



Saints Marina (Marana) and Kyra (Cyra) commemorated on [28 February](#)

## Key Messages



Dear Parents/Carers,

Given the recent events unfolding in Ukraine last week, it seems appropriate for me to quote the words of [His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas](#) spoken yesterday on Sunday 27 February.

*As Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarch in the United Kingdom, my diverse flock includes devout Christians from both Ukraine and Russia. The heartbreak we feel for them and their loved ones abroad during this tragic time cannot be put into words. The events of the past few days bring deep pain and sadness to all our hearts.*

*The Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain embraces a common expression of Orthodox Christian unity that transcends any ethnic, linguistic, and cultural divisions.*

*Thus, together with our collective call for an immediate ceasefire, we beseech all the Christians in the United Kingdom to come together in unity and increase their prayers and special supplications for the God-loving Ukrainian*

*faithful, as well as for all people around the world who are experiencing the scourge of armed conflict.*

*May the black clouds of despair, violence, and hatred soon dissipate in order for the heavenly Light from above to shine brightly down on the pious faithful in Ukraine.*

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and Archbishop of York Stephen Cottrell issued a [joint statement](#) where they urged Christians to make yesterday a special day of prayer for Ukraine, Russia and for peace.

*Placing our trust in Jesus Christ, the author of peace, we pray for an urgent ceasefire and a withdrawal of Russian forces. We call for a public decision to choose the way of peace and an international conference to secure long term agreements for stability and lasting peace.*

*We also give our support to the call from Pope Francis for a global day of prayer and fasting for peace on Ash Wednesday, March 2.*

I would like to assure parents and carers that we will be offering full support to all members of the school community who may be affected by these tragic events. Please do let your child's form tutor or Head of Year know if you would like to alert us to any concerns about your child's wellbeing at this time.

## Other news

**Vaccinations:** Parents and carers will have received a letter on Thursday 24 February, letting you know that an opportunity for in-school COVID vaccination has come up. Parents and carers have been asked to sign up by 12pm on 3 March. This will enable us to prepare for the process to take place in school on Friday 4 March. Of course, you may choose for your child's vaccinations to take place at any local health centre.

**Attendance and guidance about COVID-19:** Parents and carers will have received a letter from me on Friday 25 February, reminding you of the importance of ensuring that your child has a minimum of 96% attendance. Please remember that if your child has Covid-19 symptoms, we strongly recommend that you test your child to see if s/he has contracted Covid-19. The school no longer has tests that it can provide to you, so you should source tests through your local pharmacy. Please ensure that you follow the

guidance in the letter about when your child is able to return to school in the event that they have tested positive for COVID-19.

**Student achievements:** We are so proud of our students as they demonstrate our school motto *Ever to Excel*. We recognise and celebrate their achievements throughout this newsletter.

**Coming soon. Celebration of the International Day of Greek language on Tuesday 8 March:** Year 11 student Alexis N will represent STA on the world stage by speaking at the event to celebrate the Greek language on Tuesday 8 of March. Alexis is 16 years old and apart from Modern Greek, his GCSE options are English, Maths, Science, RE, History and Economics. His future aspiration is to study something related to Maths with an emphasis on Economics or Engineering. I would like to thank our Chair of Governors, Mrs Mary Karaolis OBE, for letting us know of this fantastic opportunity and to Ms Christina Galazoula for supporting Alexis in his preparation for this prestigious event.

**School site:** We continue to improve our existing accommodation with further planned work taking place over the Easter holiday.

#### Saint name days for the week beginning 28 February

Saint being celebrated	Date in Feb/Mar
Kyra, Marianna	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>
Evdokia, Paraschos, Paraskevas, Paraskevi	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>
Eftahlia, Thalia	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Kleonikos	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Gerasimos	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>
Evloyios	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>
Isychios	Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>

Best wishes,

Mrs I Warwick  
Headteacher



#### Faith- πίστη

#### The Sunday of the Prodigal Son



During half-term, the Orthodox Church marked what is commonly known as the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This is the second Sunday of a three-week period prior to the commencement of Great Lent. The theme of this parable is repentance, and the focus on the parable of the Prodigal Son leads Orthodox Christians to contemplate the importance of repentance in our relationship with God.

The parable of our Lord Jesus Christ is recorded in the Gospel of Luke 15:11-32. The parable is the story of a man and his two sons. The youngest of the sons asks his father to give him his inheritance. The father does this, and soon after the son leaves and journeys to a distant country.

After the younger son arrives, he squanders all his possessions with "prodigal" living. Within a short period of time, he wastes everything. A severe famine comes, but he has nothing and falls into great need. He is able to find work feeding swine (pigs), but this does not improve his situation. The Scriptures say, "He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, but no one gave him anything" (V. 15-16).

The parable says that in the midst of his dire conditions, he came to himself. He realised that his father's hired servants have enough to eat and food to spare, while he perishes with hunger. He says, "I will arise and go to my father and will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants'" (V 17-19).

He arose and returned to his father. But as he approached, his father saw him at a great distance. The father had compassion on his son, ran to meet him, embraced him, and kissed him. The son admitted his sinfulness and his unworthiness to be called a son, but in his joy at the return of his son, the father called his servants to bring the best robe, a ring for his son's finger, and sandals for his feet. He also called for the fatted calf to be killed for a feast. He exclaimed, "For this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found" (V. 20-24).

While they were feasting and celebrating the return of the prodigal son, the older son came and enquired about what was happening. He was told that his brother had returned and that his father had received him with a feast. The older brother became angry and did not go to the feast. The father came out and pleaded with him, but the older son answered by saying that he had been faithful to his father for many years and yet the father had never given him the opportunity for such feasting. He expressed his anger and jealousy over his brother who was received in such a manner after he squandered his inheritance (V. 25-30).

The father responded by telling his oldest son, "You are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found" (V. 31-32).

