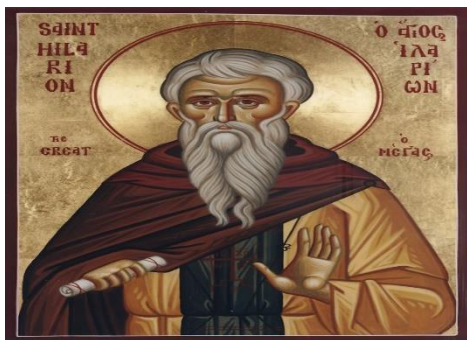




Headteacher's Update

28 March 2022



Life of [St Hilarion the Great](#) commemorated on 28 March.

Key Messages

Dear Parents and Carers,

We were delighted to welcome Mr [Averof Neophytou](#), the President of DISY, which is the governing party in Cyprus and his delegation including Mr Andreas Papaevripides, who is Director, CFO at Daligas and President of the World Federation of Overseas Cypriots.

Mr Neophytou and his party took time out of their busy schedules to visit us, to see our work and to speak with our students on Tuesday 22 March. Earlier in the day, Mr Neophytou visited the House of Commons and met Parliamentarians at a meeting hosted by Theresa Villiers MP.



We are very grateful to Mr Neophytou for the generous gift of a beautiful handmade Olive Tree sculpture which we will proudly display in Reception. This gift was very symbolic as the use of the olive branch as a symbol of peace in Western civilisation dates back to at least 5th century BC Greece.



Thank you to the STA school community for your very generous donations of Easter Eggs which our staff and members of our Student Council will deliver in two batches to local children in need at our local Hospital, Children's Hospice and Food Bank. Our first delivery will take place on Friday 1 April and our second will be on Thursday 21 April which is timed to coincide with the Greek Orthodox Easter. Please do continue to send in Easter Eggs as every single one will make a difference to a child in need.





Our gifts will be accompanied by this message:



We hope that your children and young people will enjoy the gift from the children at St Andrew the Apostle School.

At this time of Easter and In line with our core values of: **Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Forgiveness and Fairness**, we wanted your children and young people to know that another child was thinking of them and keeping them in their prayers.

With our very best wishes,
The children of St Andrew the Apostle School

To our students and families observing Ramadan from 2 April until 1 May, we wish you all the blessings of the holy month.

If you are celebrating Easter at this time of year, we wish that you may be blessed with our Lord's love and peace this Easter. We thank the Lord for his blessings and wish you an Easter full of joy and peace. Let us remember the miracle of Jesus' resurrection and His endless love.

A reminder that the last day of term will be Friday 1 April and this will be a half-day. As there will be no lunch service, students will be able to purchase food at breaktime and students in receipt of free school meals will receive their lunch at that time.

Students in Year 11 and Year 13 will be attending free tuition lessons (intervention) during the Easter break in Building 4. Mr Michael will write to confirm the final timetable shortly.

We return to school on Tuesday 19 April and school will start at the normal time for students. My next newsletter will be sent to you on Monday 25 April.

Finally, we wish all those named below a very happy name day. Please [click here](#) if you would like to send a free iconogram to friends and family.

Saint name days for the week beginning 28 March

Saint being celebrated	Date
Gregory	Monday 28
Ypatis/Hypatius	Thursday 31
Maria	Friday 1
Titos	Saturday 2
Illyrios	Sunday 3

Best wishes,

Mrs I Warwick
Headteacher



Faith- πίστις

The Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross

The Sunday of the Holy Cross prepares us for commemoration of the Crucifixion, but it also reminds us that the whole of Lent is a period when we are crucified with Christ.

As we have “crucified the flesh with its passions and desires” (Galatians 5:24) and will have mortified ourselves during these forty days of the Fast, the precious and life-giving Cross is now placed before us to refresh our souls and encourage us who may be filled with a sense of bitterness, resentment, and depression.



