

"BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER, FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER, AS GOD FORGAVE YOU." EPHESIANS 4:32

07 March 2025



St Andrew the Apostle would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Mr Stylianos Philippakos for this wonderful painting, which he will donate to the school for our new building. We are eagerly looking forward to receiving this piece of artwork that exemplifies our Greek Orthodox faith.

THE ARTIST AND THE INSPIRATION - IN HIS OWN WORDS

My name is Stylianos Philippakos, and I spend much of my spare time painting — a passion that brings me great joy. I am the grandfather of Theo, Stelios, and Christiana, two of whom still attend the school, and it is with great honour that I share this painting with the school community.

My inspiration for the painting came from a visit to the historic 11th-century Greek Orthodox Church of Kapnikarea in central Athens. This artwork captures a moment of quiet reflection and tradition, which I hoped to express through the children's acts of worship and the church's serene beauty.

It brings me great joy to see this painting find a home in the school community. My hope is that it serves as a reminder of faith, tradition, and the sense of togetherness we all share. Thank you for welcoming my work so warmly.

If you would like to see more of my work please visit <u>https://www.instagram.com/artbystelios/</u>

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STA ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE

07 March 2025

BE KIND TO ONE

ANOTHER, FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER, AS GOD FORGAVE YOU."

DAYS

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

I want to extend my thanks to everyone for your kindness following the news of my appointment as Headteacher last week. I am proud to lead this wonderful school and look forward to working together to achieve great things. These warm comments have been truly touching. This reinforces my belief in the values of this school - it really is a wonderfully strong community.

Thank you to Mr Philippakos for his wonderful painting for the new building-these acts of kindness and generosity are frequently shown yet remain very special.

We were delighted to have Father Gregory in school to celebrate and mark Lent with our students this week. His presence and guidance are greatly appreciated. It was wonderful to see our students engage with the traditions on the church and reflect on this important time in the Christian calendar.

For Year 10 parents, if you need to contact teachers following the publication of their written reports this week, please use the staff contact form available on our website. This communication is crucial as students prepare for their midcourse assessments. The schedule for these assessments will be shared with parents and students on 31 March. We recommend that students revise for at least two hours a day to ensure they are well-prepared. Your support in encouraging this study time at home is invaluable.

One of my favourite moments last week was speaking with a student about their current book which I read at their suggestion; "Six of Crows." This captivating novel tells the story of a group of young criminals and outcasts who come together for an impossible heist. It was inspiring to hear their enthusiasm and insights about the book. We marked world book day in school this week with a treasure hunt based on the favourite characters of staff. The enthusiasm of students evident as we shared these by decorating potatoes as these characters!

I am pleased to share that our Key Stage 3 students have collectively read for an impressive 3,786 hours on Sparx Reader since October. This is a fantastic achievement, and I encourage all students to continue their reading journey. Reading not only enhances academic skills but also broadens horizons and fosters a lifelong love of learning.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the importance of our values as a school community. We strive to instil principles of respect, caring, and responsibility in our students. In a world that often faces challenges and uncertainties, it is crucial that we pass on these values to the next generation. We pray for world leaders, asking that they live by the values that we would want our own children to show.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Best regards,

Christopher Martin | Headteacher



Upcoming Key Dates and Information

- Monday 10 March Year 9 Booster Immunisations
- Friday 14 March Globe Theatre Trip
- Thursday 3 April Year 7 Parents Evening
- Click <u>here</u> to access **Term Dates**



This week, we had the wonderful opportunity to welcome Father Gregory to our school. He delivered inspiring services to help our students prepare for Lent. We are deeply grateful for his guidance and support during this important time in the Christian calendar. Lent is a period of reflection, prayer, and fasting, and Father Gregory's presence has truly enriched our preparations. In our school, we strive to embody the values of trustworthiness, which are essential to building a strong and supportive community. Trustworthiness means being reliable, honest, and faithful in our actions and words. It is a value that we encourage in our students, staff, and the entire school community. By fostering trustworthiness, we create an environment where everyone feels safe, respected, and valued.

As we reflect on the importance of trustworthiness, we can draw inspiration from the life of St Gerasimus of the Jordan. St Gerasimus was a 5th-century monk and abbot known for his piety and asceticism. One of the most famous stories about him involves his encounter with a lion. According to tradition, St Gerasimus removed a thorn from the lion's paw, and the grateful animal became his loyal companion. This story beautifully illustrates the values of compassion, trust, and mutual respect.