The parable of the Prodigal Son forms an exact icon of repentance at its different stages. Sin is exile, enslavement to strangers, hunger. Repentance is the return from exile to our true home; it is to receive back our inheritance and freedom in the Father's house. But repentance implies action: "I will rise up and go..." (V. 18). To repent is not just to feel dissatisfied or to feel sorry for yourself, but to make a decision and to act upon it.

**When I disobeyed in ignorance Thy fatherly glory, I wasted in iniquities the riches that Thou gavest me. Wherefore, I cry to Thee with the voice of the prodigal son, saying, I have sinned before Thee, O compassionate Father, receive me repentant, and make me as one of Thy hired servants. Amen.**

### **Meatfare Sunday (Sunday of the Last Judgment)**

This Sunday which passed us is known as "Judgement Sunday" or "**Meatfare Sunday**" and is the third Sunday of the four that precede Great Lent; they are a preparation for Great Lent. The Sunday of the Last Judgment is the third Sunday of a three-week period prior to the commencement of Great Lent.

Meatfare Sunday is the last day we are permitted to eat meat before Lent commences, then from Monday, we commence our abstinence from meat at all mealtimes. The following Sunday is known as Cheesefare Sunday, whereby following the same rules, it is the last day we are permitted to consume dairy products. It is from then onward that we begin the full fast by abstaining from all meat and dairy products for the next forty days.

On the past two Sundays of this pre-Lenten period, the focus was placed on God's patience and limitless compassion, of His readiness to accept every sinner who returns to Him. On this third Sunday, we are powerfully reminded that no one is so patient and so merciful as God, but even He does not forgive those who do not repent. The God of love is also a God of righteousness, and when Christ comes again in glory, He will come as our Judge. This is the message of Lent to each of us: turn back while there is still time, repent before the End comes. Thus, Lent - the Great Fast is a preparation for the Second Coming of the Saviour. For this particular Sunday, the themes of the last judgement and the importance of good works are highlighted. On this Sunday, the Church stresses that fasting from food alone is not enough if it is not accompanied by good deeds. Therefore, the blessed fruit that results from our fast comes about through how we act when we are fasting according to Jesus' teaching.

Christ teaches us about the day of judgement through a very descriptive and detailed account unlike all other parables He has told. This confirms the fact that the judgement will indeed occur. We say that Christ will "come again with glory to judge the living and the dead." This tells us that the judgement will take place at the second coming of Christ. The Lord Jesus will hand down His judgement to everyone, without exception "**All the nations will be gathered before Him**" (v32).

As always, we pray to the merciful and compassionate God with this in mind, for Christ to forgive our sins and humble us to struggle with our cross. But we must not make the mistake of isolating the judgement of God from His other qualities; which are that He is a fair judge, and He will reward everyone according to their works and deeds.

The Lord says that he will separate all humanity into two groups; some as sheep and others as goats. He used this distinction on the basis that both sheep and goats are

herbivores, but they differ greatly in terms of their behaviour. The sheep are known to be meek and peaceful, living together among the flock that knows the voice of its shepherd and follows him (John 10:14-16). But the goats are a symbol of greed, preferring to live alone and with aggressive tendencies at times.

The final judgement will be based on the pillars of love and acts of compassion. How did you treat your neighbour? How did you show them love? The Lord Jesus has placed love and compassion as a criterion for judgement and for the separation between those on the right and those on the left. In other words, those who are saved and those who are condemned. "I was hungry and thirsty, a stranger and sick or imprisoned." What have you done for me? This is the final question on the day of judgement.

Jesus united himself with the tormented, the suffering and the outcasts; He called them "my little brothers" (v40) and taught us that everything we do to one of His "little brothers" we do unto the Lord himself. Therefore, serving the needy, suffering and the stranger is ultimately a service to God; the path to God passes through our neighbours.

St James the Apostle asks:

***"What doth it profit, though a man who says he hath faith, and does not have works? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."*** James 2:14-17

Judgement is a real fact that requires us to be watchful of our deeds, it requires us to carry out acts of love and charity towards those near to us. We will not be judged on the mistakes we make, but on the good we were able to do, and didn't. If the Lord takes his time, this should not make us fall into laziness and complacency. Instead, let us light our lamps with the oil of love and good deeds and wait patiently.

***"Behold, the Judge is standing at the door. Be patient, establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."*** James 5:7-9



Icon depicting Sunday of the Last Judgement

## Easter Egg Appeal



Finally, as part of our plans to mark Great Lent, we would like our school community to think about donating an Easter Egg for children in need. We will be consulting students via student voice to determine which local children's charities we will support.

We would be grateful if you/ your child would kindly bring an Easter Egg into school between now and the **19 April**. Staff and a student delegation will deliver our donations to the various charities nominated by student voice in time for the Orthodox Easter on Sunday 24 April 2022.

We will also ask FOSA to contact local supermarkets to invite them to join into our appeal.

**Mr M Vassiliou (STA Spiritual Director)**

## Tickets to see a football match

Charlton Athletic football club would like to offer St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School as opportunity to get complimentary tickets to see Charlton Athletic in action this March. This initiative helps facilitate attendance at home matches for younger fans, giving them some opportunities to experience live football. See below for the specific matches you can take advantage of:

- Charlton Athletic v Sunderland - Saturday, March 5 (KO 3pm)
- Charlton Athletic v Gillingham - Tuesday, March 15 (KO 7.45pm)

The club is offering a **limited number of complimentary tickets** for junior groups to either of the home matches mentioned above. Just email [fans@cafc.co.uk](mailto:fans@cafc.co.uk) and confirm the name of your school or football club together with your required number of tickets and the club will then post the tickets out to you (or hold for collection if too close to the matchday). Please note that any groups who apply for

tickets **must** let Charlton Athletic know in advance if they are **no longer able to attend** the match they requested.