The Cross reminds us of the Passion of our Lord, and by presenting to us His example, it encourages us to follow Him in struggle and sacrifice, being refreshed, assured, and comforted. In other words, we must experience what the Lord experienced during His Passion – being humiliated in a shameful manner. The Cross teaches us that through pain and suffering we shall see the fulfilment of our hopes: the heavenly inheritance and eternal glory.

As they who walk on a long and hard way and are bowed down by fatigue find great relief and strengthening under the cool shade of a leafy tree, so do we find comfort, refreshment, and rejuvenation under the Life-giving Cross, which our Fathers “planted” on this Sunday. Thus, we are fortified and enabled to continue our Lenten journey with a light step, rested and encouraged.

Or, as before the arrival of the king, his royal standards, trophies, and emblems of victory come in procession and then the king himself appears in a triumphant parade, jubilant and rejoicing in his victory and filling those under him with joy, so does the Feast of the Cross precede the coming of our King, Jesus Christ. It warns us that He is about to proclaim His victory over death and appear to us in the glory of the Resurrection. His Life-Giving Cross is His royal sceptre, and by venerating it we are filled with joy, rendering Him glory.

The present feast has been placed in the middle of Great Lent for another reason. The Fast can be likened to the spring of Marah whose waters the children of Israel encountered in the wilderness. This water was undrinkable due to its bitterness but became sweet when the Holy Prophet Moses dipped the wood into its depth. Likewise, the wood of the Cross sweetens the days of the Fast, which are bitter and

often grievous because of our tears. Yet Christ comforts us during our course through the desert of the Fast, guiding and leading us by His hand to the spiritual Jerusalem on high by the power of His Resurrection.

Moreover, as the Holy Cross is called the Tree of Life, it is placed in the middle of the Fast, as the ancient tree of life was placed in the middle of the garden of Eden. By this, our Holy Fathers wished to remind us of Adam’s gluttony as well as the fact that through this Tree condemnation has been abolished. Therefore, if we bind ourselves to the Holy Cross, we shall never encounter death but shall inherit life eternal. The icon shows the priest venerating the Cross as the people chant the hymn “We venerate Your Cross, O Christ, and Your holy Resurrection we glorify,” which is inscribed on the table holding the Cross.



March 25 Marks the Annunciation, A Feast for Orthodoxy and Hellenism

25 March which passed us, is one of the most important dates of Hellenism throughout the world since it marks both the anniversary of the Greek War of Independence and the Feast of the Annunciation, a significant celebration in Christianity. The Feast of the Annunciation marks the visit of the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, during which he told her that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

More importantly, since it occurs nine months before the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day, the Annunciation marks the actual incarnation of Jesus Christ – the moment that Jesus was conceived and that the Son of God became the son of the Virgin Mary. The Virgin Mary is the second-most sacred figure in the Greek Orthodox Church after Jesus Himself.

The feast day celebrates two things:

- God's action in entering the human world as Jesus in order to save humanity.
- Humanity's acceptance of God's will in Mary's freely given acceptance of the role of being the Mother of God.

The story Annunciation is told in Luke's Gospel, 1:26-38.

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative, is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered.

"May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

25 March was the name day of all those called Evangelia, Evangelos, Angela, Angelo, Maria, Mario, Theotokis, Panayiota, Yiota, Panayiotis and other derivatives of "Evangelismos" (Annunciation).

Mr M Vassiliou (STA Spiritual Director)

Upcoming Key Dates and Information



- Please [click here](#) to access previous editions of the Newsletter
- Please [click here](#) to access term dates
- Please [click here](#) to access school calendar for upcoming Term 4

Upcoming Events

- **Easter candle appeal and Easter egg appeal** - ongoing.
- **Easter Holiday: 4 April – 19 April.**
- **Easter service** - Twelve Apostles Greek Orthodox Church on Friday 22 April.
- **The STA Talent Show at the [Chickenshed Theatre](#)** – Summer 20 July 2022.

