

25 April 2025



Year 10 and 11 Romeo and Juliet Revision in the Theatre

On Wednesday and Thursday this week Year 11 and 10 students had an opportunity for a more creative revision of Romeo and Juliet ahead of their imminent exams by attending a performance of this Shakespeare play at Hackney Empire Theatre. This unique adaptation combines original Shakespeare text with more modern setting and R&B/rap musical arrangements. It not only served a useful revision of the plot, characters and themes, but also showcased Shakespeare’s melodic and dynamic language, with the music accentuating the play’s strong rhythm and emotions. All students showed excellent engagement, enthusiasm and impeccable manners throughout.

Mrs Bassington | Head of English



Dear Parent and Carers,

I hope everyone had a restful and rejuvenating Easter break. As we return, we are entering a crucial period for our students, particularly those in Year 11 and Year 13 who are preparing for their upcoming public exams. These exams are significant milestones in their lives, and we expect all students to approach their revision with diligence and determination. I want to thank all the teachers who provided intervention over half term and congratulate all the students who worked so hard over the time we were not in school.

Similarly, our Year 10 students are undertaking their mid-course assessments, and we know they were revising thoroughly to achieve their best possible results. These exams started on Wednesday and conclude next Friday. We wish them all the best.

Over the Easter break I took the opportunity to relax and catch up with some reading which included, [Exam Nation: Why Our Obsession with Grades Fails Everyone – and a Better Way to Think About School](#) by Sammy Wright. This book explores the impact of our education system's focus on grades and exams. It argues that an obsession only with academic performance often undermines the true purpose of education, which, alongside performing highly academically, should be about equipping young people with skills and values they need to thrive in life. The author draws on his experience as a teacher and his work with the Social Mobility Commission to highlight some school's current approach. He suggests that by prioritising grades, we create a system that ranks students into winners and losers, often leaving many students ill-equipped for the real world.

We firmly believe that the two are not in conflict with each other and I hope this is shown in the St Andrew curriculum and the experiences that students have in school each day. We know that exams and grades clearly have their place in assessing academic progress and provide students with goals to strive for. However, we also to balance this with a broader educational experience that nurtures all aspects of a student's development. As I was reading on the book, I reflected on the extracurricular activities that we offer in school. Our Year 10 and 11 students have been taught 'Romeo and Juliet' in lessons and will be tested on their knowledge. But for students to also experience the play being acted in front of them, as they were this week, brings the play to life. Alongside these experiences, at St Andrew we always focus on and value our children for the young people they are and the way they embody our school values.

I would also like to take a moment to thank Father Damien for his support during our church visits at St Katherine's Church before Easter. These visits provided our students with an opportunity to deepen their faith and reflect on the values of respect and forgiveness, which are central to our school community.

I know all parents will support their children during this busy period. Your involvement and encouragement make a significant difference to their confidence and performance.

Let's work together to ensure that our students are well-prepared and supported as they approach their exams.

Christopher Martin | Headteacher

Upcoming Key Dates and Information

- Thursday 9 May – GCSE Exams Begin
- Click [here](#) to access **Term Dates**



Faith and Values in Our School Community

At St. Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School, our faith is the cornerstone of our community, guiding us in our daily lives and shaping our values. We are proud to uphold the principles of respect and responsibility, which are integral to our mission and vision.

One of the revered saints in our tradition is **Saint George**, known for his unwavering faith and courage. Saint George, a martyr and soldier, is celebrated for his legendary battle against the dragon, symbolising the triumph of good over evil. His story inspires us to stand firm in our beliefs and to face challenges with bravery and integrity. Saint George's feast day, 23 April, is a time for reflection and celebration, reminding us of the virtues of faith, perseverance, and righteousness.

At St Andrew, we strive to instil these values in our students. Respect is shown through our interactions with one another, honouring the dignity of every individual. Responsibility is demonstrated in our commitment to our studies, our community, and our faith. These values are not just taught but lived, creating a nurturing environment where students can grow spiritually, academically, and socially.