### Travel to The Valley

Please see below for three travel options to help facilitate your trip to Charlton Athletic:

1. Take advantage of the 'Valley Express' service (subject to availability and only available for Saturday fixtures) at a cost of £10 per person - please visit [cafc.co.uk/tickets/home-game-travel](http://cafc.co.uk/tickets/home-game-travel) for more information including the coach routes, pick-up points and times
2. If you'd like to take a large group of juniors, the club can book a coach for you (the cost of which must be paid by you in advance)
3. If you have access to a small coach (minibus), the club has a limited number of parking spaces **available for you free of charge on a first come, first served basis**

In addition to the above, Charlton Athletic's offer extends to free tickets for you to take a group of juniors to see Karen Hills' Addicks live in action at a couple of upcoming home games at their home ground - VCD Athletic (DA1 4EU).

- Charlton Athletic v Everton Women - Sunday, February 27 (KO 1pm)
- Charlton Athletic v Liverpool Women - Sunday, March 13 (KO 2pm)

Just email [andrea.mena@cafc.co.uk](mailto:andrea.mena@cafc.co.uk) to request tickets for either of these fixtures. Please note that the Valley Express service is not available for these games.

### STA Spring Term Extra-Curricular Clubs - Reminder



## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Due to the Year 13 and 11 mock exams starting after half term, **table tennis club** will be postponed until the exams finish. To confirm table tennis **will not** take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday 2 March
- Wednesday 9 March

**The club will re-commence on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022.**

**Mr R Browell (Head of PE)**

### Students of the Week



**Celeste F in Year 7** has recently donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust to help children that have undergone chemotherapy and other treatments to deal with hair loss. This is a touching gesture from our young student. Celeste is a real inspiration to all of us. Well done Celeste- we are proud of you!

**Year 7: Sam S and Leon W** - for contributions to form time discussion and helping a new student to feel welcome at school. **Hana Zeka** - for her persistently exceptional work ethic and attitude to learning. **Sophia G** - for looking out for students in the tutor group and for always demonstrating the school values.

**Year 8: Yianni A and Marielena A** - for consistently demonstrating a positive and respectful attitude. **Marzieh F** - For a significant increase in being rewarded recognition points over Term 3. **Daisy H** - for the strong contribution in form time. **Mariami B** - for a significant increase in being rewarded recognition points over Term 3.

**Year 9: Freddie P** - for always doing the right thing and making the tutor group proud. **Alexandru R** - for a great attitude around school and for achieving the most recognition points this week. **Martin D** - for 100% attendance this term and for displaying a positive attitude around school. **Berkay A** - for the most positive entries over these two weeks for brilliant work.

**Year 10: Zeno B** - for displaying an excellent attitude and improving behaviour. **Julia F** - for always having a positive

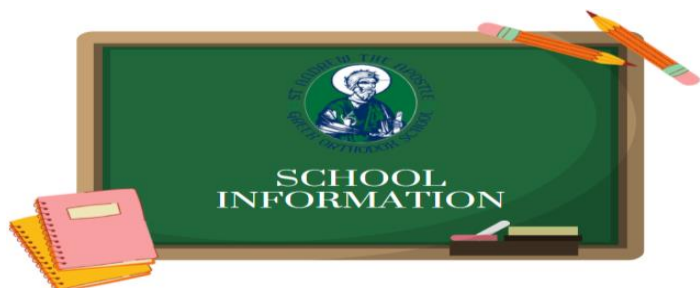
attitude and working well in Art. **Koni I** - for demonstrating excellence in securing a trial at Crystal Palace Football Club. **Ana A** - for producing excellent work and always maintaining a high standard.

**Year 11: Elpiniki Z** - for always working hard to improve her attainment (in form time). **Kerlel G** - for working hard to close the gap in her studies. She is well prepared for independent studies and works diligently in form time. **Ellie C** - for working really well and for demonstrating positive school values. **Micheal S** - for putting in great effort as seen in form time to revise for the mock exams.

**Year 12: Shumanan S, Dervish D and Noah Y** - for an informative presentation on Martin Luther King, Jr, which was delivered during form time. **Chrystalla D and Scott S** - for successfully leading their teams during debates in the Politics lessons and for excellent argumentation and astute analysis of data and available information.

**Year 13: Sam H** - for demonstrating an excellent work ethic in BTEC Business. **Sofia F** - for her commendable effort in developing her interview skills and for supporting KS3 students during lessons. **Thomas F** - for organising the Sixth Form fundraising event. **Luigi S-F** - for his excellent progress in coursework in BTEC Business.

### Upcoming Key Dates and Information



### Upcoming Parents Evening

**Year 10** **Thursday 16 June 2022**

### Upcoming Weekly Updates: Year 11 Mock exams

<b>Monday 28 Feb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y11 Physics Exam</li> <li>• Y11 French Exam</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday 1 Mar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y11 Classics Exam</li> <li>• Y11 Greek Exam</li> <li>• Y11 Music Exam</li> <li>• Y13 Maths Exam</li> <li>• Y13 English Literature Exam (Drama &amp; Poetry)</li> <li>• Y13 Biology Exam</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday 2 Mar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Y 8 and Y 9 Netball vs St Michael's (Away)</b></li> </ul>

- Y11 Maths Exam
- Y11 Geography Exam
- Y11 Media Exam
- Y11 PE Exam
- Y13 Economics Exam
- Y13 Classics Exam
- Y13 Physics Exam

### Thursday 3 Mar

### Friday 4 Mar

- Y13 English Literature Exam
- Y13 Biology Paper 2 Exam
- Y13 History Exam
- Y13 Further Maths Exam (Core)
- **Covid Vaccinations (Dose 2)**
- Please [click here](#) to read about our new method of assessment at KS3. Please click on the following links to read about our curriculum. [KS3](#) refers to Years 7, 8 and 9. [KS4](#) refers to Years 10 and 11. [KS5](#) refers to Year 12 and 13
- Please [click here](#) to access previous editions of the Newsletter
- Please [click here](#) to access term dates
- Please [click here](#) for a reminder of our school uniform requirements and [click here](#) for the sixth form dress code
- Please [click here](#) for a list of 'banned' items.