Upcoming Trampolining Assessment

This week will be the final week of trampolining. The selected students will be assessed on their skills and performance routine. The session on Monday will take place as normal **between 3.00pm-5.00pm**. We have also added an additional session on Tuesday 3.00pm-5.00pm if required. We will confirm if your daughter is required for the additional session on Tuesday, however, we aim for all Year 11 students to be completed by Monday. Please can you ensure your daughter attends the assessment as the assessment must be recorded, and any absence would mean the assessment might need to be completed during the Easter holidays.

Mr R Browell (Head of PE)

St Katherine Greek Orthodox Church Visit

We will be taking each Year group to St Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church in Friern Barnet for an Easter service which will be led by one of our School Chaplains Father Damianos.

The church services are scheduled to take place between **Tuesday 29 March** and **Thursday 31 March** during the school day. We will walk the short distance to the church from school. Each Year group will be visiting church at a specific time and then return to school immediately after the service.

All students will be expected to attend looking smart and wearing their full school uniform. No packed lunch will be required as students will back in school in good time for both their break and lunch time.

Year 12 and Year 13 will be dismissed directly from church on the afternoon of **Thursday 31 March at 3.00pm.**

Mr M. Vassiliou (Spiritual Director)

Students of the week



All students named in the Newsletter will receive 10 recognition points

Muay Thai World Champion



Congratulations to Year 10 student **Christopher S** who won the Junior World Open Muay Thai Championships at the beginning of half term.

Muay Thai is a martial arts combat sport that uses stand up striking along with various clinching techniques. The sport includes the combined use of fists, elbows, knees and shins. Christopher competes in the light heavy weight division. Impressively, Christopher won gold in the U15 category competing against individuals from all different parts of the world. Christopher also competed in the Senior Olympic Rules category. This competition is open age and includes strikes to the torso, legs and head. Christopher

won a bronze medal in this category. Christopher only recently took up the sport of Muay Thai, so to win a bronze and gold medal in the World Championships is an incredible achievement. Congratulations Christopher from all staff and students at St Andrew the Apostle.

Mr R Browell (Head of PE)

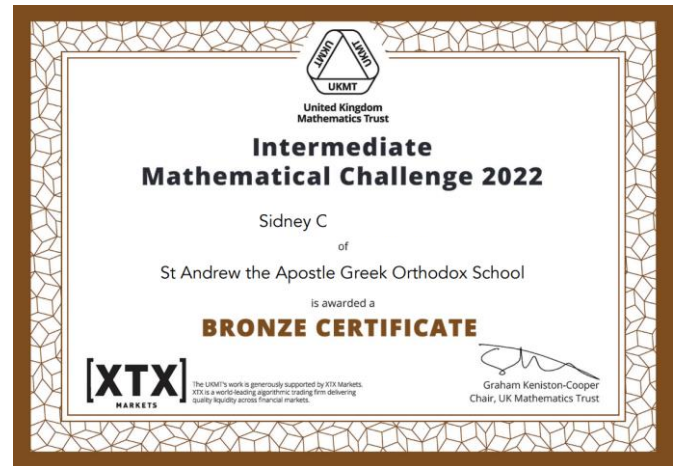
UKMT 2022

Congratulations to all of our students who took part in and were awarded certificates for the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge 2022!

Well done STA Mathematicians!

Please [click here](#) if you would like to find out more about the UKM.





Form tutor nominations

Year 7: Lia B - for giving a clear example as to why donating to charities is important.

Year 8: Christianna P - for continued fantastic whole school contributions.

Year 9: Zara I and Melina - for supporting their peers during lunch times. Thank you for being so helpful!

Year 11: Yekta S - for the persistent hard work in registration to revise for mocks. **Natasha D** - for her quiet consideration of others at all times.

Year 12: Pedros O and Pavlos K - for promoting the school values, exemplary work ethic and for supporting the Y10 students in Maths.

