



Headteacher's Update

Be kind to one another, forgiving one another, as God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

23 September 2022

Message from the Executive Headteacher

It was a blessing to spend time on Monday reflecting on the life of Queen Elizabeth II as we mourned her passing and grieved with the royal family. There were so many poignant moments and such a solemnity about the whole day. There was a great richness in the pageantry and history of the event, which echoed the momentous nature of Her Late Majesty's reign. Two things shone through for me – family and faith.



I reflected on this as many Year 6 and Year 5 families visited our school this week – to see lessons and experience our distinctive Christian ethos – as they toured as part of their decision making on the transition to secondary school. They saw our community and our family, and the overwhelmingly positive comments and feedback focused on the calm, purposeful nature of the lessons and the happy, smiling children they saw. This was very humbling to hear.

We are one of many good schools in our local area. But we are distinct, with our small school feel and our ethos where every child is known and valued. I reassured visitors that this ethos will carry over into our new school building. Even though we will have more students as we grown into our new site, we will retain our small school feel and our ethos, just as the other two schools in the Trust (King's School Hove and Turing House in Teddington) have as they moved from temporary to new school buildings.

We are lucky to have the same contractors as Turing House and our new building will be of a similar (yet distinctive to us!) design!



Please visit our website for more information on our new school building.

Students and their parents/carers have really supported the school this week as the preparation for the building work has started and the Brunswick Park Road entrance to the school has been closed. Although traffic has been busy in our Oakleigh Road entrance, there has been an over-riding sense of patience. Many parents/carers have realised that a 'ride and stride' approach may be best and have said they will drop off their children a couple of minutes' walk from the school, which will help to reduce traffic.

The Queen's faith was a thread that ran through the 10 days of mourning because it was referred to so often. It was wonderful to see so many faiths represented at the funeral, including Archbishop Nikitas representing our Greek Orthodox faith.

I will conclude with a quote from the Queen on her faith:

"Each day is a new beginning, I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God."

Best wishes,

Anthony Easton (Executive Headteacher)



Do remember to follow us on Twitter!

<https://twitter.com/StAndrewTA>



The Reason Orthodox Christians Cross Themselves from Right to Left

Orthodox Christians always cross themselves from right to left. The act of “Placing the cross on oneself” or crossing yourself is a request for a blessing from God. We make it from right to left to mirror the actions of the priest when he blesses us. The priest, looking at the parishioners, blesses from left to right. Therefore, the parishioners, putting on the sign of the cross on themselves, do it from right to left. Another reason lies in the fact that the Lord separated the sheep from the goats, putting the faithful sheep on His right side, and the goats on the left, the Church always treats the right side as the preferred side. We only cross ourselves with our RIGHT hand. The priest, when blessing a person, first touches or points to their RIGHT side, then their left. Also, the censing of the Holy Table in the Altar is always done from the RIGHT side first; censing of the Ikonostasis, the Congregation and of the Church itself always begins with the right side. The priest always gives communion with his RIGHT hand, even if he is left-handed. When a parent makes the sign of the cross over a child, they will cross them from left to right, just as the priest blesses. When they make the sign of the cross over themselves, they would do it, logically, the other way.



Is it important to cross ourselves a particular way some people ask? In a word, YES. We do not have the authority to choose what parts of the Christian Tradition we want to follow. Our fathers, and countless saints crossed themselves from right to left. Ancient icons show Christ or bishops beginning a blessing from right to left. the right side is referred to in a preferential

way many times in scripture and sacred hymns.



Placing the cross on oneself

Firstly, we place our thumb and first two fingers together in a point, and our last two fingers flat against our palm. The three fingers together represent the Holy Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and the two fingers in the palm represent the two natures of Christ.

We touch our forehead, then our belly, tracing the vertical part of the cross.

From our belly, we bring our hand up to our right shoulder, touching it.

We finish placing the cross on ourselves by touching our left shoulder.

Mr M Vassiliou
(STA Spiritual Director)

Dropping off and picking up students from St Andrew the Apostle School - reminder

From Tuesday 20 September 2022 as preparation works for our new school building becomes more advanced, the Brunswick Park Road entrance to the school will not be accessible for vehicles or pedestrians; the only access to school will be through the Oakleigh Road entrance. This is to allow the developers of North London Business Park to complete the necessary highways, access and utilities works ready for our own contractor to start work on the school building itself.

This is a significant change and may add to journey times.

