



St Andrew The Apostle School
Newsletter 23.01.26



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the School,

This week has been full of exciting events and opportunities for our students to shine. One of the standout moments was the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge, where our students demonstrated exceptional confidence and eloquence. Every speech reflected the core values of our school—Respect, Responsibility, Forgiveness, Fairness, Caring and Trustworthiness—making us incredibly proud of their efforts and creativity.

Another highlight was the Geography field trips, which were a resounding success. Students engaged enthusiastically with the field trip, deepening their understanding of the subject in a real-world context. A huge thank you to Mr Walsh and Mrs Viala for their hard work in planning and leading this.

The science trip was a fantastic experience for all involved! Students enjoyed exploring new ideas and engaging with hands-on activities. A huge thank you to Ms Msrar for her hard work and dedication in organising such an inspiring and educational event. We really appreciate your efforts.

The extra-curricular activities last term were excellent and greatly enriched school life. I am really looking forward to more Greek dancing, a lunchtime concert, and a chess competition this term, as well as continuing to enjoy our outstanding debate clubs, which consistently inspire critical thinking.

Our School Council and Student Voice have been busy making important decisions. We are delighted to announce that they have chosen Homeless Action in Barnet as our local charity to support this year, in conjunction with St Barnabas' Food Bank. These partnerships reflect our commitment to caring for our wider community, and we look forward to supporting these causes throughout the year.

Looking ahead, we have some key dates for Year 9 families:

Options Event: Wednesday, 28 January, which is an in-school event for students to make decisions for their options.

Online Parents' Evening: Thursday 29 January In-person

Options Evening: Wednesday 4 February

These events are crucial in helping students make informed choices for the next stage of their education, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, we are preparing to celebrate the Feast of the Three Hierarchs next week. This important occasion in the Greek Orthodox calendar will be marked with a special service led by Father Gregory, who will also deliver Holy Communion to Year 7 students in our new chapel. Parents have been contacted with details, and we are so pleased we will be able to offer this experience to all students.

Thank you to everyone—students, staff, and families—for making this week so memorable. We look forward to another week of learning and community spirit.

Christopher Martin | Headteacher

Faith Focus: Celebrating Our Saints and Living Our Values

This week, our faith life has continued to be at the heart of our school community, guiding us in our learning, our relationships, and our shared values. As a Greek Orthodox school, we

take pride in celebrating the rich traditions of the Church, and we are delighted to highlight several important feast days and name days occurring this week.

Name Days and School Values

On **21 January**, we celebrated the feast of **St Maximus the Confessor**.

*St Maximus is remembered for his unwavering commitment to truth, even in the face of difficulty. His life reflects our school value of **Responsibility**, reminding us that every member of our community is called to stand for what is right and to take responsibility for their words and actions.*

Later in the week, on **25 January**, the Church honours **St Gregory the Theologian**, one of the great Cappadocian Fathers. St Gregory was known for his deep compassion and pastoral care, which resonates deeply with our value of **Caring**. He reminds us that true wisdom is always exercised with gentleness, love, and concern for others.

We also mark the feast of **St Xenophon** and his family on **26 January**. Their steadfast faith through adversity reflects the value of **Trustworthiness**, as they placed their trust in God and remained faithful to Him and to one another.

Recognising these feast days provides our students with living examples of virtue—real people whose lives show how our school values can be lived out courageously and compassionately.

Visit from Father Gregory and Holy Communion

We are also greatly looking forward to welcoming **Father Gregory** to school next week to lead our celebration of the **Feast of the Three Hierarchs** on **30 January**. This is one of the most important feasts in the Greek Orthodox calendar, honouring Saints Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom—three pillars of faith, learning, and service.

As part of this celebration, Father Gregory will be offering **Holy Communion to our Year 7 students** in the chapel. Parents have already been contacted with further details, and we are grateful for the opportunity for our students to participate in this sacred moment. It is a blessing to have Father Gregory's continued pastoral support and spiritual guidance within our school.