Sixth form super-curricular activities- update

Here are some of the activities that we have been promoting in the Sixth Form, apart from the Gresham College Online Lectures, the COP26 conference and the programmes that we receive from our Outreach Liaison Officers of the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge.

Ms Joseph has printed a booklet for all our students in Y12 and students are in the process of preparing presentations which are in progress at present. Presentations can be to the form group or the year group in Assemblies.

12J

Michaela attended a podcast by Worcester College, Oxford and presented an excellent presentation on Digital Democracy. She also prepared a presentation on 'International Women's Day 2022- 'Break the bias'', which was shared with all forms.

Eriola has already written an article based on the Gresham College lecture on 'Sleep and Dreams' presented by Professor Glenn D Wilson.

She has also researched and presented 'Australia's resolve on COP26' (along with Elianna, Marcos and Michaela) and she is preparing a new presentation based on Gwyneth's (University of Cambridge) suggested lectures on Biology/Medicine.

Both Michaela and Eriola are part of the editorial team of the Sixth Form's newsletter.

Luis has already researched and presented an excellent presentation on Formula 1 and he is preparing a new presentation based on Gwyneth's suggested lectures (University of Cambridge) on Engineering.

Pedros has participated in the Oxford trip (Christ Church outreach programme) and the Auschwitz Online lectures. He has also attended a course on Investment Banking and he is supporting Year 10 Maths students. He has also researched and presented (**with George**) during form time, a presentation on inspirational black men and women as part of Black History Month.

Pavlos is part of the University of Oxford Horizons programme; he has presented a topic of his interest in form time (Recycling); he took part in the Oxford trip and the Auschwitz Online lectures and he is supporting Year 10 Maths students.

Shumanan, Dervish, Noah delivered a presentation on Martin Luther King, **Kaniel** delivered a presentation on Cyberbullying in assembly, **Noah** delivered a presentation on inspirational role models.

In addition, **Shumanan** took part in the Oxford University trip.

Paschalis, Iker, Renaldo and George are going to attend one of the podcasts/lectures linked to the subjects of their interest and they will be presenting the topics next week in form.

12S

Last week, **Andreas and Nik** presented in form what they have read or listened to about the subjects that they are interested in (Business).

This week we have **Aaron, Kristian, Alexia**, who will be presenting on something that they have read, watched, or listened to.

Alexia has taken part in the LSE Politics competition, the Online lessons from Auschwitz (which count as super-curricular for her and the Oxford University trip (Christ Church programme).

Luke took part in the Online lessons from Auschwitz and the Oxford University trip.

Gia and Lilly delivered a presentation on the how the younger generation can have a more positive impact on the environment.

Kyri and Aaron have presented on a topic of their interest during form time.