We are deeply grateful to **Father Damien** for his unwavering support and guidance at St Katherine's Church. His dedication to our spiritual well-being and his involvement in our school activities enrich our community. Father Damien's teachings and presence remind us of the importance of living our faith daily and being responsible stewards of our traditions.

As we continue to grow and evolve, we remain committed to fostering a community where respect and responsibility are at the forefront. We thank our parents, students, and staff for their ongoing support and dedication to these values. Together, we can build a future grounded in faith and enriched by the principles that Saint George exemplified.

25 April 2025



Design Technology

Our Year 7 students have been working hard to complete their mood lamps. They've demonstrated innovation through creative designs and have developed their electronics skills by soldering LED circuits to bring their lamps to life.

Miss Agathangelou | Art & DT Technician



🎵 Calling All Young Musicians! Join the BEAT Youth Orchestra Summer Holiday Course 🎵

We're excited to share an incredible opportunity for our young musicians this summer! The **BEAT Youth Orchestra Summer Holiday Course** is set to take place from **26th–28th August** at **artsdepot**, and it promises to be a truly inspiring musical experience.

This three-day course offers students the chance to:

- Develop their orchestral playing skills in a fun and supportive environment
 - Rehearse and perform alongside like-minded young musicians
- Take part in a final concert to showcase their hard work and musical growth

Who can join?

The course is open to students in **Year 7 and above** who play an **orchestral instrument at Grade 5 standard or higher**.

Cost?

Thanks to generous subsidies from BEAT, **places on the course are FREE!** There is just a **£20 non-refundable registration fee** to secure your spot.

Don't miss out on this fantastic musical opportunity!

Mr Lasithiotakis | Lead Teacher of Music

The poster features the BEAT logo at the top left and the slogan "Live Music Make Music" at the top right. The main title is "YOUTH ORCHESTRA 3-DAY COURSE 2025". A central circular image shows a person playing a drum. To the left of the image are five pink buttons: "Ensemble-skill focused", "Diverse Repertoire", "Expert coaching", "Tutti & Sectionals", and "Professional Performance". Below these is a "SIGN UP HERE!" section with a QR code and a curved arrow. To the right of the image is a callout box: "Free Course! £20 Registration fee". At the bottom left, a person icon is next to "Year 7 + Grade 5 +". At the bottom right, a clock icon is next to "Tuesday 26th - Thursday 28th August 2025" and a location pin icon is next to "artsdepot, Nether Street, London N12 0GA". The footer includes Arts Council England logos and the website "WWW.BEATRUST.ORG.UK".



Attendance Rewards

Each term, we celebrate students' attendance with a non-uniform day and an attendance raffle. We know that attendance has a positive impact on student attainment, and this is evident in the recent information shared by the DfE where they have shared at KS4, pupils who attended school nearly every day in Year 11 (> 95%) are 3 times more likely to achieve Grades 5 in Maths and English, in comparison to students whose attendance is 85-90%.

Our raffle prizes included easter eggs, books, book vouchers, footballs, basketballs and a £50 Vue cinema gift card! We hope all our winners enjoy their prizes, and a huge good luck to everyone for the summer term!

Please do remember to sign up to Studybugs, our online attendance reporting app. You can register online via the Studybugs website or download the free app: [Studybugs – Parents](#). All parents will receive a notification in due course from Studybugs which will invite you to sign up. If you currently use the app, you do not need to do anything. Studybugs seamlessly interacts with our attendance system, and absences are recorded instantly and accurately on the register. The app enables you to report absence sat a time that is convenient to you.