Students who walk to school will have to walk around to the Oakleigh Road entrance. Similarly, those who normally get local buses to Brunswick Park Road should get off the bus at the closest stop to Brunswick Crescent or Brunswick Avenue, where they will walk around to the Oakleigh Road entrance.

If you wish to drop your child off at school, please access the North London Business Park via Oakleigh Road, where you will be directed around the multi-

storey car park; drop off will take place in the bays in front of the multi-storey car park. Please see overleaf for a map of our site, which indicates the drop off route for cars in green. Space is limited and there will be congestion, please do not arrive ahead of 3.00pm as any waiting before this time may be deemed as parking and has the potential to be enforced by the owners of the Business Park.

Again, I recognise that this may add additional time to your/your child's journey time. Please adjust your travel time accordingly such that your child can arrive at school in time.

To reduce your travel time and to lessen traffic to make the roads near our school safer (and with a view on working towards goals in the travel plan for our new school building), please look at alternatives to dropping off your children on the school site, which is served well by a number of different bus routes. You may also wish to use 'ride and stride', dropping off your child a couple of roads away from site such that they can walk the remainder of the way to school.

If you have any questions, regarding the changes mentioned above, please contact the school through the usual channels.

As part of the revamp to the site, the contractors used by the Comer Group will be using Anti Climbing paint on all gates and fences. We wanted you to be aware as we want our students and your children to stay away from these as this paint will stain and ruin uniforms if they come in contact with it.

Thank you, again for your on-going support.

Anthony Easton (Executive Headteacher)

Open Evening

St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School Open Evening saw hundreds of parents and children visiting the school, going around the classrooms, enjoying the various subject displays, speaking to the staff and students around the school and completing a treasure hunt. They also attended one of the three Headteacher's presentations delivered on the evening. Mr Easton, the Executive Headteacher, spoke about the distinctive Christian ethos of the school where every child is known and cared for and where there are high aspirations and outcomes. He also spoke about the excellent GCSE and GCE "A" level results and showed the plans for the new school building which students and staff will move into in the academic year 2024.

In addition to the Headteacher's presentation 6 students spoke about their experience at St Andrew: Year 7 students Tia and Andrew, Year 8 students Chrysanthos and Amelia and Year 13 students Thea and Chrystalla, both of whom are studying A levels and planning their university entrance for 2023.

From a small cohort, over 40 of St Andrew's Year 13 students will be starting their university education this term at various universities e.g. 2 to Oxford University, others to UCL, Queen Mary, City,



Lancaster, Loughborough, Surrey, East Anglia, etc.

The school looks forward to hearing about the successes of their first cohort of students who joined in 2013 as 11 year olds and will graduate from various universities in 2023 as 21 year olds.

Future students will be able to enjoy the new purpose built school, which they will move into in September 2024.

Whilst the Open Mornings conclude next week on 26 September 2022, if parents would like to visit the school after this date, they can contact us for a bespoke tour through the usual channels on our website.



Anthony Easton (Executive Headteacher)

Y10 and Y12 Settling in Evening

Settling into a new phase of education can be daunting at any age, so evenings where parents can meet staff with their children are key to reassurance and informing all about expectations and demands. We are looking forward to seeing parents of Y10 students and parents of Y12 students at two separate events on Thursday 29 September 2022.

Both events will be in Building 4 at the following times:

- Year 10 – 5.00pm
- Year 12 – 6.00pm

Both year groups have made great starts to Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 respectively and the evening will give parents the chance to have any questions answered and be aware of key dates for the next two years ahead.

Refreshments will be served following the presentations.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Johanna Fourcade (Head of Sixth Form)

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.

Upcoming Events

- **School Photographer Visit - Monday 3rd October**
- **Y10 and Y12 Settling Evening – Thursday 29th September**

Homework Club

- Homework club is open for all students in years 7 – 11
- On: **Monday - Thursday**
- From: **3.10 - 3.55pm**
- In the **ICT room, in building 5**
- **Miss K Beddoes (SENCO)**

Bromcom Student Portal Issue



There is a known national issue with the Student Portal website and the Bromcom service team are working on this. The Student Portal app remains unaffected and accessible for homework assignments.

The Student Portal app can be downloaded on all Smart Devices through the App Store or Google Play Store.

School Photographer Visit

- On Monday 3 October Vancols Photographers will be visiting our school to Photograph Year **7, 10, 11 & 12**. If your child has PE on this day, please ensure they come to school in their School Uniform, not their PE kit.
- PE kits can be brought to school and students will be able to change into them after the photographs have taken place.