### WW2 Veteran Visit- Mr Mervyn Kersh

We are proud to announce that 97-year-old WWII veteran, Mr Mervyn Kersh came to speak to our Year 10 History and Year 12 Politics students about his experience during the war. It was fascinating and an amazing opportunity for our students to hear the stories and have an in-depth understanding of a real WW2 veteran at first-hand. STA students showed their appreciation by presenting our visitor with a handmade card and a bouquet of flowers.





Well done to the STA Year 8 and Year 9 boys football team who secured a comprehensive win over Ashmole last week. A report of the action will follow in next week's newsletter.

**Year 7 Football vs Ashmole**



A huge well done to our Y7 Girls Football team who played their second match of the season brilliantly at Ashmole Academy. With outstanding play from all players and a 3 – 0 win! **Goals scored by: Natalie S, Imani A-C, and Emily P.**

**Year 8 Netball vs Bishop Douglas**



**STA Sports Achievements**

**Boys Football vs Ashmole**



Our Y8 Netball team continue their winning streak with a 3 – 1 win over Bishop Douglas. With outstanding play and determination by all players. **Girl of the game: Alayziah L**

**GCSE PE Trampolining**



A well done to all our GCSE PE students who are attending Trampolining intervention weekly. The hard work and progress you are making now will go a long way in securing your best grades!

**Ms Walt (Head of Year 9 / PE Teacher)**

**100% Attendance Students**

Congratulations to all the STA students who have achieved 100% attendance so far this academic year!



**Melina D, Peter A, Luca B, Ansaar K, Christian V, Adam B and Haryad A-O**



**Leonidas W, Dacie L, Kristina T, Rasharn C, Hana Z, Slobodan S, Alexei J, Alexandros M, Emily M, Ioanni K, Poppy E, Brenton M and Leonidas W**



**Annamaria A, Charitini G, Oliwia C, Luca S, Jaydan D and Sam S**



**Marc C, Jason A and Mr Martin**





Finally, we walked to the Natural History Museum, where we were able to inspect an impressive display of well-preserved organisms, some of which dated back to the 17th Century. Moreover, an expert at the museum gave us a brief introduction into studying biology and zoology at Oxford University. The expert explained that the students would visit the museum regularly and that they would learn by using actual remains of certain organisms. The majority of us agreed that one of the most impressive features of the museum was that it contains the largest soft tissue remains of the extinct dodo bird in the world.

We would all like to thank Ms Koveri and Ms Walt who organised such a motivating and exciting trip for us.

Written by Alexia P and Pedros O

### Y12 Oxford Trip – Christ Church



On the 10th of February a group of Y12 students was invited to attend a memorable and inspiring trip to Christ Church College, which is part of thirty other colleges of the Oxford University. This was kindly organised by Ms Koveri, the Deputy Head of Sixth Form, and Miss Walt accompanied us on the trip and drove us safely with the school's mini-bus.

In Oxford we were greeted by the outreach program liaison officer, Dr Ana Hastoy, who explained, in detail, the admissions process and gave us confidence and advice on how to apply. After having a fantastic lunch, all together, in the 'Harry Potter' style dining hall, we met up with a few university students, who answered our queries and offered us their perspective on the day-to-day university experience. In addition, they informed us about the wide range of clubs and societies offered by the University.

Further to this, we were offered a tour by one of the students, around Christ Church, which included visiting the library that had many rare and valuable books. This gave us a unique insight into the daily life of a student who attends Oxford.





### Message to STA students from Dr Ana Hastoy, Christ Church, University of Oxford

We are excited to launch **two new Christ Church outreach initiatives**, one for Year 12s, and one for Years 7 to 10, both for students with an interest in Geography:

#### Christ Church 'Biodiversity Crisis' Essay Project

- *Who is it for?*

**Year 12 students** interested in studying Geography at University. We particularly encourage entries from students who meet one or more of the following criteria: are care experienced; young carers; have been eligible for free school meals; are from Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic groups; would be the first in their families to go to University; are from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds (ACORN categories 4 or 5 – check [here](#)); are from areas with low progression to higher education (POLAR quintiles 1 or 2 – check [here](#))

- *What does it involve?*

Students are invited to submit a short essay on the topic of 'The Biodiversity Crisis'. There are four different essay topics on this subject to choose from:

1. Is the biodiversity crisis real or speculative, and is it regional or global in its geography?

2. Critically assess how the science of species extinction forecasts is represented in the media.
3. Amidst claims that we are entering the 'sixth mass extinction' how effectively are these concerns being translated into effective mitigation efforts?
4. How has (or indeed has) the COVID-19 pandemic stimulated debate and wider public awareness of aspects of wildlife loss?

All submitted essays will be read and marked by an Oxford academic, and participants will then be invited to Christ Church on Thursday 21 April for a tutorial-like session on the same topic and a day of learning about Geography and about Oxford. Support with travel costs to Christ Church will be offered to students who would otherwise be unable to attend for financial reasons.

- *How to take part?*

The deadline for essay submissions is Monday 21 March. [Please submit your essay via this online form](#). An online essay writing workshop will be held on 11 March to support students with their writing. Register by 5pm on Tuesday 8 March [here](#) if you would like to attend the essay writing workshop.

More details and resources are available here: [The Biodiversity Crisis | Christ Church, Oxford University](#) and for any questions you can contact [access@chch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:access@chch.ox.ac.uk).