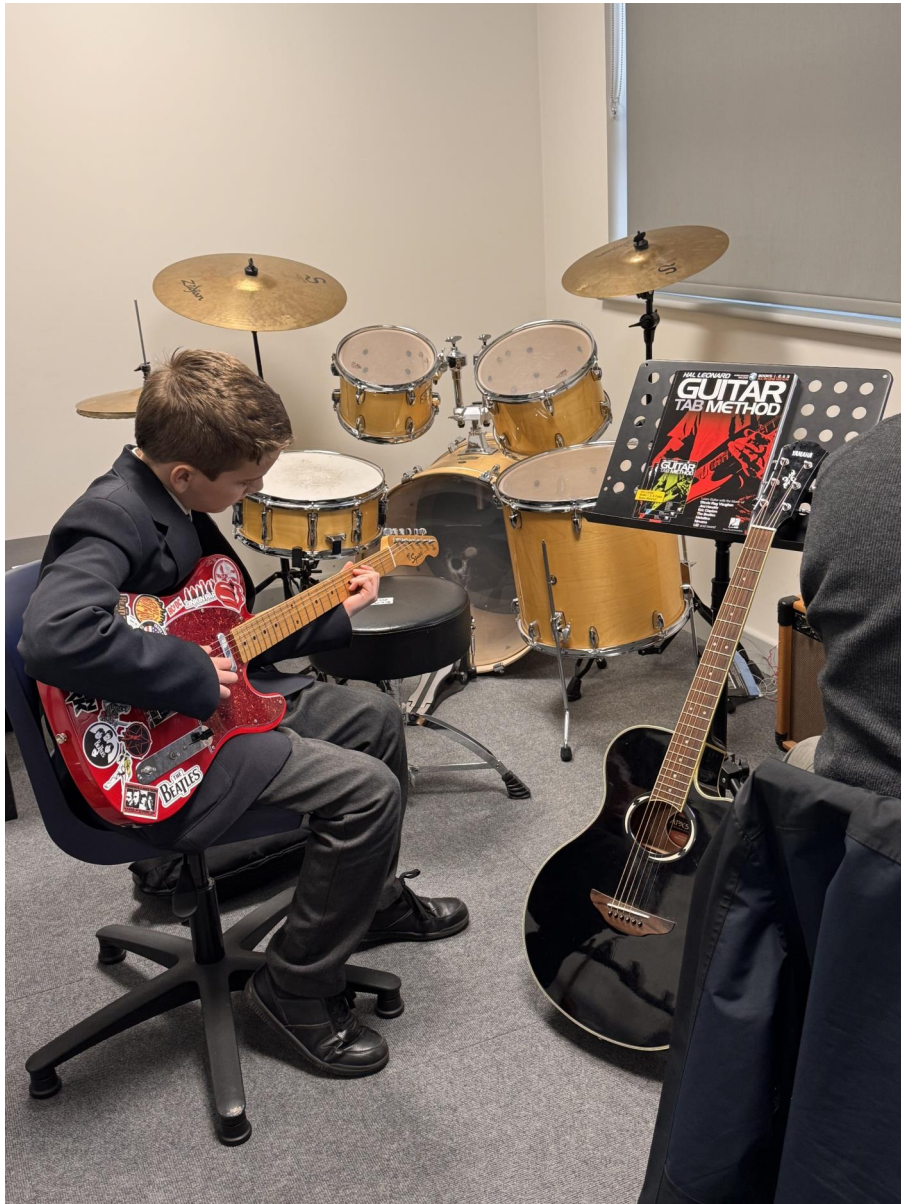
ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE

**6TH FORM APPLICATION
DEADLINE**

31 JANUARY 2026



 Musician of the Week 



Congratulations to Josh, our Musician of the Week! His dedication, talent, and remarkable progress have truly set him apart. Josh's skills continue to impress, and his passion for music shines through in every performance. Well done, Josh – keep up the fantastic work!"



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:



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

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



FOUNDATION STAGES JAZZ ENSEMBLE MUSIC THEORY RECORDER GROUPS

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

BEAT **Live Music Make Music**

Voice Trumpet Horn Cello Viola Piano Clarinet Double Bass Oboe

INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL LESSONS

AGES 7 TO 21 YRS OLD!

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- 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

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Department for Education ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

🧠 Artist of the Week: Sade 🧠



*Congratulations to Sade in Year 9 for being named **Artist of the Week!** She impressed us all with her creative and innovative use of the grid technique, showcasing precision and originality in her artwork. Well done, Sade—keep inspiring us with your talent!*

Upcoming Competitions and Concerts!