Y11 Media Studies Trip

On Tuesday 20 September 2022, the Year 11 media studies class went to visit Forty Hill Farm in Enfield. As part of their coursework this year, students are required to make a front cover and double page spread magazine on Animal Welfare. Learners were able to see farm animals and learn about how food is grown. We saw pigs, sheep, horses, chickens, cows and goats. This has been a great experience and reconnected students with nature.



Killian Casey: 'It was inspiration because I learnt a lot about animals and how they live'



The students travelled on public transport to the venue and their manners on the buses and Tube were exemplary.

K Beddoes Media Teacher

Year 9 Netball vs. East Barnet

It has been lovely to see so many students attending extracurricular clubs since the beginning of term. Fixtures for league matches began this week and students have played with great determination, enthusiasm, and pride.



Girl of the Game:
Jana Breganaku

Girl of the Game:
Androulla Nicola

A huge well done to the Year 9 Netball team for their 9 – 4 win against East Barnet School on Thursday 22nd September.

Danielle Walt (Head of Year 9 & 10)

Barnet Libraries



As the new school year starts, we just wanted to remind you of the role libraries have to play, in supporting learning. As well as access to physical books and study space, libraries have a wealth of online resources available to families. The paragraph below can be copied and pasted to include in your newsletter.

Barnet Libraries offer a wide range of resources to support children's learning. It's free to join and free to borrow physical and digital books. Members also have free access to a wide range of digital resources. Libraries also run free after-school and school holiday activities.

For more information [sign up to receive Barnet Libraries Discover your Library Newsletter for Children and Families.](#)

For more information [click here.](#)

Free Parents Career Guide

Careers advisors and teachers



New 2022/23 FREE Parents Careers Guides - DOWNLOAD TODAY

We are delighted to announce that our brand new 2022/23 Parents guides to University, Apprenticeships and STEM are now available.

What can you expect from our parents' guides? This year's Parents University and Apprenticeship Guides will be our third edition and have been designed to help parents support their children in making informed decisions about their future and developing skills to help them succeed.

Apprenticeships Guide

Parents will benefit from content on topics including:

- Introduction to apprenticeships and sectors
- How to find the right apprenticeship
- Pathways into work, including T-levels, apprenticeships and university
- How you can support your child in deciding if an apprenticeship is right for them
- Apprenticeships vs. university
- Degree apprenticeships
- Opportunities available across 15 different sectors
- PLUS interviews and guest content from a diverse range of organisations including National Audit Office, Bristows LLP, Royal Horticultural Society, Morgan Stanley, British Horseracing Authority

University Guide

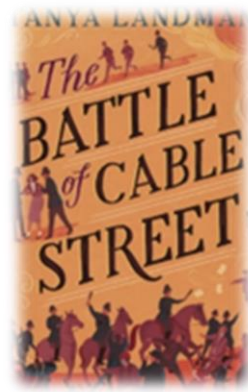
- How to apply to university and a guide to UCAS
- Personal statements and how to stand out from the crowd
- Student finance
- Alternatives to going to university
- Placement years at university
- Pros and cons of going to university
- PLUS interviews and guest content from universities including Reading University,

Liverpool University, Bournemouth University,
South Wales University and Exeter University.

Bonus STEM Guide

This year's guide explores 10 different STEM subjects to help young people to understand more about careers in the field along with profiles on how each subject can help tackle an environmental challenge. This comprehensive guide has been designed to showcase just how creative, exciting and rewarding a career in STEM can be.

Best regards,
Success at School
124 Chatsworth Road
London, NW2 5QU



[Click here](#) for more information and to book your tickets when they go live.

Ms Androulla Athanasiou (English Department)

NHS Careers

Join us
Tuesday
27th September
16:30-18:00
on Zoom
CAREERS UNTAPPED
Our NHS heartbeat
A 90-minute online event to
showcase a wide variety of
unexplored careers in the NHS

Please click the link below to register.
[NHS Careers Untapped \(office.com\)](#)

An ONLINE evening with author Tanya Landman

Barnet Libraries welcomes: An ONLINE evening with Carnegie Medal winning author Tanya Landman in conversation with writer Miriam Halahmy, talking about her stunning new book 'The Battle of Cable Street.'

Carnegie Medal winning Tanya Landman is the author of more than forty books for children and young adults. The Battle of Cable Street is her latest book.

The event will be held on **Wednesday 28 September 2022 from 7-8pm**, including a Q&A session with a prize for the best question.

