2. The school values and ethos of Kindness and Forgiveness resonates with my own values.*

*3. Team support - Thank you STA!*

*Outside of school I like to read books - intrigued by suspense thrillers/international writers. I have also performed as a dancer of Asian music on stage in many events such as the Commonwealth events.*

*The top 3 celebrities I would invite to dinner would be: 1. Keanu Reeves - for his kindness and down-to-earth personality, a person who has lived an interesting and humbling life. 2. Maya Angelou - her incredible wisdom and powerful conversations about overcoming struggles, embracing self-worth and human experiences. 3. Nelson Mandela - his legacy of peace, forgiveness and leadership.*

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## **Sparx Reader**

### **Sparx Reader**

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*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*

***Year 9 Top Readers:***

*Anu O: 6,923*

Melissa M: 8,433

Mark M: 2,696

Tia M: 7,289

Gabriel F: 2,219

**Year 8 Top Readers:**

**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** sTA


**AQUA (Latin) = water**



**Aquarium** (a container for water and aquatic life)

**Aquatic** (relating to or living in water)





**Aquifer** (an underground layer that holds water)

**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.*

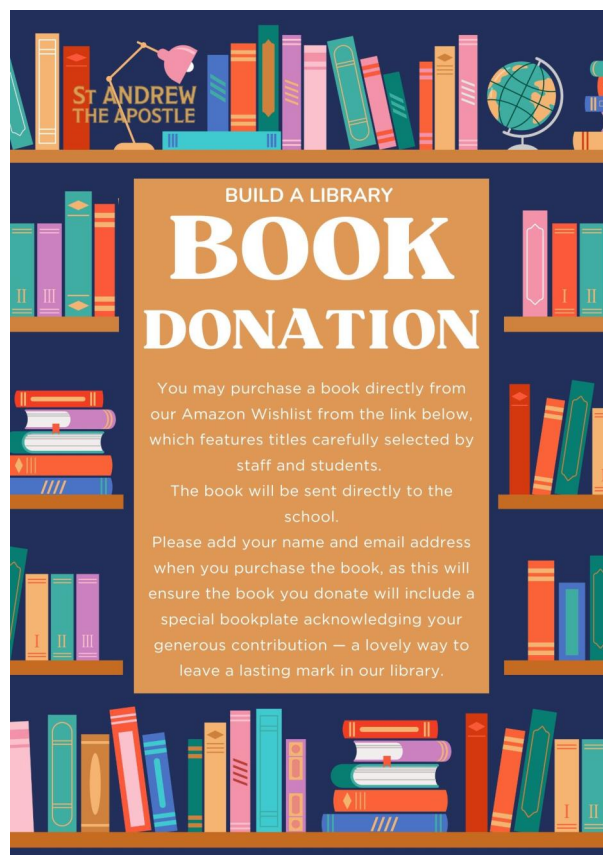
***Please ensure to add your full name to the note at checkout.***

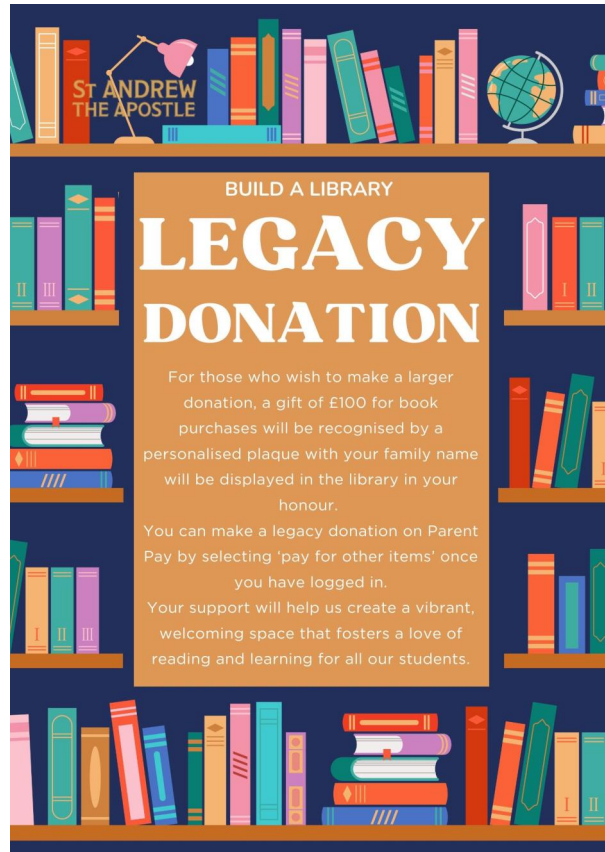
*We would also like to extend a special thank you to the all the families who have donated £100 to mark their legacy. Your contribution is a lasting investment in the future of our students.*