A poster for a chess competition. The background is a light beige color. At the top, the text "ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE" is written in a bold, orange, sans-serif font. Below this, the words "CHESS" and "COMPETITION" are written in a very large, bold, orange, sans-serif font, with "CHESS" on the top line and "COMPETITION" on the bottom line. In the center, there are three chess pieces: a white rook on the left, a black king in the middle, and a white pawn on the right. They are standing on a black and white checkered chessboard. Below the chessboard, the text "MONDAY & THURSDAY LUNCHTIME" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the poster, there are three lines of text in a smaller, bold, black, sans-serif font: "SIGN UP WITH MR DOGAN IN ROOM 2.04 TO BE ENTERED INTO A LEAGUE SYSTEM FOLLOWED BY KNOCKOUT STAGES.", "KEY STAGE 3 & KEY STAGE 4 LEAGUE.", and "THE WINNERS OF EACH LEAGUE WILL FACE EACH OTHER TO DECIDE THE BEST CHESS PLAYER IN THE SCHOOL."



Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge



On Monday our school Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge finalists competed in front of their Year 10 peers to win the title of the school champion. And what a contest did we have! Our finalists – Amir, Habib, Tia-Crystal, Akshara, Andrew B, Sofia D, Njivwa and Osasogie have treated us to an array of topics, from the importance of sports in our lives, appreciation of animations, criticism of media or the fight against homophobic prejudice in society.

In their speeches we heard some controversial truths, melodic rhymes and inspirational quotes from Shakespeare. But most of all, we were blown away by the confidence, imagination and wittiness of their performances, which (it is important to note) do not always come naturally.

Their greatness is a result of hard work and effort put in by the finalists who spent the last two weeks perfecting and practising their speeches; this is a credit to their excellent work ethic and dedication. This excellence was certainly demonstrated by Njivwa who came second with his confident and poignant speech entitled 'Dis-figured' as well as our school winner – Andrew B, who wowed us with his speech about same sex relationships. Many congratulations to Andrew, Njivwa and all the finalists – you made yourselves and us very proud!

Andrew will follow the footsteps of last year's school winner Anna-Maria and will represent our school in the Barnet regional final on 4 February 2026.

Ms Bassington | Head of English









A Walk Down Memory Lane

17 January 2025



Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge Regional Final

Well done to Anna-Maria Demetriades who proudly represented our school in Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge Regional Final, which took place last Tuesday evening. With her humorous speech entitled "Short and Tall", Anna-Maria captivated the audience with her passion, resilience and self-deprecating humour. She competed against 19 other representatives of Barnet borough schools, who were judged by the panel of oracy experts, and although she did not win, she has shown courage in the challenging art of public speaking. We are immensely proud of what she has achieved, but more importantly, we are very impressed with the creativity and hard work she has shown in preparation for the final. Following her achievement, Anna Maria will become a mentor for other Year 10 students in our school who will be completing their Spoken Language Assessment in May as part of the GCSE course.

Year 11 Explore Stratford's Regeneration





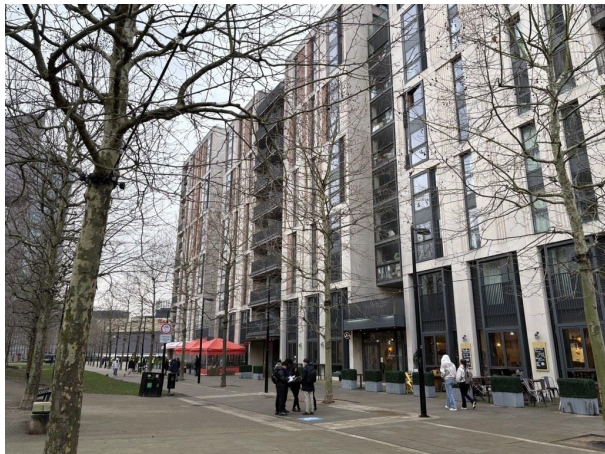
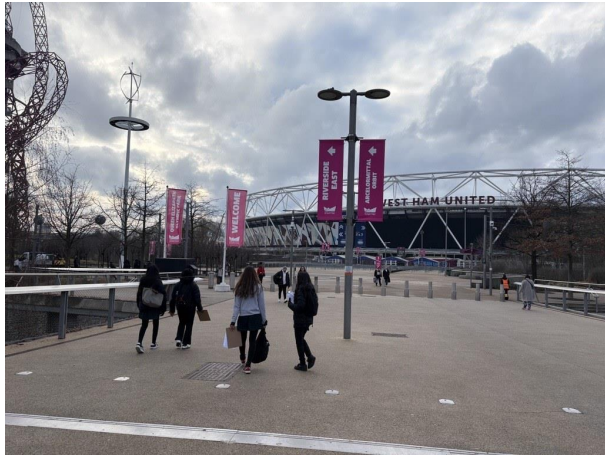
Our Year 11 GCSE Geography students have now completed their first fieldwork trip of the week, visiting Stratford in East London to investigate the impact of regeneration on the area.