As we continue our journey through Lent, let us remember the lessons of St Gerasimus and strive to live out the values of trustworthiness in our daily lives. By doing so, we not only honour our faith but also strengthen the bonds within our school community.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we can nurture a community grounded in faith, trust, and love.



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Lent Service led by Father Gregory

St Andrew the Apostle School welcomed Father Gregory on Thursday 6 March 2025 when he delivered an inspiring service for the season of Lent. Father Gregory highlighted the importance of reflection, prayer, and acts of kindness and charity, advising students to embody these virtues in their daily lives. His resonated with the students, encouraging them to embrace compassion during this special time of year.

The service provided a platform for students to explore the spiritual significance of Lent and offered guidance on how to live out these values in a thoughtful and impactful manner. Father Gregory's approach reinforced the spirit of community and personal growth.

St Andrew the Apostle School is grateful to Father Gregory for his visit and the sincere impact of his words on the students. This special event highlights the school's commitment to nurturing not only the academic but also the spiritual development of our students.

You can watch snippets of this service and other events at St Andrew the Apostle School on our Instagram page here: Instagram













World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day, staff and students unleashed their creativity by transforming potatoes into their favourite book characters. This imaginative activity saw potatoes take on new lives as beloved figures from literature, such as Matilda, Winnie the Pooh, Cleopatra and many more! This unique approach not only showcased artistic skills but also brought literature to life in a fun and engaging way, fostering a deeper appreciation for reading and storytelling among students and staff.

Winners will be announced in next week's newsletter!





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07 March 2025



Year 9 Art

Our students have been exploring the artworks of Barbara Hepworth through a variety of media. They have been sketching their own interpretations of her sculptures, focusing on elements like light and depth, and experimenting with printing techniques. In the coming weeks, they will also be creating clay models inspired by her work.



Year 7 Design Technology

The Year 7 students have really embraced their introduction to design technology and have covered an array of topics. They have made significant progress in developing their skills, setting a strong foundation for the projects that lie ahead, with every student now having earnt their machine certificates, they are using the machines with confidence in every lesson. Excitingly, in the next few weeks, they're going to dive into the world of electronics by embarking on a project to solder a functioning lamp.

Miss Agathangelou | Art & DT Technician











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Year 12 Biology

Year 12 Biologists got the chance to attend talks by leading doctors, journalists and scientists including Nessa Carey who is the author of the book we are currently reading in lesson (Junk DNA).

The talks covered a range of topics like how we can improve human hearing using chicken DNA, epigenetics, the impact of climate change on arctic ecosystems, what happens to your body at high altitudes and how surgical methods have improved using robotics to remove oesophageal cancer where we got to watch clips of the surgery.

A common theme across all the talks was the importance of building your transferrable soft skills and the use of AI in analysing data sets and how it has helped scientists to predict outcomes.

It was interesting to hear the career paths of the scientists in that they didn't always end up specialising in what they initially thought they would. One example is Mark Brandon who started off as a physicist and now works as a Polar Oceanographer filming with David Attenborough for documentaries like Blue Planet and analysing data in the arctic regions, with a focus on the biological impact but using physics to explain the length of day at the poles due to the Earth's tilt.

Miss Msrar |Head of Science













Year 11 Football Final vs Wren Academy

The Year 11 boys football team played Wren Academy on Monday 3 March in the League final. Wren caught STA off guard racing into a 3-0 lead in the first thirty minutes. Against the run of play Adamo provided a through ball for Angel, who scored to get STA back in the match. Wren immediately retained the three goal advantage after an excellent attack down the left hand side and finish by their striker. STA gathered themselves at half-time were the dominant side in the second half, two quick second half goals by Kaine and Andreas Z put STA right back in the game. STA pushed for an equaliser, but Wren defended superbly well. Congratulations to Wren on the victory. STA play Ark Academy on Monday in the borough knock-out cup.





Year 7 Football

Our Year 7 team delivered an exceptional performance of the season to beat Ark Academy 1-0 and secure a place in the semifinals of the Plate Cup. The game's only goal came from a moment of magic by Miguel. After receiving the ball through, he embarked on an electrifying solo run coolly finishing in the bottom corner past the goalkeeper. The victory was built on a rock-solid defence. Lis played a pivotal role by dropping back to bolster the defence, while Kamil's relentless running in midfield ensured Ark Academy struggled to build any momentum. Isaiah and Max were stalwarts in defence, constantly positioning themselves to block shots. However, it was goalkeeper Avash who stole the headlines with an unbelievable man of the match performance, making numerous crucial saves to preserve the clean sheet. Our team's grit and teamwork were key, and with this kind of form, hopes are high as we head into the semifinals.