Tickets will go live on **Friday 26 August at 9am**

Barnet Options and Careers Evening

Barnet Options and Careers Evening



at **Middlesex University**, a one stop shop to learn all about education, training and employment opportunities open to you.

Wednesday 19 October from 4:30pm-7:00pm

GCSE Options Presentation, 5:30pm
Post 16 Options Panel, 5pm and 6pm

This exciting and informative event will provide an excellent opportunity to learn about:

- A Levels
- Vocational courses
- T Levels – an exciting new qualification available in Barnet from 2023
- Apprenticeships
- Higher and Degree Apprenticeships
- University
- Career choices
- GCSE option choices

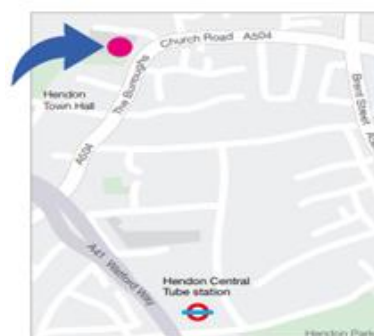
Register here:



Come along to our event and we will help you make the right decisions about your future.

Parents/carers are encouraged to attend with you.

Getting to Hendon Campus, Middlesex University



Accessibility

Hendon Central Underground Station and Middlesex University Hendon Campus are both fully accessible. We advise that you arrive via the main entrance. Steps, pathways and building entrances are displayed on the campus map. Alternative routes and entrances are clearly signposted on site.

By rail

From Hendon rail station – catch the 183 bus from Station Road directly to the main entrance.

By bus

Buses 143, 183 and 326 provide a direct service from the main entrance to Archway, Golders Green and Brent. These services also provide links to Brent Cross Shopping Centre, Hendon Central Underground and Hendon rail stations.

By underground

Hendon Central station (Northern Line, Edgware branch) is only 30 minutes away from Central London. The walk from the station to Hendon Campus takes approximately 10 minutes. Turn right out of the station, walk up the road to the main junction and then turn right into The Burroughs. As you approach the campus, the Hendon Town Hall and Library are located on the left. Cross the road here and continue past the fire station and you will shortly arrive at the main entrance.

By car

From the North: Leave the M1 at Junction 2 for the A1 south. Turn right at the 2nd set of traffic lights onto the A504 (Finchley Lane). Continue through the next set of traffic lights.
From the A406 (North Circular): Westbound: Take the A1 at Henlys Corner. Turn left at the 1st set of traffic lights onto the A504 (Finchley Lane). Continue through the next set of traffic lights. Eastbound: Take the A41 (Hendon Way) north at the Brent Cross Interchange. Turn right at the 2nd set of traffic lights. Parking is provided for staff and pre-arranged visitors only.



**Come along to: The College Building, Middlesex University,
The Burroughs, Hendon, London, NW4 4BT**



The NHS has written to schools to update them on changes to the national flu vaccination programme. Please see the contents of their letter below:

We have recently been informed that the flu programme will now include the school years 7, 8 and 9 from September this year.

Early information from the flu season in Australia, shows flu has been circulating earlier than expected and has been affecting younger age groups, therefore DHSC has taken steps to include these age groups in the 2022/23 vaccination campaign. Sessions for flu vaccination have already been planned and confirmed for primary schools so providers will be working with you to arrange additional dates to ensure vaccination can be offered to your students. It is likely that this will be from November onward once additional vaccine supply is available.

We would be very grateful if you could remind parents that their children are entitled to free flu vaccination on the NHS. This vaccine will be provided by a school aged vaccination team that visits the school and is given as a nasal spray. This form of the vaccine is very easy to administer and is especially well suited to preventing onward spread of infection.

The vaccine protects the child against the four main strains of influenza predicted to be in circulation this winter. Young children catch influenza very easily. Children can spread the infection for up to 7 days, which is longer than in adults, therefore vaccinating children reduces the risk of influenza for family members, teaching staff and other children.

In school, children will be mixing with large numbers of other children in a confined environment, which increases the risk of germs (virus and bacteria alike) spreading. Vaccination builds children's immunity to protect against illnesses.

Vaccines stop influenza germs being spread, thus protecting the very vulnerable children and those in the wider community who may not have, or may not be able to develop, immunity.

Public Health and Primary Care Commissioning NHS England (London Region)

I will provide all the other text and photos in due course.