During the day, students collected a wide range of data to support their GCSE studies, including carrying out service tallies in two contrasting neighbourhoods and conducting public perception surveys with local residents and visitors.

The students worked with great maturity, showing excellent teamwork and communication skills throughout the trip. Their findings will play an important role in preparing them for their GCSE Paper 3 exam and developing their understanding of how regeneration can transform urban spaces.

Mrs Viala | Assistant Headteacher







Mr Browell | Extended Leadership Team & Head of PE

GCSE Science in Action Trip Inspires Future Scientists





*Students from across the GCSE science courses enjoyed an exciting and thought-provoking day at the Emmanuel Centre for **Science in Action**, an event designed to bring real-world science to life through talks from leading experts.*

*Throughout the day, students heard from professionals working at the cutting edge of **nanotechnology, nuclear fusion, astronomy, medical technology, and rainforest conservation**. Each speaker offered a glimpse into the future of their field, sparking curiosity and plenty of lively discussion.*

*At one point, students were invited to imagine whether they would travel to **space**, the **Moon**, or even **Mars**. This led to a fascinating exploration of the wide range of jobs a Mars expedition would require — from **architects** designing habitats, to **psychologists** supporting crew wellbeing, to **artists** shaping communication and culture, and even **lawyers**, especially with the potential value of metals harvested from asteroids.*

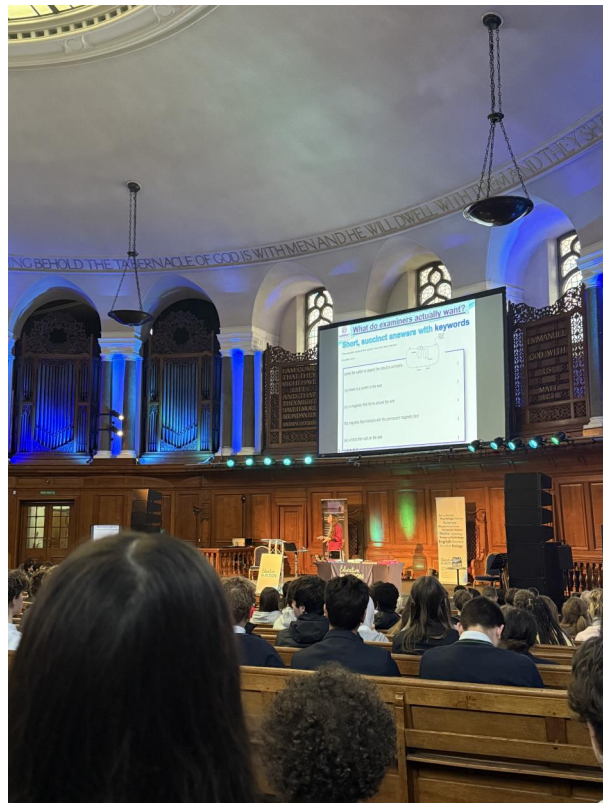
*Midway through the programme, students took part in a valuable **exam-success session**. This workshop emphasised the importance of **spaced repetition, decoding the question**, and using **FIFA** to tackle calculation questions with confidence. The session also highlighted the wide range of **STEM careers** available and the different pathways students can take to reach them.*

*There were plenty of opportunities to get involved. Students asked thoughtful questions throughout the day, and one brave volunteer even took part in a **live medical demonstration**, giving the audience a rare chance to see the **back of his eye**. The session also featured*

real-time ultrasound imaging of the blood vessels in the neck and a fascinating look at an endoscopy, including how biopsies are taken from the lungs.

