St Andrew the Apostle School Weekly Newsletter



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

26 January 2024













Applications for a September 2024 start at our Sixth Form closes on 31 January (we do accept later applications, but use applications received by this date to plan course capacity and design our timetable)

Please see our website: <u>St Andrew the Apostle</u> for information and to submit an application.

For any parent that has any queries about their son or daughter's choice of post-16 education please do contact Ms Bicarregui via our staff contact form here.

Ms Bicarregui (Head of Sixth Form)

Message from the Headteacher

At St Andrew the Apostle we put teamwork at the heart of everything we do, so it was wonderful to see our Year 10 basketballers show their skill and hold their nerve to win a nail-bitingly close game with local rivals Ashmole earlier in the week. Our U14 basketballers also got a good result against East Barnet School and basketball is becoming a real strength of the school.



Last Thursday I had the pleasure of talking to Theo Theodorou, one of the Founding Governors of our school, on London Greek Radio (please click on video below). It was excellent to be able to share the excellent progress of our new buildings with him as well as the many recent academic, cultural and sporting successes of the school. We focused, too, on the revitalised support of our local community. You can hear the interview by clicking on the link below. We are really looking forward to seeing Fathers Gregory and Peter on Monday for the Celebration of the Three Hierarchs and one final January opportunity to share vasilopita together!

This week we have been working with the Russell Educational Trust on a science department review. We interviewed students across year groups and all were highly complimentary of the teaching quality and the challenge offered by the department. Our sixth-formers, in particular, appreciated the small class sizes, individual attention and willingness of teachers to go beyond the constraints of the A level syllabus. Their enthusiasm for scientific discovery was palpable: 'I love science because it is about discovering unknowns'.

Philip Hills

Upcoming Dates and Information 2024

- Please click <u>here</u> to access term dates.
- Please click <u>here</u> to access school calendar.





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Faith

Feast of the Three Great Hierarchs, Basil the Great, John Chrysostom and Gregory the Theologian These highly influential bishops of the early church in the fourth century AD played pivotal roles in shaping Christian theology. The three are venerated as saints in Eastern Orthodoxy, Catholicism, Anglicanism, and other Christian churches.

Disputes raged in 11th century Constantinople about which of the three hierarchs was the greatest. Some argued that Basil was superior to the other two because of his explanations of Christian faith and monastic example. Supporters of John Chrysostom countered that the "Golden Mouthed"

(Greek: Χρυσόστομος) Archbishop of Constantinople was unmatched in both eloquence and in bringing sinners to repentance (and, of course, he wrote the liturgy that we use to this day). A third group insisted that Basil's close friend, Gregory the Theologian, was preferred to the others due to the majesty, purity, and profundity of his homilies and his defence of the faith from the Arian heresy. All three have separate feast days in January: Basil on January 1, Gregory on January 25, and Chrysostom on January 27. The Eastern Churches teach that the three hierarchs appeared together in a vision to St. John Mauropous, bishop of Euchaita, in the year 1084, and said that they were equal before God: "There are no divisions among us, and no opposition to one another." As a result, a January 30 feast day commemorating all three in common was instituted around 1100 under the Byzantine Emperor Alexios I Komnenos.



Basketball Win

In a thrilling encounter against local rivals, Ashmole Academy, our school's basketball team emerged victorious with a narrow 32-30 win. The game unfolded as a tightly contested battle throughout the first three quarters, with both teams locked in a head-to-head struggle and little to differentiate their performances. The defining moment came when Angelo D, voted as the MVP, stepped up with a crucial 3-point shot, propelling us into the lead. Angelo's precision and composure under pressure played a pivotal role in securing the win. Remarkable defensive efforts from the entire team further solidified our position, showcasing resilience and strategic prowess. The hard-fought victory stands as a testament to the collective determination and skill of our athletes.





STA's U14 Basketball Match



Congratulations to STA's U14 Basketball team who claimed a famous win against East Barnet School on Monday. Trailing 20-12 at half time,

STA overturned the deficit with a display of courage and determination.

Well done to MVP Raphael (9S) for his tireless running and 3 pointers.

Mr Francis (Head of Y8 & PE Teacher)



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Empowering Parents with Qustodio: Ensuring a Safer Online Environment for Your Child

In today's digital age, where children are increasingly exposed to online platforms and digital devices, ensuring their safety in the virtual world has become a paramount concern for parents. To address this concern and provide you with valuable insights into online safety, we are excited to announce an upcoming online presentation on Qustodio, a leading parental control software.

Understanding Qustodio:

Qustodio is a comprehensive and user-friendly parental control solution designed to help you manage and monitor your child's online activities. This powerful tool allows you to set limits, track their usage, and protect them from potential online threats. From managing screen time to filtering inappropriate content, Qustodio puts you in control, promoting a safer and more secure digital environment for your child.

Online Presentation Details:

To help you harness the full potential of Qustodio and gain a deeper understanding of its features, we invite you to join our online presentation on January 30 at 7.30PM.

This informative session will cover:

- A walkthrough of Qustodio's key features.
- Practical tips on setting up and customizing the software to suit your family's needs.
- Strategies for open communication with your child about online safety.

How to Join:

Mark your calendars and set a reminder for this essential presentation.

Please click the virtual meeting link here to join: Teams Meeting

The safety of our children in the digital world is a shared responsibility, and Qustodio is an invaluable tool that empowers you in this endeavor.

We encourage all parents to attend this online presentation to enhance their understanding of Qustodio and strengthen their ability to guide their children through a secure online experience.

There is more information on this on our e-safety page: <u>St Andrew the Apostle</u>.

Mr Martin (Deputy Headteacher and DSL)

Available for:











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Don't forget to have a read of our latest student edition of Apostle News APOSTLE NEWS Issue 3!

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.







Extra Curricular Clubs Timetable - Term 3

	Lunchtime	After school
Monday		All Years Boys and Girls Table Tennis (3 – 4pm) B4 Hall
		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)
	Strategy Club: Chess, Connect 4, Backgammon, Card Games – MA3 (12.35 – 1.10pm)	
Wednesday	Y9 Drama Club - DR1 (12.50 – 1.20pm)	Dance - B5 Changing Rooms (3 – 4.30pm)
		Art Club – Art1 Sign Up Only (3 – 4pm)
	Strategy Club: Chess, Connect 4, Backgammon, Card Games – MA3 (12.35 – 1.10pm)	Homework Club – ICT1 (3 - 3.50pm)
		All Years Boys and Girls Basketball –(3 – 4pm) B5 Changing Rooms GCSE PE Trampolining (INVITE ONLY) (3 – 5pm) East Barnet School
Thursday		All Years Girls Dance - (3 – 4pm) B5 Changing Hall
		Choir – MU1 (3 - 3.50pm)
		Homework Club – ICT1 (3 - 3.50pm)
Friday	Guitar Club - MU1 (12.35 – 1.20pm)	Homework Club – ICT1 (3 - 3.50pm)
	MFL Speaking Club – CR11 (12.35 – 1pm)	
	A Level Film Club – EN6 (12.35 – 1.15pm)	
	Apostle News Writing Group (12.35 – 1.15pm)	