

St Andrew the Apostle School Weekly Newsletter

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

23 June 2023

Message from Headteacher

It's been an exciting seven days. If you think the Ashes Cricket was tense at the start of the week, you should have seen the tension in the Maths Department as the Chess Final was played out between Year 10s Kristofar and Harshil. On Friday, after some very attacking play from both players, the score was finely balanced at 1-1, but on Monday Kristofar won out 2-1 in a hardfought final encounter.



Our musicians have shone once more in The Barnet Music Festival this week, a celebration of the incredible musical prowess that resides within our community. In our 10th appearance, since the school has opened its doors, the school Rock Band showcased their raw talent and passion.



The Rock Band in rehearsal at The Barnet Music Festival

We have also had a successful Year 5 transition day on Wednesday this week, focused on an extension lesson in the subject of Mathematics. We are blessed with a lot of talented young Mathematicians keen to join us.

Academic Review Day in Year 10 was a helpful exercise for everyone who took part and there were some challenging but hugely supportive conversations as the current Year 10 start to think about the specific demands of preparing for GCSE exams next year.

The Sixth Form Transition Day went very smoothly earlier in the week, with a lovely atmosphere. The feedback from Year 11 students was excellent and nearly everyone commented on how they enjoyed the greater dialogue and intellectual freedom in the taster lessons. The students also mentioned that the class sizes seemed ideally suited for tailored individual help and discussion and that this was a pleasant contrast to some of the alternative offers which they had already considered.

Next week, we are hugely looking forward to Sports Day on Tuesday 27 July at the Lea Valley Athletics Centre. With the help of the PE Department, we are looking forward to some titanic athletic contests and nail-biting finishes!

Dr Philip Hills, Headteacher

Faith- πίστη

St Peter and St Paul



29 June marks the Feast of St Peter and Paul and the end of 'The Apostles' Fast', a prescribed fasting period of the Church, starting from the day after the Sunday of All Saints. These two saints are often depicted together in iconography in a circle, embracing one

another in a brotherly hug with expressions of affection.

29 June was originally a celebration of Romulus and Remus, the founders of Rome. In church tradition, 29 June, AD 64 is the date of the Martyrdom of Peter and Paul at Rome during the persecution of Christians by the emperor Nero. A Christian celebration of two 'brothers' subsequently took the place of a pagan one.

According to legend, Romulus and Remus, after whom the city of Rome was named, were abandoned at birth and cast into the Tiber River before being rescued by a shepherd and suckled by a she-wolf. When they grew up, the twins embarked on a quest to find their own city. Romulus and Remus disagreed about which hill to build their city on. Eventually, Romulus just started digging a ditch around the Palatine Hill and building a wall. Romulus declared that if anyone jumped over his walls, he would kill them; Remus did exactly that and in a fit of anger Romulus killed him. Rome and her empire were founded on fratricide.

For Peter and Paul, Jesus of Nazareth was the source of their relationship. Peter knew Jesus and walked with him for three years before Christ entrusted him with his flock. Paul, formerly Saul of Tarsus, persecuted Christians until Jesus appeared to him on the way to Damascus. Peter and Paul eventually met and talked about the workings of God in their lives and in their ministry.

That doesn't mean they always got along perfectly. In what is known as the "Incident in Antioch," Paul calls Peter out on the issue of whether or not Gentile converts have to first become Jews and follow Jewish laws in order to be "real" Christians. Peter had previously stated that the Gentiles had no need to follow Jewish custom, and that the new covenant was open to all. However, under pressure from Jerusalem, Peter went back on his word. He travelled to Antioch, where Paul was, and Paul "opposed him to his face because he clearly was wrong." One can almost hear the exasperation in Paul's voice as he writes of the incident:

When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly in the wrong. Before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group.

