

St Andrew the Apostle School Weekly Newsletter



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

08 December 2023

Girls Netball

Our Y9 and Y10 Netball teams played Ark Pioneer Academy on 5 December, and they represented the school with pride and determination. The Y10 team stole the show with an excellent win, a brilliant team attitude and some incredible individual performances.

Y9 were unlucky in their narrow defeat, but there were lots of excellent moments in the match and some real key moments that we will work on and improve. A huge well done to all the girls for their resilience and positive attitudes.



Girls Basketball



The Year 10 Girls Basketball team played in their first competitive tournament this week and performed brilliantly. The progress throughout the evening was a pleasure to see and it was lovely to see the girls grow in confidence as their matches progressed. There were some very close games, and STA took back-to-back wins in the final two matches of the evening. Lindi P scored some excellent shots to secure these wins and Ava was relentless in her defending. MVP awarded to Mariaelena A for her consistent performances across all games.

Miss Walt (Head of Y11 and PE Teacher)

Message from the Headteacher

There has been an abundance of girls' sporting fixtures at STA this week and it was great to see our Y10 netballers start the ball rolling with a fine win earlier in the week. Our Y10 basketballers were on fire, too, with a sensational start to their season.

Thank you for all your positive parental feedback after our St Andrew's service at Saint Katherine's: one Y7 parent shared with us that serving as an altar boy was one of the highlights of the year so far for her son. We are very grateful to Father Damian and his team and look forward to joining them once more for our whole-school Christmas services next week.

On Thursday I had the pleasure of meeting Bishop Iakovos and Father Gregory at Wood Green: we had an excellent chat about how speedily the new school buildings are springing up and about the faith life of the school and local community. On which subject, we are setting up a new Student Christian Council, for pupils keen to take an active lead in the prayer life of the school, e.g. in assemblies. A number of pupils have already put their names forward, but if you think it is something to which your son or daughter might want to contribute, please do encourage them to come for a chat with Mr Simmons or me. It was a pleasure too, to meet Desmond Nicholas Bamford, who will be joining our RP Department in January and who has studied the Orthodox faith extensively, as well as being a server at the Twelve Apostles Church at Brookmans Park. In a busy start to the week we also had a visit from Mrs Maria Loi, Head of Education at the Cyprus High Commission. She was particularly impressed with the work that our Y8 and 10 children had been doing on Greek Saints and was presented with a St Stylianos bookmark as a memento!

Philip Hills



Christmas Events

- Monday 11 December – Y7 & Y8 Church Visit
- Wednesday 13 December – Y9 & Y10 Church Visit
- Thursday 14 December – Y11, Y12 & Y13 – Church visit
- Friday 15 December – Christmas Concert
- Tuesday 19 December – Sixth Form Christmas Fare
- Tuesday 19 December – A level and GCSE Award Evening
- Tuesday 19 December – Trafalgar Square Performance
- Wednesday 20 December – Christmas Lunch & Jumper Day
- Thursday 21 December – Last day of term

Upcoming Dates and Information 2023 - 2024

- Please click [here](#) to access term dates.
- Please click [here](#) to access school calendar.

Social Media



Twitter Facebook

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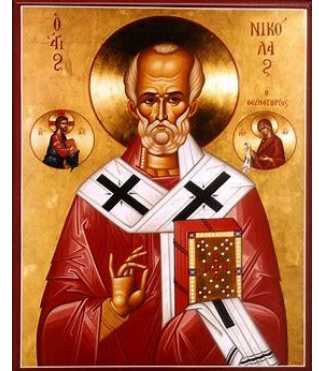
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Faith



Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra, Wednesday 6 December

This Saint lived during the reign of Saint Constantine the Great and reposed in 330. As a young man, he desired the solitary life. He made a pilgrimage to the holy city Jerusalem, where he found a place to withdraw to devote himself to prayer. Eventually God revealed that he should return to his homeland to be a cause of salvation for many. He returned to Myra and was ordained bishop. He became known for his abundant mercy, providing for the poor and needy, and delivering those who had been unjustly accused. No less was he known for his zeal for the truth. He was present at the First Ecumenical Council of the 318 Fathers at Nicaea in 325; upon hearing the blasphemies that Arius brazenly uttered against the Son of God, Saint Nicholas struck him on the face. Since the canons of the Church forbid the clergy to strike any man at all, his fellow bishops were in perplexity. In the night our Lord Jesus Christ and our Lady Theotokos appeared to certain of the bishops, informing them that no action was to be taken against him, since he had acted not out of passion, but out of extreme love and piety. St Nicholas is the patron of all travellers, and of sea-farers in particular; he is one of the best known and best loved Saints of all time, particularly because of his reputation for being kind to children and the needy; he embodies our core school value of caring.



*"All who love Nicholas the Holy,
All who serve Nicholas the Holy
They will Nicholas receive and give help in time of need,
Holy Father Nicholas".
Orthodox children's song*

Christmas Festivities online

With the Christmas festivities just around the corner, children are looking forward to receiving gifts. For many, this may be devices that allow you to go online. Even with the best intentions, many parents have a false sense of how to keep their child secure, or think their child is more secure than they actually are.

Please feel free to share with your parents – carers the attached information sheet either electronically and/or through your website, on keeping children safe online this Christmas. It is a great timely reminder of the key Safety Net messages.

I hope you find this free resource valuable and if you wish to explore future training opportunities for parents and colleagues on keeping children safe online, please [Click Here](#) to watch a short video on what is Safety Net and dates.