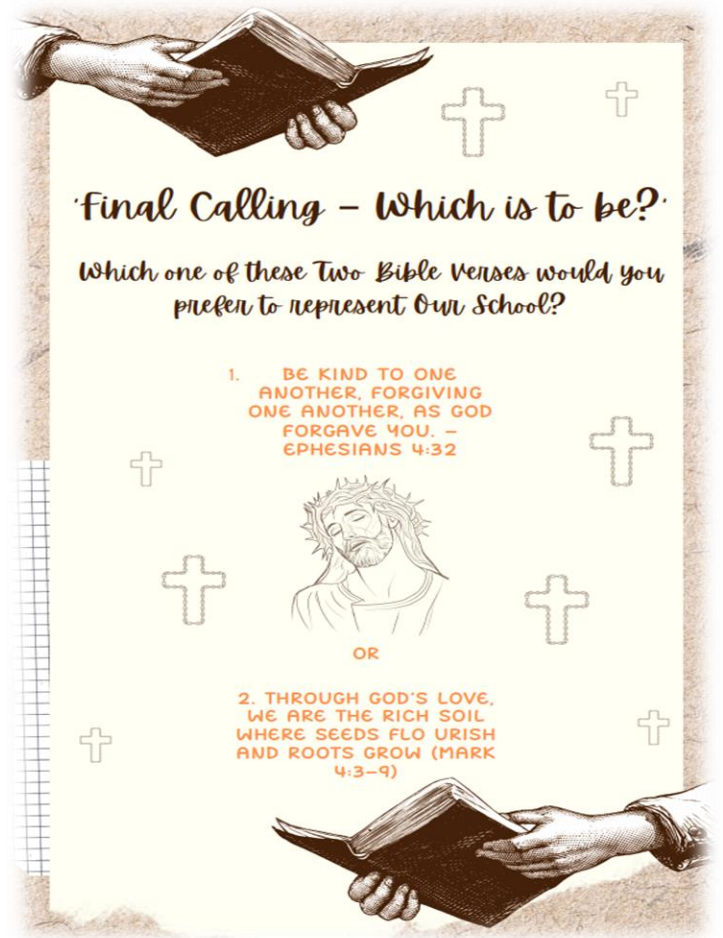
12P

Chrystalla has been attending webinars and listening to podcasts made by the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge, especially about Classical Civilisation and Archaeology and Anthropology. She is part of the editorial team of the Sixth Form's newsletter and she took part in the Oxford University trip.

Thea is the chief editor of the Sixth Form's newsletter. She has won a creative writing competition (National teen Book Club).

Matilda is part of the editorial team of the Sixth Form's newsletter.

STA- you have voted! Results of the Bible verse we will adopt for our school will be announced after Easter.



STA Easter Card Competition



Our chapel in use last week-meeting with our visitors



Mental Health Crisis Helpline - Reminder



In the Safeguarding and Pastoral team at St Andrew the Apostle School, we are continually looking at ways to support not only young people, but also families when they are going through challenging times.

The school's focus will always be supporting the young people in our care with a focus of ensuring they make the best possible progress in lessons. However, we know that the wider support that families and external services provide students is crucial.

For example, should a student disclose to us that they are suffering from an eating disorder, we will not only make a referral to the NHS, but when we inform parents, we would also make sure that parents are aware of the support they can receive from BEATS, a national charity. If you need to access their support, you can on 0808 801 0677.

Should a student disclose to us that they are suffering from a bereavement, we will not only ensure that they receive support through the local authority (where it is appropriate and we receive the consent from parents), but when we inform parents, we would also make sure that parents are aware of the support they can receive from Grief Encounter, another charity. If you need to access their support, you can on 0808 802 0111.

Whatever the issue that young people face, we always want to work with specialists in that field to make sure that not only the young person, but the families who support them so well, also get the advice and guidance needed.

If you do have any concerns in any area, be it online safety, bullying, mental health concerns, physical health concerns or any other specific area please do not hesitate to contact myself as the DSL or anyone in school for support.

One date for your diaries is **Wednesday 4 May 2022** where we will be holding the third Online Safety evening for parents. As with previous evenings, the sessions will be led by Ben McGrath from eSafe, a company we work with, who provide up to date information about online trends in the field of Safeguarding.

Mr Martin (Deputy Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead) (DSL)

Support Helplines

If you're in crisis and need to talk right now, there are many helplines staffed by trained people ready to listen. They won't judge you and could help you make sense of what you're feeling.

- **Samaritans**. To talk about anything that is upsetting you, you can contact them 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can call [116 123](tel:116123) (free from any phone).
- **SANEline**. If you're experiencing a mental health problem or supporting someone else, you can call
- **National Suicide Prevention Helpline UK**. Offers a supportive listening service to anyone with thoughts of suicide. You can call the on 0800 689 5652 (open 24/7).
- **CALM**. You can call them on 0800 58 58 58 (5pm–midnight every day) if you are struggling and need to talk. Or if you prefer not to speak on the phone, you could try the [CALM webchat service](#).
- **Papyrus HOPELINEUK**. If you're struggling with suicidal feelings, or concerned about a young person who might be struggling, you can call on 0800 068

Please [click here](#) to access helpful advice and support from the **NHS for teenagers and young adults** who need support with their mental health and are coping with bereavement.