Thank you,

Mr A Easton (Executive Headteacher)



The Gresham Competition: an oracy competition for Year 12 - entries by 15 November

Gresham College is launching a competition for Year 12 students in September 2022, to promote the art of communicating complex information in a clear, concise and compelling way. This year's theme is the environment and sustainability.

Sign up here to hear about the competition (and for other Gresham updates for schools): gres.hm/schools.
Read more here: gres.hm/competition.

The Competition will:

- support the development of oracy skills.
- help students with UCAS applications and job interviews.
- promote a deeper understanding of the environment.
- introduce students to the inspiring research of world-class academics.
- be an opportunity to present in front of academics and professionals.

How to Enter

Choose one of the following topics and please make a reasoned argument:

1. Who should be responsible for creating a better future environment for the next generation? How and why?
2. What should the UK government do about the environment that will benefit your generation?
3. Who should be most responsible for getting to Net Zero and why?
4. What's the greatest positive environmental change you expect to see in your lifetime?
5. What responsibilities should young people take on to address environmental/climate issues today and why?

Students will submit a five-minute, recorded presentation – the main focus should be the student speaking but can use images, graphs, or other visual props that help explain your points. Shortlisted candidates will then be invited to present again in person in London, and there will be three awards (including prizes for student and the school).



You can enter the competition here gres.hm/entryform and upload the video here gres.hm/dropbox.

Guidance and resources will also be provided to help students explain complex issues in a clear, concise, logical and engaging way.

Why Enter?

Benefits for Students:

1. Participating in the Gresham Competition will help students develop oracy and presentation skills useful for interviews and public speaking opportunities; it will also enhance CVs and UCAS applications.
2. The entry process is quick and easy, with entries filmed and submitted within 5 minutes. We are not judging the video quality – any camera phone will do.
3. Finalists will meet a panel of prestigious judges including Professor Myles Allen, the physicist behind Net Zero, and climate change expert Dr Jessica Omukuti.
4. Winners will receive cash prizes and medals: £250 gold, £200 silver and £150 bronze.
5. Since 2022 is a pilot year we expect fewer entries.

Benefits for Schools:

The schools of winners will also benefit with priority access to lectures, visits from Professors or senior leaders, and a certificate.

Key Dates

15th September 2022: Competition opens

15th November 2022: Competition closes

30th November 2022: Entrants notified

24th January 2023: In-person presentation at Gresham College (we will cover travel expenses).

Each finalist will have five minutes to present and five minutes for Q&A with the panel.

Three Gresham medals will be awarded (Bronze, Silver and Gold), along with finalist certificates.

Get in Touch

Please do get in touch with our team with any questions via schools@gresham.ac.uk.

With very best wishes,

Dr Wendy Piatt

Chief Executive Officer
Gresham College
Barnard's Inn Hall
Holborn, London, EC1N 2HH

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 them 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.

[Shout 85258](#)- a free, confidential, 24/7 text-messaging support service for young people.

Support for Parents and Carers- advice and support for you if you're worried about a child or young person.

[Young Mind's Parent Helpline and Webchat](#)

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 L Cooke, Deputy Headteacher (DDSL*)**
- **Ms D Moustaka (Safeguarding & Inclusion Manager)**
- **Mr N Anemouri (Pastoral Support Officer)**
- **Ms M Henshaw-Deval (Safeguarding Officer)**

***DSL is the Designated Safeguarding lead.**

***DDSL is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead**

These open days provide a fantastic opportunity for prospective applicants to visit departments, colleges, meet current students, as well as tutors.

For more information about [admissions](#) and [open days](#).

For any students for whom the cost of travelling to Oxford for the Open Days would be a barrier, please contact aaccess@chch.ox.ac.uk to get support.

[Childline](#) – a free, private, and confidential service available for all young people. This can be found on ParentPay as we are a cashless school.

Please note that students should wear their normal school uniform, but are permitted to wear an additional colourful accessory; for example, colourful socks, hair accessories etc.

If you have any questions or would like to offer additional support, please contact Mrs Hammond, Assistant Head or myself, Ms Moustaka, Safeguarding and Inclusion Case Manager.

Solutions 4 Health New Free Apps



BREAKING NEWS: 2 x NEW FREE APPS Available from Solutions 4 Health

- Camp Island (5 – 10 years)
- Become Your Best Self (11 – 17 years)

Interactive and engaging apps supporting healthy and positive lifestyle choices.

The apps are free to access in Barnet as long as the user allows the location permission that pops up.

Please share far and wide..... And enjoy playing