We value our partnerships with multi-agency safeguarding partners and supporting organisations across the UK in a collective effort to keep children safe online. **SKIPS Educational**



School Visit

Mrs Maria Loi, Head of Education at the Cyprus High Commission and Chair of Governors Mary Karaolis OBE at St Andrew the Apostle School.



Christmas Lunch

We are pleased to inform you that the school Christmas Lunch is on Wednesday 20 December. This is always a lovely event with the vast majority of our students choosing to take part. Please see menu below:

CHRISTMAS FEAST

Roast Turkey, Stuffing & Pigs in Blankets
OR
Vegan Soya Bean & Cranberry Wellington

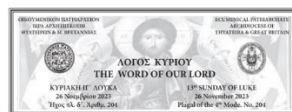
Both Served with Seasonal Vegetables,
Roast Potatoes & Gravy

&

Christmas Pudding with Vanilla Sauce
OR
Stained Glass Window Shortbread



Greek lessons – Saint Stylianos



As part of the name day of Saint Stylianos, the patron saint of children, in the Greek lessons with our Y8 and 10 children, we learned about the history of the saint, wrote him a prayer and created a bookmark with Saint Stylianos. We talked about the values of our school in Greek, the ways we can show our love and respect in practice to our families and friends using our "orthodox Greek vocabulary" through interactive tasks.

Ms Ntaountaki (Teacher of Greek)



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Young Barnet Charity Collection.

The Sixth Form are collecting gifts from St Andrew Students to deliver to the Young Barnet Foundation. The Young Barnet Foundation delivers gifts to disadvantaged children and young people living in Barnet via local charities, social enterprises, community and faith groups. In line with our Christian school values of kindness and responsibility we would like to support all young people in Barnet through this wonderful charity. If you are able to spare a gift, please give to your child before December 15th. More information about the charity and gift ideas can be found on their website:

www.youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk/christmascampaign



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK? HAVE YOUR SAY... WE NEED YOU! SHAPE CHILD ACTIVITIES SHARE YOUR IDEAS!

GUARDIAN & YOUTH FOCUS GROUP

BE PART OF OUR FOCUS GROUP & INFLUENCE THE FUTURE OF POSITIVE ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2023 18:00 - 20:00

CANADA VILLA YOUTH CENTRE, PURSLEY ROAD, MILL HILL, NW7 2BU

REGISTER NOW BARNETYOUTH.UK

THIS IS NOT A TRADITIONAL FOCUS GROUP. THERE WILL BE GAMES, PIZZA & MUCH MORE!

Caring for people, our places and the planet.

www.barnet.gov.uk

APOSTLE NEWS

Bringing good news to our community

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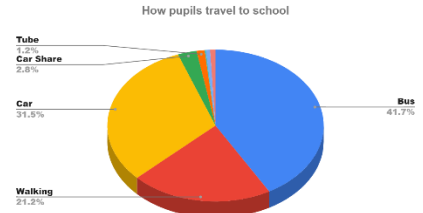


Access our Student Newsletter - Apostle News Edition 2 by scanning the QR code!



TFL Accreditation Programme

St Andrew the Apostle School are embarking on a Tfl accreditation programme- Travel for life. The programme is designed to inspire pupils to travel actively, responsibly, and safely.



Our aim is to reduce car congestion around the school, increase the use of public transport, and improve road safety and air quality. Our recent travel survey shows that over 60% of pupils walk or take public transport to school, which is fantastic news. We hope this continues throughout the year.

Mr Francis (Head of Year 8)

Safeguarding

At St Andrew we have a team of colleagues ready to remove or reduce any barriers to students learning or wellbeing. If you have any concerns about your, or any other child in school please contact us. This should include:

- Their physical safety, such as their travel to and from school or the environment they are in outside of school.
- Their mental wellbeing, such as any concerns about anxiety, loneliness, bereavement or other mental health concerns.
- Their social development, such as concerning friendship groups or worries over gang involvement.
- Any other concerns such as obsession over gaming or being on the internet too much.

Please contact us through the staff contact form on our website, even if we cannot help directly, we can signpost families to local organisations and charities.

In particular, please contact the safeguarding leads below, or any other adults.

Your Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mr Martin, Ms Walt and Ms Viala



• Ms Awotona or Ms Henshaw – Devali



Extra Curricular Clubs Timetable Autumn Term

	Lunchtime	After school
Monday		All Years Dodgeball (3 – 4pm) KS3 (Y7 - Y9) STEM Club – SC4 (3.05 – 3.45pm) Homework Club – ICT1 (3.3.50pm)
Tuesday	Y7 and Y8 Drama Club - DR1 (12.50 – 1.20pm)	Homework Club – ICT1 (3.3.50pm)
Wednesday	Strategy Club: Chess, Connect 4, Backgammon, Card Games – MA3 (12.35 – 1.10pm) Y9 Drama Club - DR1 (12.50 – 1.20pm)	Dance - B5 Changing Rooms (3 – 4.30pm) Art Club – Art1 Sign Up Only (3 – 4pm)
Thursday	Strategy Club: Chess, Connect 4, Backgammon, Card Games – MA3 (12.35 – 1.10pm)	Homework Club – ICT1 (3.3.50pm) All Years Basketball – B5 Changing Rooms (3 – 4pm) Netball - B5 Changing Rooms (3 – 4pm) Choir – MU1 (3.3.50pm)
Friday	Guitar Club - MU1 (12.35 – 1.20pm) MFL Speaking Club – CR11 (12.35 – 1pm) A Level girl Club – ENG (12.35 – 1.15pm) Apostle News Writing Group (12.35 – 1.15pm)	Homework Club – ICT1 (3.3.50pm)