Galatians 2.11-13

Even Paul's friend Barnabas seemed to waver on this point. But along with the exasperation, one can hear love. Paul is not calling Peter out for the sake of pointing out his spiritual brother's mistake, but for the sake of the Church and Christ, whom they both love and preach. Peter accepted Paul's rebuke. In fact, it gave Peter courage to stand up to the Judaizers, those who wanted the Gentiles to practice Jewish customs. Paul always accepted and sought out Peter's authority as head of the Church, but it didn't stop him from encouraging his brother to remember the truth and to care for the souls entrusted to him. At St Andrew, St Paul is the embodiment of our core Christian value of 'Truth'.

Peter and Paul remind us that brothers can be born from unlikely sources. Early Christian tradition tells us they were imprisoned together for nine months before their martyrdoms on the same day. As we celebrate the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, let us look to their model of fraternal correction and mutual love as we work to spread the Gospel message in our own lives.

Saint Name Days for next week:

Date	Saint Celebrated
Monday 26 June	DAVID, MAKARIOUS
Tuesday 27 June	PIERRE
Wednesday 28 June	ANARGYROS
Thursday 29 June	PAVLOS, PETER
Friday 30 June	APOSTOLOS, MELITON
Saturday 1 July	ANARGYROS, COSMAS,
	DAMINAOS, MAVRIKIOS

Term Dates 2023-24

Please see our term dates for the academic year 2023-24 in the link below: <u>Term Dates</u>

Upcoming key Dates and Information

- Tuesday 27 June Sports Day
- Friday 30 June Year 11 Prom
- Please <u>click here</u> to access term dates.



- Please click here to access school calendar.
- Please <u>click here</u> to access previous editions of the Newsletters.

Rising Temperatures!

As you may be aware, adequate hydration is crucial for maintaining good health and concentration, especially during warmer weather. By encouraging your child to have a water bottle readily available, we can help them stay refreshed and focused during their learning activities. We kindly request your assistance in providing your child with a water bottle to bring to school and remind your child to bring the water bottle daily.

We will continue to support our students while maintaining high standards of uniform and behaviour, students are expected to come to school in full school uniform and remain in their blazers until the end of period 2. We appreciate your support in this matter. have had on our school community.

Sports Day!

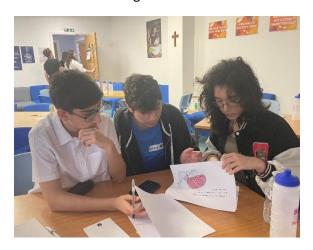


Sports Day will take place this coming Tuesday 27 June at Lee Valley Athletics Centre. Students have been participating in different athletic events in PE lessons this half term in preparation for Sports Day. Members of the PE Department have allocated students to different athletic events depending on their skill set. The events taking place include: 60m, 100m, 200m, 300m/400m, 800m, shot put, discus, long jump, high jump, boys relay, girls relay and mixed relay. For each event two boys and two girls will participate to earn points for the form group. Students finishing third, second or first will receive medals for each event. The mixed relay event has different medals to commemorate the King's Coronation. At the end of Sports Day members of the PE Department will announce the winning form in each year group. Staff and students are looking forward to a fun and exciting day.

Mr Browell (Head of PE)

Year 11 Transition Day

On Wednesday, the Sixth Form welcomed Year 11 in for their transition day. It was a very busy day for students who took part in a variety of exciting A level lessons across the curriculum to get a taste of 6th form life at St Andrews. Ms Bicarregui was delighted to see the students so enthused by their learning and looking forward to the next stage of their education.



After their experiments in Chemistry and detective work in solving a murder in Psychology students showed their teamwork and problem-solving skills in an escape room task which certainly brought out their competitive nature! We wish them all the best with their exam results and look forward to seeing you all on results day.



Ms Bicarregui (Head of Sixth Form)

Exam Boards

As the Summer holiday season approaches, we wanted to provide you with crucial information regarding the exam boards our school employs for GCSE examinations for future years. This knowledge will enable you to ensure that your child has access to the correct revision guides, tailored specifically to their examination board's requirements.

To access the relevant exam board information, we invite you to visit our school website at https://standrewtheapostle.org.uk/exam-boards.