Miss Walt | Acting Assistant Headteacher



Maths and Reading Leaderboard



School Rank
114th

Points This Year
2,363,734

Rank	Student	Total Mastery
1	Kavin Y11	22858
2	Sofia Y11	18517
3	Anna-Maria Y11	18476
4	Zara Y11	17696
5	Luca Y10	17579
6	Teshan	17488
7	Angelo Y10	16451
8	Katina Y11	16384
9	Yianni Y11	15812
10	Savan Y12	15662

Dr Frost Maths is an online learning platform designed to support students in mastering maths skills. It offers a range of interactive resources, including video tutorials, practice questions, and step-by-step solutions across all key stages. The platform is used for weekly homework, allowing students to practise and reinforce topics covered in lessons. It also provides personalised feedback to help track progress.

Rank	Student	Total Mastery
Year 7		
1	Teshan	17488
2	Ayaz	8109
3	Dominic	7097
Year 8		
1	Aurelia	10707
2	Tia	10101
3	Zoe	10002
Year 9		
1	Andreas	12857
2	Sufyaan	12160
3	Bowen	11886
Year 10		
1	Anna Maria	18476
2	Luca	17579
3	Angelo	16451
Year 11		
1	Kavin	22858
2	Sofia	18517
3	Zara	17696
Year 12		
1	Savan	15662
2	Christos	12982
3	Theo	12218
Year 13		
1	Gabriella	12782
2	Natalia	11877
3	Giorgio	8732

For revision, Dr Frost Maths is an excellent tool, with resources covering a wide variety of topics, past exam papers, and challenges to help students prepare effectively for assessments. Parents can also monitor their child's progress.

Mr Dogan | Head of Maths & Business studies

Sparx Reader

Rank	Student	Total SRP
1	Dominic	126204
2	Teshan	109285
3	Anu	87000
4	Ella	56832
5	Wealth	48874
6	Moyosoreoluwa	47659
7	Mark	34509
8	Olivia	32483
9	Wonder	30310
10	Anaya	29192

Sparx Reader is an online reading platform allowing students to regularly read books for pleasure. Everyday reading is not only a relaxing activity, but also allows students to expand their ideas, vocabulary and improve understanding of any text they will face in exams or as adults.

Sparx Reader offers students a choice of books at their reading level, as well as ensuring they read books with understanding by completing check-in questions along the way. The platform is used for KS3 English weekly homework; students need to achieve minimum 300 points each week (this equates to approximately 30 min of careful reading).

We are very pleased that many of our students exceed this target every week, with some top scorers achieving well above a thousand points a week. Since the launch of Sparx Reader a month ago, our KS3 students have completed amazing 4272 hours of careful reading and read altogether 1 books so far. Truly well done!

Rank	Student	Total SRP
Year 7		
1	Dominic	126204
2	Teshan	109285
3	Wealth	48874
Year 8		
1	Anu	87000
2	Ella	56832
3	Mark	34509
Year 9		
1	Alaya	26631
2	Michelle	25249
3	Paria	19974

Please ask your child what they are currently reading, and perhaps you can enjoy listening to them reading out loud a section of their current Sparx book.

Mrs Bassington | Head of English

25 April 2025

Summer Term Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs

PE extra-curricular clubs will start on Monday 28 April 2025. Clubs are free of charge to attend.

New feature this academic year – students are required to sign-up to extra-curricular clubs using student portal app. Students click on extra-curricular clubs and select enrol for the relevant club.

Monday

Activity: All Years Boys and Girls 5-a-side Football (Futsal)

Time: 3.00pm-4pm

Venue: Upper playground

*Change in building 5 changing rooms

Tuesday

No clubs due to staff meetings

Wednesday

Activity: All Years American Football Boys and Girls

Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm

Venue: Building 5 Playground

*Change in building 5 changing rooms

Thursday

Activity: All Years Dance Club

Time: 3.00pm-4.30 pm

Venue: Building 5 canteen

*Change in building 5 changing rooms

Please note students do not wear PE kit to school on the day of clubs. If you do not have PE on the day of the club, but wish to attend, please bring PE kit to change into after-school. Full PE kit must be worn to after-school clubs. If you have PE lessons on the day of a chosen club, you will already be changed into full PE kit.