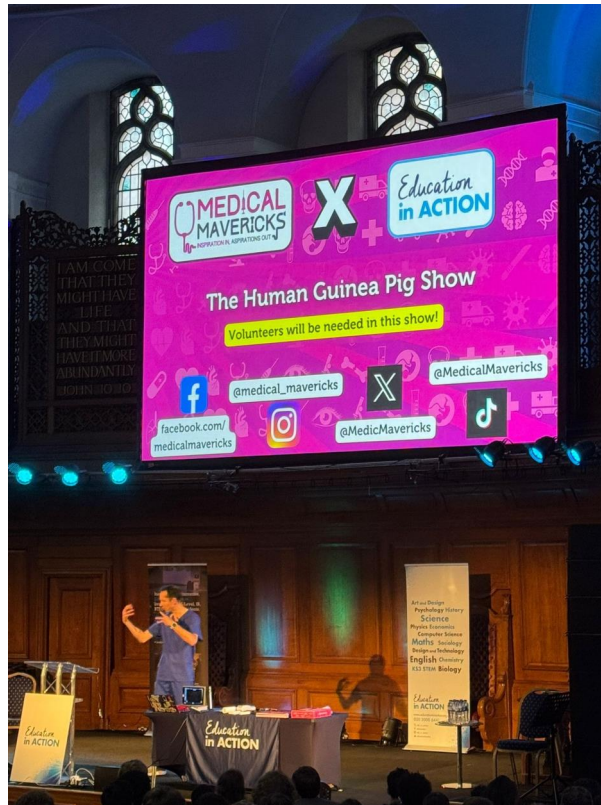
The trip left students inspired, informed, and excited about the possibilities that science holds for their future.

Miss Msrar | Head of Science









Wellies On, Clipboards Out: Year 11 Geographers explore Loughton Brook



Year 11 GCSE Geography students headed out on their second fieldtrip of the week, this time to Epping Forest, where they carried out river fieldwork along Loughton Brook. The aim of the day was to test a hypothesis about how the river changes along its course. Despite the muddy conditions, students embraced the experience enthusiastically—pulling on their wellies and stepping into the river to collect data. They took a range of measurements at different points along the brook to investigate key river characteristics, applying classroom knowledge to a real-life environment. The trip provided valuable hands-on experience and

excellent preparation for the fieldwork element of their GCSE exams, while also giving students the chance to enjoy learning outdoors in a natural setting.

Mrs Viola | Assistant Headteacher





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.

Student Council Launches Homeless Action in Barnet Appeal

The Student Council is delighted to announce that they have chosen Homeless Action in Barnet (HAB) as the school's local charity partner for the coming years. The students were keen to support a charity that has a meaningful impact within our community, and HAB's work in providing practical support, dignity and stability for those experiencing homelessness strongly resonated with them.

As part of this new partnership, the Student Council is launching its Homeless Action Appeal, which will run from Monday 26 January to Friday 13 February. During this period, students, families and staff are invited to donate essential items that will directly support individuals who rely on HAB's services.

Items Needed for the Appeal

The Council is seeking donations of the following:

- *Men's coats (ideally waterproof)*
- *Sleeping bags*
- *Clothing – especially men's clothing*
 - *Duvets*

- *New socks and underwear*
 - *Toiletries (sealed)*
 - *Full, sealed packets of dry, non-perishable food within their sell-by date*
 - *Cleaning products*
-
-

All donations will be collected in school and delivered to Homeless Action in Barnet at the end of the campaign.

The Student Council is excited to begin this long-term collaboration and hopes the whole school community will come together to support this important cause. Even the smallest contribution can make a significant difference to someone in need.

Mr Browell | Extended Leadership

The Feast of Saint Athanasios



I recently had the blessing to visit Cambridge for the Feast of Saint Athanasios, which was celebrated with great reverence and joy at the local Greek Orthodox Church. The Divine Liturgy was officiated by the visiting Bishop Iakovos together with Father Grigorios, in an atmosphere of deep spirituality and prayer, highlighting the life, faith, and theological contribution of Saint Athanasios to the Orthodox Church.