Mr Fowlie | Teacher of PE



"BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER, FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER, AS GOD FORGAVE YOU."

After the recent success of girls football across multiple year groups, the PE Department are looking forward to the prospect of girls rugby. After showing excellent promise in lessons earlier this year, the Year 9 girls will be receiving coaching sessions from Saracens Rugby Club over the course of the half term. The sessions started in earnest on Monday with students focusing on the key techniques of passing, receiving and movement. Special mention to Scarlett R, Tia, Sofia L and Angela impressing the coaches in the first session.

Mr Browell |Head of PE & Year 11





How do you know what your child is learning at school?

Here at STA, we care about your interest in what your children are learning, and we take seriously our responsibility to make you aware of what your child will be learning during the year. Therefore, all the relevant information about the Term 4 learning can be found on our website. Just follow the <u>this link</u>.

Here you can find an overview of what your child will learn, the title of the assessment, and a brief list of the most important keywords. You will also find relevant websites which can support your child's learning. We update this site when changes are needed to support learning. So please always consult the website for the most up-to-date version.

In this way, we hope that you will always feel well-informed about what your child is learning at school. Please do take a few minutes over half-term to look at the website with your children and get a sense of what is coming up in Term 4. It could make all the difference to the quality of conversations over the next six weeks!

You might even feel inspired to seek out TV programmes to watch or museums to visit, related to the upcoming learning, over the holiday. Whatever you do, we wish you a restful and enjoyable break and look forward to welcoming your children back ready for an exciting term of learning ahead.

Ms Malakouna and Ms Helan | Curriculum Deputy Headteacher.



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07 March 2025

unifrog

Virtual Work Experience Opportunities on Unifrog

All students have access to Unifrog, our online careers platfrom in school. As part of their offer, Unifrog offer several opportunities for students to get involved in Virtual Work Experience.

On Thursday 6 March, the Institution of Mechanical Engineering is running a session, where they will be joined by experts from IMEchE members, Redbull and the Olympic GB Cycling team, the International Society for Snowsport Safety and IDA Sports. Students will get advised on how to approach some of the tasks on our VWEX course, first-hand knowledge of sports engineering, product research and development, and hear from a professional cyclist who leads an engineering unit at Red Bull.

Students in Key Stage 4 and 5 who are interested should follow the link below and sign up for free.

Series Virtual Work Experience - Webinars - Teacher - Unifrog

School Based Tuition



Give Music a Go! Instrumental Lessons – Summer Term 2025 🞜

Dear Parents, Ever thought about how learning an instrument could open doors for your child's future? Not only is it fun, but it can also give them an advantage if they decide to take GCSE Music later on and even boost their UCAS university applications in the future!

That's why we're thrilled to announce that bookings for Summer Term 2025 instrumental lessons are now open! Your child can try 10 lessons with no long-term commitment if they love it, they can continue. If not, they've gained a great experience!

No deadline, but places are limited! Lessons will be offered where spaces are available, so don't miss out!

New to Music Lessons?

Getting started is easy! Just visit this link:

Here, you can register and apply for lessons.

School Based Tuition - Barnet Education Arts Trust

Lessons are available on a range of instruments including: violin, cello, flute, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, drum kit, guitar (classical, folk, electric, and bass), piano, keyboard, brass, tabla and voice (the instruments offered by your school may vary). All BEAT teachers are fully DBS checked and their teaching is regularly monitored....beatrust.org.uk

Terms and Conditions - Barnet Education Arts Trust

Let's make Summer 2025 a musical one! 💕 🕻

St Andrew the Apostle School - A high-achieving Christian School for Barnet and beyond





"BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER, FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER, AS GOD FORGAVE YOU."