For further information on all Extra-curricular clubs, please visit our website here: [St Andrew the Apostle](https://www.standrewtheapostle.com)



Apprenticeship Opportunities

FM Conway is a leading construction and infrastructure services company, specialising in providing a wide range of services including highways maintenance, civil engineering, and surfacing, as well as providing solutions for environmental and waste management.

We're continually exploring apprentice opportunities within the business, with a regular intake joining us in September. Apprentices are placed across various roles within the company, working towards qualifications ranging from Level 2 to Level 6. Alongside their studies, our internal apprentice development programme has been designed to support the transition from education to the workplace, while offering continuous development opportunities for the apprentice as they advance in their careers.

As a business, we actively push the fantastic career opportunities that the construction industry offers and are always looking at ways to encourage young people to consider and experience the world of construction, including within our head office functions. The Conway Week is a predetermined **work experience week** available twice a year (once in Sevenoaks and once at a London location) to students aged 14 – 18. Each week provides up to 15 places for young people to follow a business orientation programme that includes site visits, careers information workshops, and work ready skills training.

For further details on any of our early career opportunities, please contact Talent@fmconway.co.uk.

Miss Walt | Acting Assistant Headteacher

25 April 2025

Free SEND Independent Travel Training session

Tuesday 19 August 2025

10.15am – 11.50am OR

12.15pm – 1.50pm

Parents and carers, we would love to welcome you and your child(ren) to our fun and friendly summer travel training session taking place in Edgware on a private travelling bus!

Suitable for anyone with SEND, or those who may be particularly vulnerable or anxious whilst travelling on public transport, are independent or working towards independent travel and are aged 10 – 100.

Top travel tips will be shared in this interactive workshop, to help make travelling easier and safer.

Please contact road.safety@barnet.gov.uk



Barnet Youth

Spring 2025

Free Spring Camps and Activities

Free trips to Laser Quest, Flip Out and Theatre

Fun Days Science Shows, Magic Shows and Nerf battles

Volunteering Could you be a Holiday Activity Volunteer?

barnetyouth.uk

Caring for people, our places and the planet

BACE Holidays Fully funded by the Department for Education



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

BICS FAMILY MINDS WORKSHOPS

Workshop	Date/Time	Sign-Up Link
BICS Family Minds: Understanding Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA)	Date: Wednesday 30 April 2025 Time: 12:00pm to 2:00pm	BICS Family Minds: Understanding Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA) Tickets, Multiple Dates Eventbrite
BICS Family Minds: Understanding and Managing Anxiety Workshop	Part 1: Wednesday 4 June 2025 Time: 12:00pm - 13:30pm	BICS Family Minds: Understanding and Managing Anxiety Workshop Tickets, Multiple Dates Eventbrite Please ensure that you sign up for both dates
	Part 2: Wednesday 11 June 2025 Time: 12:00pm - 13:30pm	

240 Transport Sqn 151 RLC & 118 Close Support Coy 103 Bn REME

OPEN DAY

28 June 2025 11AM - 3PM

ARMED FORCES DAY SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Come and meet the team, see what we do, and join in the Armed Forces' Day celebrations!

Army Reserve Centre, St Albans Road, Barnet, EN5 4JX

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

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

Studybugs

Barnet SENDIASS will be holding an in-person information session for parents/carers of children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities who attend a Barnet setting on: -
Date: Tuesday 17 June 2025 **Time:** 10:00am to 12:30pm
Location: London Borough of Barnet Colindale Office **Presenters:** Autism Advisor Team
Theme: The Role of Autism Advisory Team in supporting autistic children and young people
 Registration details will be available soon. If you are interested in attending, please save the date in your diary. If you have any questions, please contact: sendiass@barnet.gov.uk

Parents: feeling too busy rushing around to find out what your son/daughter is learning at school? Check out the curriculum online on our website to find out more: [Curriculum](#)



[Click here](#) to view all Extracurricular club's schedule

Designated Safeguarding Leads

Click for more information



Miss Walt



Mrs Viala



Mrs Poole