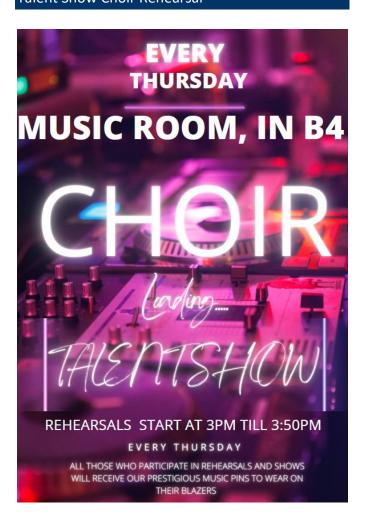
By referring to this webpage, you will find the exact exam boards utilised for each subject offered at our school. This information is invaluable when selecting revision materials, as different exam boards often require slightly different approaches and content coverage.

We strongly recommend that you use this information to guide your purchase of revision guides. By selecting the correct exam board-specific resources, your child will benefit from targeted and tailored content, increasing their chances of achieving their full potential in their GCSE examinations.

Should you have any questions or require further guidance, our staff are readily available to assist you and you can contact your child's teacher using the staff contact form.

Mr Martin (Deputy Headteacher)

Talent Show Choir Rehearsal



Site



For up-to-date news on our new school building and site, please click on the following link: <u>St Andrew The Apostle Plans</u>.

There will be more work on the pilings of the building, and once the foundations are in place, the outer structure will spring up very quickly! If you have any questions as a parent regarding the new building, do contact the school directly.



Site – pick up and drop off

Thank you to all our parents who have adopted the 'ride and stride' method of dropping children off at school. This helps congestion around the NLBP and makes it less a busy and safer on site. It is also a healthy, more sustainable, and time-saving option!

If you are dropping off on the site, please continue to follow the route of the pick-up and drop off (around the multi-storey car park), following all traffic regulations. Please do drive slowly and carefully as an increasing number of our students are walking to school in the summer months and this means increased numbers of students entering and traversing the NLBP at peak times. Parents, please ensure your children do not arrive too early for school – our gates open at 8.10am.

We are very hopeful of having pedestrian access returned at the Brunswick Park side of the school from September 2023. Further information on this will be forth coming when we have it.

Thank you, again, for your consideration in keeping the NLBP a safe place for students to come to school.

Summer Term Extra – Curricular Sports Clubs

PE extra-curricular clubs.

Please note a change in sports clubs on a

Thursday this term. The table tennis club advertised will no longer run due to the public examinations in the hall. Dodgeball will now run instead from 3.00pm-4.00pm in the building 5 hall.

Monday

Activity: All Years Athletics Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm Venue: Bethune Park

*Changing building 5 changing rooms.

Activity: All Years Futsal Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm

Venue: Building 4 Playground

*Change in building 5 changing rooms.

Tuesday

No clubs due to Athletics League Meetings (Invite Only)

Wednesday

Activity: All Years Girls Dance Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm Venue: Building 5 Hall

*Change in building 5 changing rooms.

Thursday

Activity: All Years Table Tennis

Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm Venue: Building 4 Hall

*Change in building 4 changing rooms.

Activity: All Years Boxercise Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm Venue: Building 5 Playground

*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 afterschool. 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.

Mr Browell (Head of PE)

School Uniform

We are incredibly proud of our students and the way that they present themselves to our community. We do this by 'sweating the small stuff' when it comes to uniform, and this ensures that larger behaviour issues are less common. The aim of our uniform policy is to ensure that all students look professional, are ready to

work in school and be prepared for the world of work after they leave us.

Please do support the school culture and ethos by helping us ensure that students have the correct uniform. In particular:

- Students should be wearing leather shoes, please click here for boys shoes and girls shoes.
- Students should not wear any jewellery or piercings other than a single stud in each ear

lobe.

- Students should be wearing neutral trainer socks or no socks with tights.
- Students should also have their shirt tucked in, top buttons done up and ties tied correctly.