### Christ Church Video Competition: 'This is Geography'

- *Who is it for?*

Students in **Year 7 to Year 10**. We particularly encourage entries from students who meet one or more of the following criteria: are care experienced; young carers; have been eligible for free school meals; are from Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic groups; would be the first in their families to go to University; are from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds (ACORN categories 4 or 5 – check [here](#)); are from areas with low progression to higher education (POLAR quintiles 1 or 2 – check [here](#))

- *What does it involve?*

Pupils are invited to submit a short video entry (2-5 minutes) on a geographical issue or phenomenon that is local to them. Have fun and be creative with your videos! Why have you picked the topic you have, and how can you make it interesting to a wider audience? How are you going to style your video? You could take us on a guided tour; conduct

interviews; make a performance piece; make an animation; or any other method you like.

The creators of the best videos will each be invited (with a parent or guardian) to visit Christ Church College for a prize-giving day on Saturday 14 May, including screenings, a tour of college, and talks from current students and staff.

- *How to take part?*

Just submit your video using our [entry form](#)! The deadline for entries is Friday 1st April 2022. For more details please see [This Is Geography | Christ Church, Oxford University](#) and if you have any questions you can contact [access@chch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:access@chch.ox.ac.uk).



### Oxford outreach

We update **Oxford outreach initiatives** on a regular basis here: [Current Access & Outreach Opportunities | Christ Church, Oxford University](#) as well as the **chat platform** which STA students can use to ask our current students any questions: [www.chch.ox.ac.uk/admissions/chat](http://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/admissions/chat).

### Information about admissions

We have published subject-specific **Admissions Feedback** from the latest Oxford admissions round on the Christ Church website: [Admissions Feedback | Christ Church, Oxford University](#). We hope this will make our admissions process clearer and that it will be useful to Year 12 students preparing to apply to Oxford.



*Christ Church*

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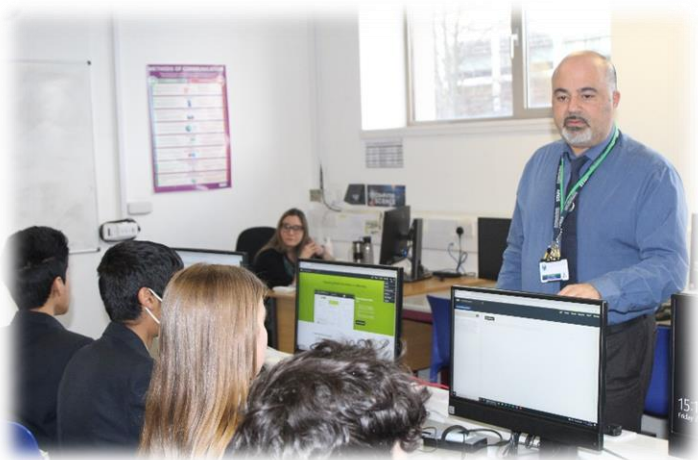
## After School Year 10 Level 3 course in Algebra

Every Friday after school, a group of Year 10 students are attending a special class for More Able Gifted and Talented mathematicians in preparation for an exam called the 'Edexcel Level 3 Award in Algebra'.

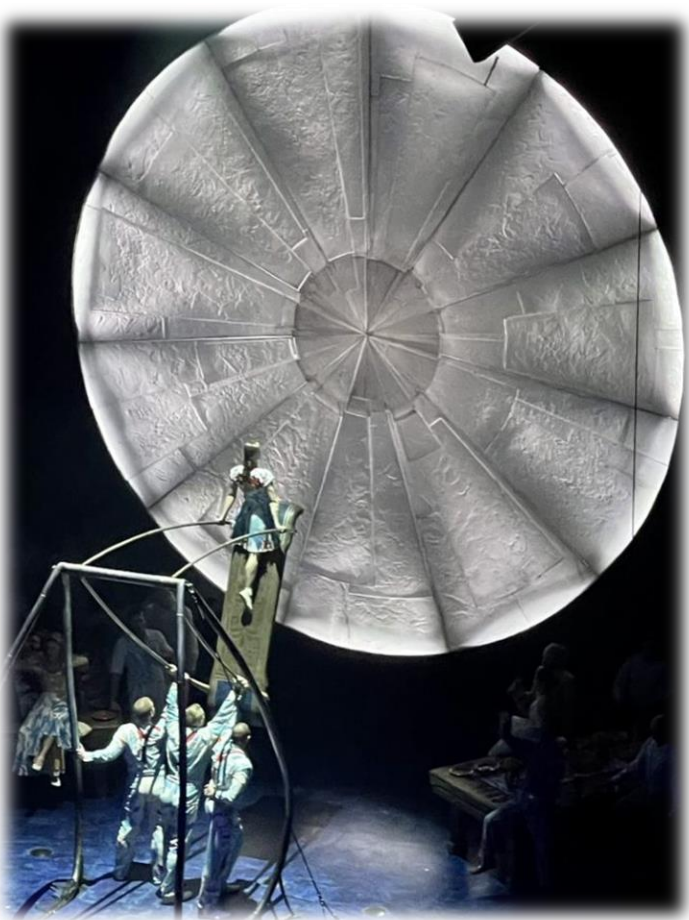
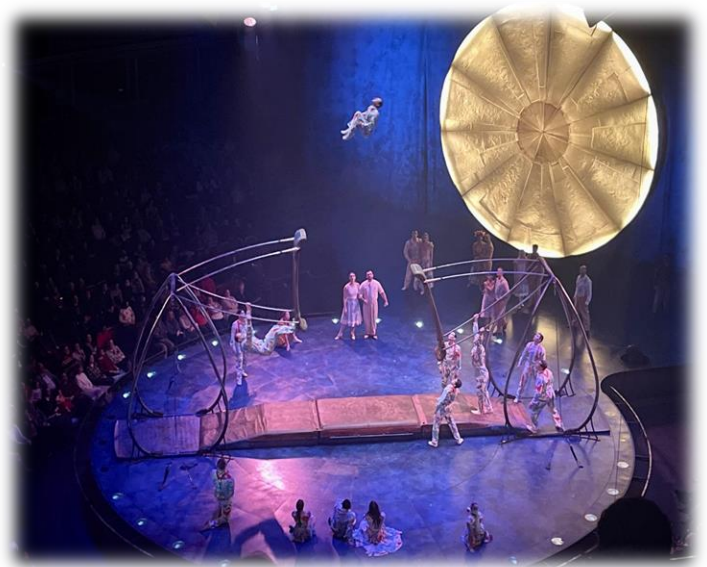
This is a unique qualification designed to stretch and challenge high achieving mathematicians. The course develops a thorough knowledge and understanding of concepts in Algebra and a sound foundation of mathematical techniques. Students will acquire confidence in their mathematical skills to move into further study in the subject or related areas. Students will enjoy using mathematics and become confident when using mathematics. They will develop proficiency in algebra to support progression in their studies.