The celebration brought together many members of the Greek Orthodox community of Cambridge, including representatives of the local Greek Community, educators, academics, and families, reflecting the strong sense of unity and faith among the faithful. It was inspiring to witness how the Orthodox tradition continues to flourish within the diaspora.

Following the Divine Liturgy, a communal meal was offered, providing a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, conversation, and hospitality. The warm and welcoming atmosphere made the day not only a religious celebration but also a meaningful social gathering that strengthened bonds within the community.

This visit to Cambridge was a memorable and enriching experience, demonstrating the vitality of Orthodox life abroad and the importance of preserving our faith, traditions, and sense of community wherever we are.

Miss Ntaountaki | Teacher of Greek & Latin





Lunchtime Pair Reading Club



*This week during lunchtime club, our Sixth Form mentors led highly successful **paired-reading session** with KS3 and KS4 students who worked hard on improving their*

reading fluency, accuracy and comprehension. Year 12 students created an amazing atmosphere of encouragement and guidance to their younger peers, welcoming them to their 6th form common room and listening to their reading.

A huge well done to our mentors for their commitment and professionalism - they were truly impressive, so were the younger students who showed responsibility and independence, devoting their lunchtime to self-improvement. Congratulations to all participating students for their fantastic effort. The club runs every Wednesday lunchtime in 6th Form common room.

Ms Bassington | Head of English







Celebrating Culture Through Dance in the Greek Club



The Cultural Greek Club has been full of energy and excitement this week as students dove into the world of traditional Greek dance. Members were thrilled to learn new steps, rhythms, and the cultural meaning behind some of Greece's most beloved dances.

*During this week's meeting, students practiced **syrtó** (συρτό), **kalamatiano** (καλαματιανό), and **zeibekiko** (ζείμπέκικο). Each dance offered something unique: syrtó introduced smooth, flowing movements, kalamatiano brought a lively and joyful rhythm, and zeibekiko allowed students to express emotion and individuality through powerful, free-form steps.*

The atmosphere was filled with laughter, music and teamwork as students supported one another while learning the dances. Many members shared how exciting it was to not only hear about Greek culture, but to experience it firsthand through movement and music.

The Greek Club continues to be a welcoming space where students can explore tradition, build friendships, and celebrate cultural diversity. With such enthusiasm already shown, members are looking forward to learning even more Greek dances and customs in the weeks to come.

Miss Ntaountaki | Teacher of Greek & Latin



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 Katloor)	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)	

Year 10 Basketball – Match Report vs Mill Hill School



The Year 10 basketball team opened their season with a spirited performance against Mill Hill, eventually falling 65–39 but showing tremendous promise throughout. The boys competed with energy and determination from start to finish, highlighted by some outstanding two-man play between Freddie and Platon, whose pick-and-roll combinations were a constant attacking threat. Freddie was a standout performer, leading the team in scoring while also displaying superb playmaking ability. Defensively, Klinti, Habib and Maxim worked tirelessly, producing several impressive stops and applying relentless pressure on the ball. Strong contributions across the squad from Sufyaan, Armelo, Teodor, Tino and Mohammad helped maintain intensity in what was a competitive and entertaining first outing.

A special mention must go to Sixth Former, Oliver, who coached the team brilliantly throughout. His clear communication, calm presence and excellent team talks played a key role in keeping the boys focused and motivated.

Although it was a tough opening fixture, the resilience, teamwork and flashes of real quality on display suggest a very exciting season ahead.

Mr Fowlie | Teacher of PE

Senior Basketball Fixture vs Woodhouse College



The Senior Team secured their second victory of the season with a determined 45–40 win away at Woodhouse College. The squad; Stelios, Christo, Ray, Hendrik, Antonio, Tobias, Aleks and Oliver displayed outstanding team spirit from start to finish, showing real cohesion and resilience in a competitive matchup.