Maths and Reading Leaderboard

	drfrostmaths.com	
Rank	Student	Total Mastery
	Kavin Y11	22568
2	Sofia Y11	18268
3	Zara 11	17380
	Teshan Y11	16426
5	Luca Y11	16417
	Katina Y10	16235
	Yianni Y11	15737
8	Savan Y11	15189
	Anna-Maria Y11	13936
10	Nicholas Y11	13927

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

Rank	Student	Total Mastery		
Year 7				
1	Teshan	16426		
2	Ayaz	6997		
3	Dominic	6565		
Year 8				
1	Aurelia	9753		
2	Tia	9562		
3	Zoe	8823		
Year 9				
1	Andreas	12342		
2	Sufyaan	11421		
3	Alaya	11188		
Year 10				
1	Luca	16417		
2	Anna Maria	13936		
3	Hana	13313		
Year 11				
1	Kavin	22568		
2	Sofia	18268		
3	Zara	17380		
Year 12				
1	Savan	14874		
2 3	Christos	12227		
3	Theo	11446		
Year 13				
1	Gabriella	12450		
2	Natalia	11803		
3	Giorgio	8732		

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

Mr Dogan | Head of Maths & Business studies

Sparx Reader

Rank	Student	Total SRP
1	Dominic	27581
2	Anu	22543
3	Wealth	20202
4	Moyosoreoluwa	17555
5	Teshan	15631
6	Olivia	6464
7	Paria	6338
8	Anaya	6212
9	Idrees	5662
10	Michelle	4095

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

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

We are very pleased that many of our students exceed this target every week, with some top scorers achieving well above a thousand points a week. Since the launch of Sparx Reader a month ago, our KS3 students have completed amazing 3394 hours of careful reading and read altogether 1 books so far. Truly well done!

Rank	Student	Total SRP		
Year 7				
1	Dominic	27581		
2	Wealth	20202		
3	Moyosoreoluwa	17555		
Year 8				
1	Anu	22543		
2	Olivia	6464		
3	Anaya	6212		
Year 9				
1	Paria	6338		
2	Michelle	4095		
3	Prajeeth	4069		

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

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Mrs Bassington | Head of English

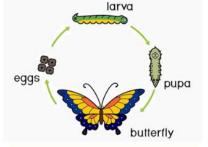


Root Word of the week

meta (Greek) = beyond / change

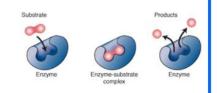
<u>Metamorphic</u> (a type of rock formed by changes in heat and pressure).





<u>Meta</u>morphosis (a change in appearance, character or physical shape). <u>Metabolism</u> (the sum of the chemical reactions in the body where reactants are changed into products).

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The UCAS Personal Statement is changing

Everything you need to know

The Ucas Personal Statement is Changing

INVESTIN

UCAS have recently amended the personal statement format from one longer essay to three structured questions, affecting all students applying to a UK university from next year onward.

InvestIN are running a free, interactive webinar led by experts, on everything you need to know about this change and how to ensure your application stands out in this new format.



Free webinar for students & parents: The UCAS Personal Statement is Changing

UCAS have recently amended the personal statement format from one longer essay to three structured questions, affecting all students applying to a UK university from next year onward.

To help you navigate these changes, InvestIN is hosting a free, interactive webinar led by experts, covering everything you need to know to make your application stand out.

We strongly encourage Year 11 and Year 12 students to attend to gain valuable insights on the new format and learn what skills and experiences you should develop to craft strong responses.

Date & Time: 26th March, 6-7pm

Online - Register here

If you cannot attend live, please register to automatically receive the recording.

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"BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER, FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER, AS GOD FORGAVE YOU."







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JOIN THE CLASS OF 2025!

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

... IS LOOKING FOR BRILLIANT BAKERS, AGES 9-15 FOR THE NEXT NEW AND EXCITING SERIES!

> APPLICATIONS CLOSE SUNDAY 23RD MARCH

APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK



Update BACE Spring 2025 and Positive Activities Holidays

We are fast approaching this coming Spring Term Holiday (Easter) by which **BACE** will be providing camps across the borough with **funded spaces** for those on **benefit related FSM (pupil premium)**. Please note several of the BACE providers are now Ofsted registered, and advertising paid spaces for those who do not qualify for funded spaces. Parents who claim universal tax credits may be able to claim back some of the costs of these camps, when booking one of the advertised Ofsted registered providers.

Booking for the funded spaces, must be made via <u>Barnet Youth – Child and Family Early Help Service - BACE Holidays - BACE Holidays</u> Any spaces book via the providers own website will be charged as advertised. Parent's must provide their child's 16-digit e-voucher code, to ensure their child's booking is secure. Any bookings without 16-digit vouchers, are subject to being cancelled by the administrative team.