The qualifications support progression to other level 3 qualifications, such as AS-Level and A-level Mathematics. Below are further details of the course:

**Exam:** The award is assessed through a 2-hour examination set and marked by Pearson. The total number of marks for the paper is 90. The qualification is awarded as pass or unclassified. Calculators are not allowed. Examination January 2023



**Mr Dogan (Head of Maths)**





### Art Project



On Friday 11 February, a group of Year 9 and Year 10 students attended an amazing performance called 'Luzia' by the Cirque du Soleil at the Royal Albert Hall. The whole group were thrilled by the unique and thrilling world-class performance in one of London's most iconic settings. Thank you to Mr Lasithiotakis (Head of Performing Arts), Mrs Nelson (Head of Drama, PSHCE and Careers) and Ms Moustaka (Safeguarding & Inclusion Manager) for accompanying students on this inspirational school trip.

Thank you to Ms Constantinides (Teacher of Art) who has inspired a group of Year 8 and Year 9 students to attend Art Club twice a week. The work produced is simply stunning and will be on display in both buildings in the new couple of weeks.



## SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

We have marked two important events in school this week, both of which are aimed to keep students safe and healthy. Firstly, it was Children's Mental Health Week from 7 – 13 February 2022.

We marked this in school by:

- Having a Mental Health 'tip of the day' in form time to keep students mentally healthy.
- Year Ten students had a non-uniform day to raise money for a mental health charity as nominated by student voice.
- Teachers wore a green lanyard to show our commitment to ensuring that all members of our school community recognise the importance of positive mental health.

We aim to be on the front foot when it comes to Safeguarding issues. We want our students to know that being mentally unwell, or simply not 'OK', is a normal part of life and that we can support them through any challenges. We encourage students to speak to an appropriate adult if they are not feeling well or to call Childline on 0800 11 11.

Secondly, we marked Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 8 February. This was a pan-European day where students across Europe learned about the dangers of the internet and know how to be safe online. To mark this, we had a special assembly in form time where students discussed these issues.

Of course, parents and carers are the first and best guard against any dangers young people can find online. We would always recommend our own [E-Safety page on our website](#) or these [resources from the NSPCC for parents](#) if you would like more information about what you can do to keep your child safe online.

If you do have any questions or concerns about your child's wellbeing and their ability to remain safe, then please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will be able to help.

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



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](#) (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.

**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



## Friends of St Andrew

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](mailto:admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk) with FOSA in the title. Please mark your email for the attention of Mr Michael.

**Mr Michael (Senior Deputy Headteacher)**

**Headteacher Parent Surgery**



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](mailto:admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk)

This 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)**

## World Book Day- Thursday 3 March



Please note that this is not a non-school uniform day. Students should not be wearing hoodies or ripped jeans. If students do not wish to take part in dressing up as a literary character, they must wear their school uniform.

In 2022, we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of World Book Day – with the message for all children **'you are a reader'** ! It will be filled with lots of exciting, celebratory ways to promote reading for pleasure on World Book Day, and all-year round. Year 7 and Year 8 students (only) have been invited to dress up as their favourite book character. **Ms Mahmud-Smith (Deputy Head of English) and Ms Athanasiou (Literacy coordinator)**

WORLD BOOK DAY

### BOOK BONANZA QUIZ

FOR WORLD BOOK DAY

KS3

1. In Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials*, in which world does Will find the Torre degli Angeli and the Subtle Knife?  
**A** Gallivespia  
**B** Mulefa  
**C** Cittagazze

2. In the *Geek Girl* series by Holly Smale, what is the name of Harriet Manners' arch enemy?  
**A** Alexa Roberts  
**B** Alexa Chung  
**C** Alexa Smith

3. What is the name of Todd Hewitt's dog in *The Knife of Never Letting Go* by Patrick Ness?  
**A** Manchee  
**B** Manatee  
**C** Mantaray

4. What job does Isabella's father do in *The Girl Of Ink and Stars* by Kiran Millwood Hargrave?  
**A** He's a fisherman  
**B** He's a cartographer  
**C** He's a farmer

5. In Malorie Blackman's *Noughts and Crosses*, what is the name of Callum's brother?  
**A** Jason  
**B** James  
**C** Jude

6. Who writes the *Lockwood and Co* series of books?  
**A** Jonathan Meres  
**B** Jonathan Stroud  
**C** Jonathan Ross

7. In *One* by Sarah Crossan, what are the names of the conjoined twins?  
**A** Grace and Tippi  
**B** Greta and Tara  
**C** Gina and Tilly

8. In *Six of Crows* by Leigh Bardugo, what is the name of the thief also known as 'Dirtyhands'?  
**A** Jesper Fahey  
**B** Nina Zenik  
**C** Kaz Brekker

9. In which novel by John Green would you find the characters Margo and Quentin?  
**A** Looking for Alaska  
**B** Paper Towns  
**C** Turtles All the Way Down

10. The title of Mark Haddon's award-winning novel *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* is a quote from which famous fictional detective?  
**A** Miss Marple  
**B** Hercule Poirot  
**C** Sherlock Holmes