*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.*

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ST ANDREW  
THE APOSTLE

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](mailto: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!](#)

## 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](#)

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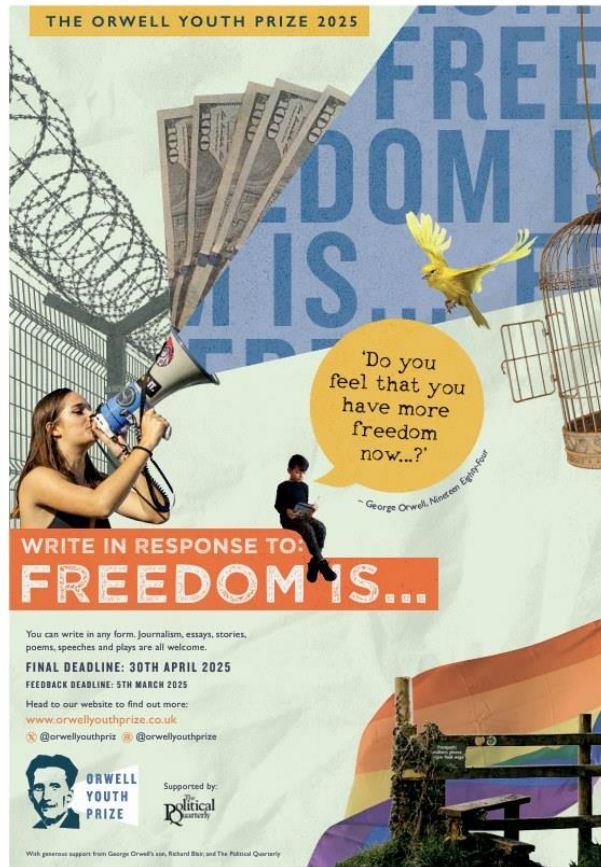
*An exciting opportunity to enter a competition and to express your opinion on 'Freedom is...'*

*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.

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*Taking part in competitions enhances students skills because:*

***It builds Confidence and Motivation***

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- *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***

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

### *Gold Level TFL Award*

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*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.*

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## *Sustainability at STA: Over 9832 Bottles Saved!*



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*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!*

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*STA's Carbon Cut: 4,291kg of CO<sub>2</sub> Saved!*



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*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.*

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## **SEND Information**

*The Basketball Bulldog Club*

# **SEND Basketball Sessions**

## **For Information**

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

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- <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***

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**SEND BASKETBALL SESSION**

EVERY TUESDAY  
5PM - 6PM

AGES 11-19

BARNET COPTHALL  
LEISURE CENTRE,  
NW4 1PX

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Join us for our inclusive  
SEND Basketball Sessions

**FREE**

For more information, contact us at:  
[info@bulldogsbasketball.club](mailto:info@bulldogsbasketball.club)

SPORT ENGLAND



## BELS Advisory Team for Autistic Children and Young People

*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.*

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

**Dates and times:**

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 6.00-7.30pm  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 6.00-7.30pm  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 6.00-7.30pm  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 6.00-7.30pm  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 6.00-7.30pm  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> February 10-11.30am  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 10-11.30am  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 10-11.30am  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 10-11.30am  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup>  
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  
South Kensington  
London SW7 2RL

**APPLY NOW!** Free  
Limited spaces available

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.

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- Call us on **020 8964 5060**
- Email [ellie@turtlekeyarts.org.uk](mailto: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.*

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## Attendance