Reminder: During school, students needing emotional support can talk to their Form Tutors and their Head of Year. The following members of staff are also available:

- **Mr C Martin, Deputy Headteacher (DSL*)**
- **Mrs C Hammond, Assistant Headteacher (DDSL*)**
- **Mr S Hadjisavva, Assistant Headteacher (DDSL*)**
- **Mrs I Warwick, Headteacher (DDSL*)**
- **Ms D Moustaka (Safeguarding & Inclusion Manager)**
- **Mr N Anemouri (Pastoral Support Officer)**
- **Ms M Henshaw-Devall (Safeguarding Officer)**

*DSL is the Designated Safeguarding lead.

*DDSL is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead

General Enquiries – Emails

The quickest way to get your queries or concerns to the relevant member of staff (Form tutor/Subject Teacher) is via the Staff Contact Form on our website: <https://www.standrewtheapostle.org.uk/contact-staff>

For absences and appointments, please contact - attendance@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

For issues with MS Teams, please contact - teams@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

For Admissions/ Year 6 enquiries, please contact – admissions@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

For Parent Pay issues or issues with Finance, please contact - finance@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

To set up an alert for when the balance falls below their chosen amount [click here](#) to access the link. Emails are free but texts need to be paid for by the parent.

FOSA

Please do get in touch if you would like to join our small group of dedicated parents and carers- by emailing us at admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk with FOSA in the title. Please mark your email for the attention of Mr Michael.



Friends of St Andrew

Mr Michael (Senior Deputy Headteacher)

Headteacher Parent Surgery and Communication

If you would like to meet with the Headteacher or the Senior Deputy Headteacher at our weekly Parent and Carer surgery, please email admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk. The Headteacher surgery will take place on Fridays from 5pm until 6pm. The time allocated for appointments will be 15 minutes in the first instance. Please send your request for an appointment in by 10am every Wednesday so that we may allocate an appointment and send you confirmation in good time. All appointments will take place via Microsoft Teams until further notice.



Mrs Warwick (Headteacher)

Apprenticeships / Open Events

Beales Hotels Open Event

Beales Hotels, c/o West Lodge Park Hotel, Hadley Wood are reaching out to local Schools and Colleges to see whether any of our students would be interested in potential employment opportunities. These would include a structured in-house training qualification (fully funded, so no cost to the employee) and a 12-month employment contract, so whilst they work they and are paid a fair salary (we always pay above National Minimum Apprentice wage etc.) Open Event at West Lodge Park Hotel, Cockfosters, EN4 0PY next week, on **31.3.22, 5pm to 7.30pm**.



Beales Hotels Recruitment Event



Recruitment Open Evening
Thursday 31st March 2022, 5.00pm to 7.30pm
West Lodge Park Hotel, Cockfosters Road, Hadley Woods, Herts, EN4 0PY in the John Evelyn & Coventry Rooms, WLP

West Lodge Park Hotel are hosting a Recruitment Open Evening. We are looking for a variety of roles including: Chefs, F&B and C&B staff on a Full time and casual contract basis, but also have other current vacancies.

Full list of positions available on the company website:
www.bealeshotels.co.uk/about-us/careers

We welcome applications from individuals at any stage of their career, to join our hardworking and friendly team.

If you know anyone who may be interested, please encourage them to pop in to our Recruitment Open Evening, for an informal chat about potential positions (mini hotel tours and light refreshments provided).

We also accept emailed applications (CV and cover letter please) via hadmin@bealeshotels.co.uk.