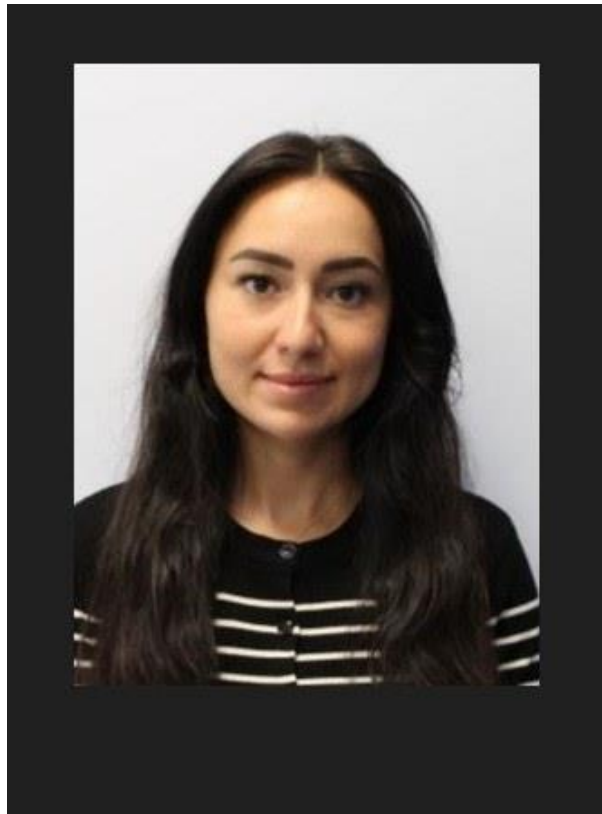
Captain Stelios led by example, finishing as the team's top scorer. His relentless drives to the basket caused constant problems for the opposition defence and provided crucial momentum throughout the game. Christo and Tobias were excellent on both ends of the floor, contributing vital stops and intelligent offensive plays.

Hendrik looked incredibly sharp on the fast break, repeatedly turning defence into attack with speed and composure. Meanwhile, Antonio, Aleks, and Oliver made a huge defensive impact, applying pressure and disrupting Woodhouse's rhythm, making scoring extremely difficult for the home side.

The defining moment of the game came in the third quarter, where a remarkable 15–0 run created the separation needed to control the remainder of the contest and ultimately secure the win. Next up, the team face JCOSS at home, a great opportunity to make a statement in the push for this year's league title.

Mr Fowlie | Teacher of PE

Meet the Staff



Hello! I'm Elvan Cebir, and I'm delighted to be part of the STA community as a Psychology Teacher. Working at STA is truly rewarding, and my top three favourite things about our school are the enthusiastic students, the welcoming atmosphere, and the passion for learning that fills every classroom.

*Outside of school, I love reading psychological thrillers, keeping up with the latest research in psychology, going for walks, and practicing reformer pilates. If I could invite three celebrities to dinner, I'd choose Sigmund Freud for his fascinating insights into the human mind, Agatha Christie for her masterful storytelling and deep understanding of psychological suspense, and Anthony Hopkins—not only for his legendary acting career but also for his chilling and psychologically complex performances in films like *The Silence of the Lambs*, *Hannibal*, and *The Father*. It would certainly be an unforgettable evening!*

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 9 Top Readers:

Anu O: 6,923

Mark M: 2,696

Gabriel F: 2,219

Year 8 Top Readers:

Ayaz I: 6,923

Wealth O: 4,402

Moyosoreoluwa S: 3,081

Year 10 Top Readers:

Ali O: 10,283

Ras D: 4,546

Ria B: 1,600

Ms Bassington | Head of English

Root Word of the Week

Build a Library - Mark Your Legacy!