11. In David Almond's novel *Skellig*, Michael befriends the girl who lives across the road, what is her name?  
**A** Mary  
**B** Mina  
**C** Moira

12. In which fantasy series would you find the character Celaena Sardothien?  
**A** The Sin Eater's Daughter  
**B** Red Rising  
**C** Throne of Glass

13. In *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, what is the name of the Jewish boxer that Liesel's foster family hide from the Nazis?  
**A** Mark  
**B** Max  
**C** Marcus

14. In *Am I Normal Yet?*, *How Hard Can Love Be?* and *What's a Girl Gotta Do?* by Holly Bourne, Amber, Evie and Lottie form which club?  
**A** The Spinster Club  
**B** The Soulmates Club  
**C** The Songstress Club

15. What is the name of the first book by Zoe Sugg, aka Zoella?  
**A** Girl on Fire  
**B** Girl in Love  
**C** Girl Online

16. Who is the author of *The Lie Tree*, *A Skinful of Shadows* and *Cuckoo Song*?  
**A** Frances Hardinge  
**B** Hilary McKay  
**C** Juno Dawson

17. In John Boyne's *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, what is the name of the main boy narrator?  
**A** Shmuel  
**B** Bruno  
**C** Ralf

18. By which other name is Stephanie Edgley known in the *Skulduggery Pleasant* series by Derek Landy?  
**A** Tanith Low  
**B** Valkyrie Cain  
**C** China Sorrows

19. In *Fan Girl* by Rainbow Rowell, Cath writes fan-fiction about which book character?  
**A** Simon Snow  
**B** Draco Malfoy  
**C** Frodo Baggins

20. In *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins, Katniss comes from which district?  
**A** District 11  
**B** District 12  
**C** District 13

POWERED BY NATIONAL BOOK TOKENS



## Apprenticeship Opportunities

## Tune in live: A free careers event exploring jobs of the future



Enhance your National Careers Week activities with our latest virtual careers event, Spotlight on Green Jobs, which will be broadcast live on 9-10 March. Register now!

What can I expect?

Delivered in partnership with NCFE, this free event is suitable for young people aged 12 and up and will explore pathways leading to green careers. It is the perfect platform for your students to hear from top employers and find information on exciting roles in areas such as construction, automotive, emerging technologies and IT. [Click here to see the full line-up and register!](#)

How can we watch it?

This event will be broadcast live online on Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 March and can be viewed on an internet-enabled laptop, desktop, tablet or smartphone (you'll need to [register](#) first). It's broken down into 30-minute bitesize sessions, and once registered, you'll have access to free supporting resources, including lesson plans to help you embed the content into your curriculum.

## Uptree – Shawbrook Bank Opportunities

# uptree

Are you passionate about finance and technology? Do you want real world experience in a leading financial services business?

Do you want to earn a great salary while furthering your learning and qualifications?

The THRIVE programme is aimed at 18 to 24-year-olds looking to kick start their careers, whilst studying towards an advanced (level 3) or higher (level 4) apprenticeship.



The programme consists of a number of rotations which will help you succeed in either technology or finance - you'll get the skills and experience you need to take your career with Shawbrook to the next level. Thrive is an exciting opportunity where you'll play an important role in developing and delivering. You'll work alongside passionate and experienced professionals, developing real-world skills alongside your classroom training.

**Duration:** 2 years

**Locations:** Brentwood (Essex), London and Redhill (Surrey)

**Salary:** £25,000

## Why Shawbrook?



## Google Apprenticeships Parents' Insight Webinar

# success at school

Upcoming events for students and parents...

Don't miss out on our upcoming insight webinars for students and parents. Spaces are limited, so make sure to register to secure your place.

## Google Parents' Insight Webinar



Is your child interested in technology and in Years 10-13? Want to find out how they could kickstart their career at one of the biggest technology companies in the world?

Join us **on Wednesday 9 March** at 6.30pm to find out about how Google apprenticeships could get your child's career off to a flying start! [Register now](#)



## Insight Webinar



Join the University of South Wales for a two-part webinar that will give you the lowdown on all things healthcare careers, and give you tips on how to ace your application.

Attend both, or attend one - the choice is yours!

### Part one: Studying for a career in healthcare

**When?** Wednesday 23 March at 6.30pm

So, you want a career in healthcare? There are so many options to consider - from Nursing and Midwifery to Operating Department Practice, and from Physiotherapy to Social Work and Occupational Therapy.

Hear from experts in each of these fields as they outline the most rewarding, as well as the more challenging parts of their professions. Highly experienced academic staff from the University of South Wales will provide detailed

information, advice and guidance on their subject areas, and will be poised to answer your questions.

Join us on 23rd March and find out:

- The differences between each career pathway
- What it takes, and how to gain work experience
- Hints and tips for higher education research

[Register Now](#)

**Part two:** Making a successful application to study health courses

**When? Wednesday 30 March at 6.30pm**

So, now you've decided you want to study a health course, how do you perfect your application and give yourself the best possible chance of success?

Join us on 30th March, where experts from the University of South Wales will provide you with essential hints and tips on writing an outstanding personal statement, how to avoid common application pitfalls, and how to perform well at interview.

Register now to find out how you can maximise your chances of success in applying for health courses at university!

[Register Now](#)

If you think this email might be helpful to someone else, please [forward it on](#). If you have any questions or need any help, please email us at [team@successatschool.org](mailto:team@successatschool.org).

### School Leavers Fair

# School Leaver Fair

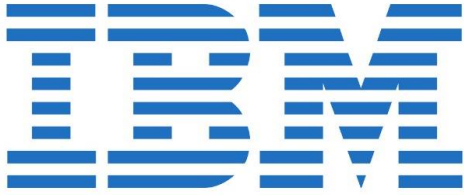
Irwin Mitchell, a leading UK law firm, is looking to promote three of their apprenticeships.