If students arrive to school in incorrect uniform, they could be asked to return home to change and return immediately or failure to follow clear and reasonable instructions to address their uniform could result in students being detailed or placed in our Referral Room.

Mr Martin (Deputy Headteacher)

Second Hand Uniform

You can buy good quality, second-hand uniform at the following site: www.oldschooluniform.co.uk

The school accepts outgrown, good condition uniform please hand in your items to the school reception.

Mobile Phones



We would like to remind parents that the use of mobile phones is prohibited during the school day, and students should not use them to communicate with anyone including parents. This is

to ensure that our students can concentrate on their learning without distractions and to maintain a positive learning environment.

Our school has a strict policy on mobile phone use, and we expect all students to adhere to this policy. Mobile phones must not be visible or used during the school day, including breaks and lunchtime. Any mobile phones that are seen or heard will be confiscated by the school staff and returned to the student at the end of the school day. If this happens twice, parents should

expect to come and collect the phone from the school office.

We understand that mobile phones can be important for staying in touch with parents and guardians, particularly in emergencies. However, we have systems in place to ensure that students can communicate with parents in case of emergency. Parents can contact the school office, and we will make sure that the message is relayed to the student. We encourage parents to use this system rather than contacting their child directly during the school day.

We believe that the mobile phone ban is essential to create a positive learning environment where students can concentrate on their studies without distractions. Mobile phones can be a significant source of distraction, and we want to ensure that our students have the best possible chance of success in their academic studies.

We appreciate your support in enforcing the mobile phone ban and remind parents that it is their responsibility to ensure that their child adheres to the school's policy on mobile phone use. We encourage parents to talk to their children about the importance of the ban and the impact that mobile phones can have on their academic performance.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter, and we look forward to continuing to work together to ensure the best possible learning environment for our students.

Mr Martin (Deputy Headteacher)

Online Safety

This week our online safety event, with a particular focus on gaming, was a resounding success. The event was hosted by Ben McGrath, an expert in the field of online safety and a representative from Smoothwall, a leading provider of digital safety solutions. The evening provided valuable insights and practical tips for parents to ensure the well-being of their children in the digital world.

In today's interconnected world, where technology plays an ever-increasing role in our lives, it is essential for parents to stay informed about the potential risks associated with online activities, particularly in the context of gaming. With the rapid growth of the gaming industry and the popularity of online multiplayer games, it has become crucial to address the issue of online safety in this specific domain.

Ben McGrath shared his expertise, drawing on years of experience working in the field of digital safety. He

discussed the importance of establishing open lines of communication with our children, fostering trust, and encouraging them to share their online experiences with us. By creating a safe and non-judgmental environment, we can better understand the challenges they face and guide them in making responsible decisions while gaming.

Furthermore, the event covered the various tools and features available to parents to enhance online safety. Ben McGrath highlighted the significance of parental controls and discussed their implementation across different gaming platforms. He also provided practical guidance on setting appropriate screen time limits, identifying and avoiding potentially harmful content, and understanding the risks associated with online interactions.

As parents, it is important to remain vigilant and proactive in protecting our children from potential online risks. Events like this serve as a reminder of the importance of ongoing education and awareness in safeguarding the well-being of our children.

This was the last of the online safety events we hosted this academic year. However, will organise more events similar to this in 2023/24.

Mr Martin (Deputy Headteacher)

Year 7 Players Wanted



Omonia Youth Football Club



Teddy Bears Picnic – Theatre in the Park







Presents...

THE MAGICAL TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

Sunday 25th June '23

1:00pm until 4:00pm

OAKHILL GOLF, OAK HILL PARK

EAST BARNET. EN4 8JS





Please bring picnics, rugs and teddies, and come dressed for outdoors. Light refreshments available.

Tickets £7.50 Each

Under 3's & Teddy Bears free!

Book Now At: www.BarnetArts.uk



Summer Activity – Holiday Camp