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

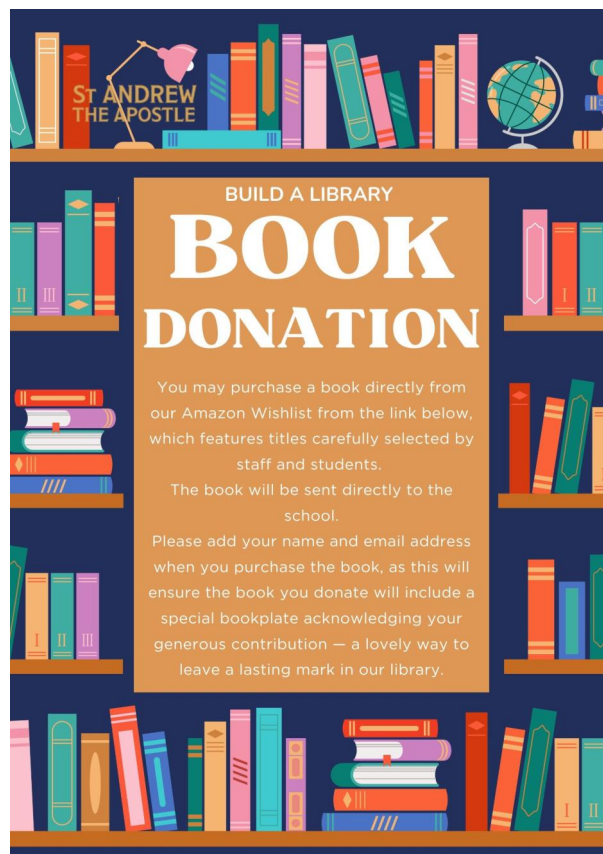
We have currently had over 48 book purchases, and this continues to grow. Your generous donations of books have enriched our shelves and opened up new worlds for our students to explore. You may access our Amazon wish list [here](#) to join in building our school Library.

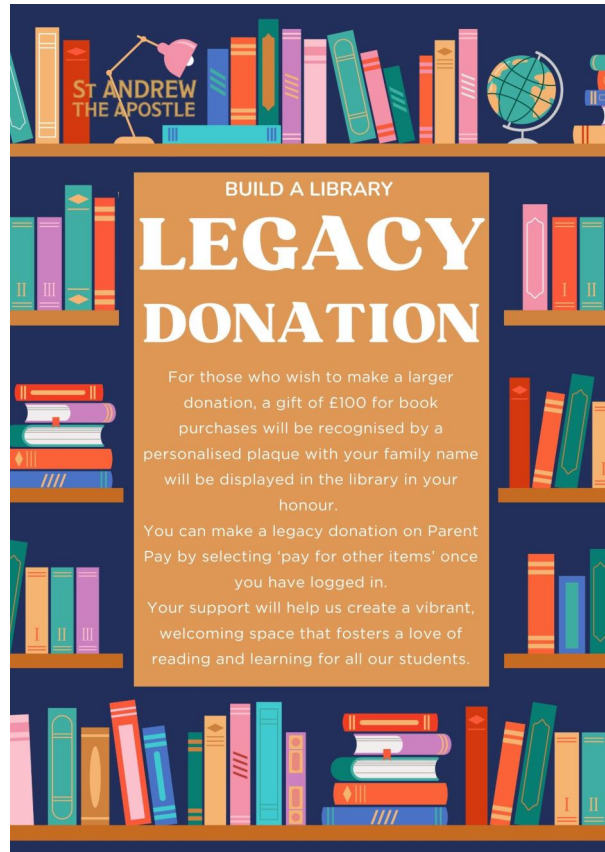
Please ensure to add your full name to the note at checkout.

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.





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



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



BELS Advisory Team for Autistic Children and Young People

Autistic Speaker Dean Beadle: Q&A Sessions for Parents/Carers & Professionals

We are delighted to welcome Dean Beadle.

A choice of online talks for parents/carers & professionals.

When: Monday 2nd February 2026 at either

10-11am Or 6-7pm

Wednesday 25th March 2026 at either

10-11am Or 6-7pm

Online via Zoom

In these sessions Dean will answer pre-submitted questions and will look at practical ways to meet the needs of Autistic children & young people.

Dean Beadle is an Autistic speaker who has spent 20 years delivering talks across the UK and abroad. He is known for his humorous and thought-provoking sessions. He is patron of three autism related charities.

Monday 2nd February 10-11am session: [Dean B Q&A 2nd Feb. 10am.](#)

Monday 2nd February 6-7pm session: [Dean B Q&A 2nd Feb. 6pm.](#)

Wednesday 25th March 10-11am session: [Dean B Q&A 25th March 10am.](#)

Wednesday 25th March 6-7pm session: [Dean B Q&A 25th March 6pm.](#)

Please add any questions you'd like Dean to discuss on the registration form. Due to time constraints, we are unable to take questions during the session.

Any questions please email Autism.Team@Barnet.gov.uk with 'Dean Beadle Feb/March 26 Q&A session' in the header.

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
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.

- 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