- Solicitor Apprenticeship - Level 7
- Paralegal Apprenticeship - Level 4
- Tax Apprenticeship - Level 4

These are all designed for those about to complete A-levels (or equivalent).

Irwin Mitchell is hosting an event for students interested in these positions on Tuesday 22nd March, which they can register for [here](#)

## IBM Apprenticeships



At IBM, work is more than a job - it's a calling: To build. To design. To code. To consult. To think along with clients and sell. To make markets. To invent. To collaborate. Not just to do something better, but to attempt things you've never thought possible. To lead in this new era of technology and solve some of the world's most challenging problems.

**Why work at IBM?**

Our IBM School Leaver Schemes will enable you to gain the experience, skills and contacts you need to start building a bright future. The choice of scheme is yours. We have Level 4 Apprenticeships, Degree Apprenticeships and 12 Month Gap Year Intern roles, but whatever, path you choose, you'll work on real projects, with real clients and real bottom-line deliverables. Our opportunities will give you everything you need to build a successful career.

You do not need to have any prior work experience; instead, we're looking for enthusiastic, driven and innovative individuals, with a passion for business and technology.

It's time to define your career.

[Apply here](#)



Apply for  
Apprenticeships today.



Young Artists Summer Show 2022

**RA**

Royal Academy of Arts

**Young  
Artists'  
Summer  
Show**

Why not get creative? There's still time to register for this year's [Young Artists' Summer Show](#).

For your chance to feature in the on-site and online exhibition, submit an artwork of any kind by **30 March 2022**.

We can't wait to see what you've been creating!

**Not sure where to start?**

Take a look at the [get involved page](#) of our website. You can see answers to common questions on our [FAQs](#) page, plus we've written some guidance about the kinds of artworks the judges will be looking for when they review submissions. Click here for [guidelines](#).

**Key Dates**

**Submissions close:** 30 March

**Judging:** May

**Online exhibition opens:** 19 July

**Display at the RA open:** 19 July - 14 August

Year 7/8 Channel 4 Junior Bake Off -Reminder



We are delighted to say that applications have recently opened for the 8<sup>th</sup> series of **Junior Bake Off**; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.



Junior Bake Off are looking for young budding bakers between **9-12 years old**. Filming would take place from July 2022, but **applications close on Sunday 13 March 2022**. Interested bakers can apply and find out more online [here](#)



**COVID-19 updates**

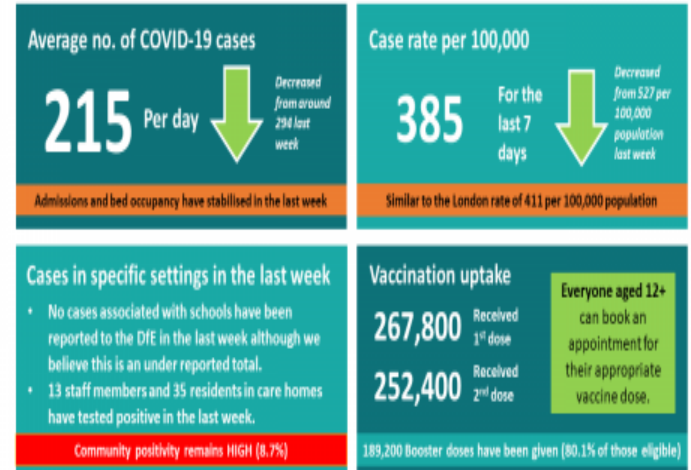
Last week the DfE updated its various operational guidance documents for education settings to reflect the removal of the legal requirement for people with Covid to self-isolate from 24 February. The sections in these documents on ‘tracing close contacts and isolation’ and ‘when someone develops Covid-19 symptoms or has a positive test’ now refer to newly-published [UKHSA guidance for people with Covid-19 and their contacts](#).

**Longer-term plans**

From Thursday 24 March, the government will remove the Covid-19 provisions within the Statutory Sick Pay and Employment and Support Allowance regulations. From Friday 1 April, the government will no longer provide free to order universal symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public in England. The government will update guidance on the steps that people with Covid-19 should take to minimise contact with other people accordingly.

**BARNET COVID-19 WEEKLY ROUND-UP**

13 February – 19 February 2022



Data now based on the new cases methodology introduced which includes re-infections



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



**COVID-19 measures to follow**

The government's Plan A sets out a range of measures to limit COVID-19 cases this year.

**Continue to follow safety guidelines:**

- Although no longer mandatory in most public places, COVID-19 rates are still high so please wear a face covering in public places. It is mandatory to wear a face covering on TFL
- Let fresh air in, meet outdoors and wash hands regularly
- Rapid test before going anywhere crowded indoors or visiting vulnerable people
- Stay at home if unwell
- Everyone aged 16+ should get a 1st, 2nd and booster dose when eligible of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- 12-15 year olds should get their 1st and 2nd dose of the Pfizer vaccine.
- Find your nearest walk-in centre at: <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-walk-in-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-site>

**Get tested and isolate if you have symptoms of COVID-19.**

Make sure you get your flu jab. Free flu vaccination if available for primary and secondary school children, people aged 50 years and over, those with health conditions, and pregnant women.

For more info, visit [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Date published 31 January 2022

[Barnethealthchampions@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:Barnethealthchampions@groundwork.org.uk)





# Headteacher's Update

28 February 2022

## Certificate of Thanks



This is to certify that

### **St. Andrew the Apostle School**

Has raised an incredible £397 in aid of Noah's Ark  
Children's Hospice, enabling us to care for seriously unwell  
children and their families

Thank you so much!

**NOAH'S ARK**  
children's hospice

Noah's Ark Children's Hospice, The Ark, Byng Road, Barnet EN5 4NP | Registered Charity No. 1081156 | Registered with the Fundraising Regulator