Any queries, please refer to our HR Team, at hadmin@bealeshotels.co.uk

Virgin Media Apprenticeships



Virgin Media Apprenticeships
Salaries from £19,000

Earn while you learn, picking up qualifications to kick off the career you want.

Excellent benefits:

- 25 days Paid holidays
- Birthday off each year
- Flexible working
- Deals on mobile, TV & more
- Medical, dental plans
- Travel season ticket loan
- Car Scheme
- Ride to work scheme



- Field Engineer Apprentice
- Fibre Engineer Apprentice
- Business Administrator Apprentice
- Network Delivery Manager Apprentice
- Project Manager Apprentice
- Planner Apprentice
- Field Technician Apprentice

Locations across the UK – Reading, Hammersmith, London, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Gateshead, Sheffield, Edinburgh, Peterborough, Kent, Cambridge, Preston, Bradford and more to come.

Become a part of Jurassic World cinema history!

Know any superstar students passionate about the world of film?



The [Create The Card](#) competition is back and bigger than ever for 2022, giving students aged 12 - 16 the chance to create one of our famous Black Cards, and have their design shown before every UK cinema showing of Universal's latest blockbuster, Jurassic World Dominion! People all over the country will see it, so it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for your students to win a money-can't-buy prize and have their picture and name up in lights. Winners will also get the chance to watch the film themselves at a special screening of the film!

Entrants have until **Wednesday 11 May** to get their submissions in - time to get creative! Visit them online [here](#) to view the full competition details or get in touch with any specific questions on the details below any time.

BACE Holidays is back - book now for Easter 2022!

BACE Holidays is back again for the Easter Holidays 2022! Once again, bringing a wide range of free daily activities/camps with a hot healthy lunch included for young people aged 5 - 16, who live in, or attend school in Barnet and are in receipt of free school meals, funded by the Department of Education.

BACE Easter Holidays dates across the Borough of Barnet are: **Monday 04 April - Friday 08 April & Monday 11 - Thursday 14 April***

*Dates and Times are varied depending on location

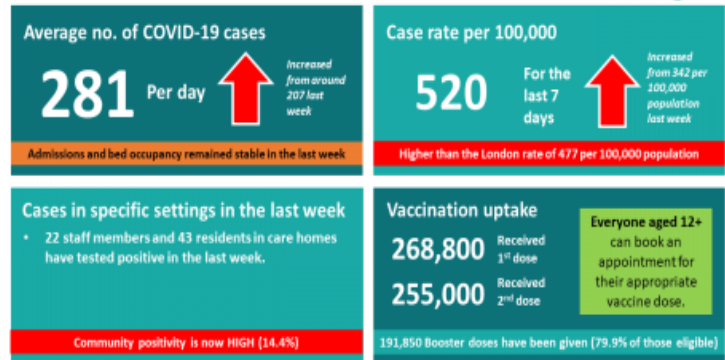
If your child needs additional support, please email BACEHolidays@barnet.gov.uk

COVID-19 updates - Reminder

Please [click here](#) if you would like to view the Barnet COVID-19 weekly update.

BARNET COVID-19 WEEKLY ROUND-UP

6 March - 12 March 2022



Uniform reminder

A reminder that you may find details of our uniform requirements by [clicking here](#).

A list of 'banned' items can be found by [clicking here](#).

If any family is suffering from hardship and would like to purchase any good quality, nearly-new uniform, please contact your child's form tutor or Head of Year. In addition, if you have concerns about the purchase of any essential items necessary for your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year and they will advise and support you at this challenging time.

Attendance reminder

It is a legal requirement for all school-age children to go to school during term time. Please [click here](#) for further information.

Parents and carers may submit a Student Leave of Absence form for my consideration by contacting attendance@standrewtheapostle.org.uk to request the form. The completed form must be submitted to the same email address.

Please note, all requests for a family to take a holiday during term-time will be refused and may result in your child having a series of unauthorised absences with action taken as explained [here](#).

Mrs Warwick (Headteacher)