16-digit voucher codes will be issued via schools, as per the school pupil premium list as normal. Please note, schools can refer a further 15% of non-free school meal children who are vulnerable. This would include those who do not have recourse to public funds, looked after children, parents experiencing emotional trauma and hardship. Please refer those who do not fall into these categories and in receipt of universal credits to a paid space. Note: you can refer 1 child for every 10-benefit related FSM school.

We also are delivering the Positive Activities Holiday programme **eligible for all children living or attending school** in the London Borough of Barnet. Positive Activities will provide a series activities over the 2 weeks holiday. (Lunch is not provided). The activities must be booked via <u>Barnet Youth – Child and Family Early Help Service - Positive Activities - Positive Activities</u>.

The 16-digit e-voucher codes, and bookings and the BarnetYouth E-Magazine, go live on Friday 7 March 2025, published booklets will follow.

If you wish to make a referral for a child to receive a code and wish us to issue this on your behalf, please complete the following form: <u>https://forms.office.com/e/C2fCNEjsPZ</u> Deadline for referrals 04 April 2025 – when all BACE bookings will be closing.

If you have any questions relating to BACE or PA please do not hesitate to contact us.

Charlene Townsend | Early Help Services



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07 March 2025

Unifrog Event: Forensic Science

Unifrog event signup





Becoming a forensic scientist: what it's really I For students

Forensic science has revolutionised the way we investigate and solve crime field of criminal justice. In this webinar, join Professor Ian Turner from the learn about the latest advancements in forensic science, including exciting techniques and technologies. Through practical case studies, you'll discove be a forensic scientist.

All students have a login to Unifrog. This login allows them to build a personality and careers profile and offers free online work experience and virtual seminars. In this seminar students will be taught by Professor Ian Turner from the University of Derby.

Wednesday 12 March 2025

🕧 5.30pm



BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents and Carers An Online Parent/Carer Training Course A comprehensive online training and support programme for parents and carers of children aged 6-19, with a diagnosis of Autism.

This course is available free of charge to families living in Barnet. A 6session online training course, covering topics including:

• An overview of what it means for your child to be Autistic.

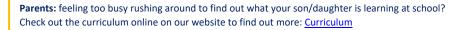
- Communication.
- Sensorv needs.
- Understanding emotional regulation/'behaviour'.

This course also gives parents and carers an opportunity to meet each other and share experiences. Please do not sign up if you have already attended this course, or the Cygnets Course.

> **BACPAC: Barnet Autism Course for Parents And Carers** Spring Term 2025 (Two). A 6-session evening course

Dates and times: Monday 24th Feb. 6.30-8.00pm Monday 3rd March 6.30-8.00pm Monday 10th March 6.30-8.00pm Monday 17th March 6.30-8.00pm Monday 24th March 6.30-8.00pm Monday 31st March 6.30-8.00pm Sign up here: https://forms.office.com/e/cuNZHsdSnE

For any enquires please email Autism.Team@barnet.gov.uk with 'BACPAC course' as the subject.



Click here to view all Extracurricular club's schedule





barnet voung carers WEDNESDAY 12TH MARCH 2025

WE WILL BE HOLDING TWO ONLINE DROP-IN SESSIONS FOR INFORMATION AND ADVICE

12-1PM FOR PARENTS AND CARERS WHO LIVE OR MAY LIVE WITH A YOUNG CARER/S - ADVICE AND INFORMATION ON ALL SERVICES AVALIABLE AND THE HELP AND SUPPORT WE OFFER.

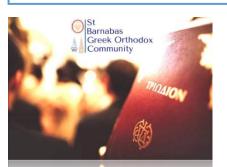
Join through the zoom link below

Barnet Young Carers Parent Carers Drop-in

Meeting ID: 971 1789 8837 Passcode: 852753 4-5PM FOR PROFESSIONALS WITH INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON WORKING AND HELPING TO IDENTIFY YOUNG CARERS WITHIN YOUR ROLE.

Join through the Teams link below

Barnet Young Carers Professional Drop-in Delivered by: Sandra Langham – Schools Manager Maivel Rodriguez- Head of Development and strategic engagement



THE LENTEN TRIODION A new series of talks interpreting and discussing the services, traditions and spiritual opportunities offered throughout the liturgical journey towards Pascha

Τὸ Τριώδιο Μια καινούργια σειρά πνευματικών ομιλιών, ερμηνεύοντας και ουζητώντας τις ακολουθίες και την παράδοση της Εκκλησίας, πορευόμενοι προς την Ανάσταση

ery Monday evening at **18:30**, at the Cathedral of the Dormition of Theotokos, Wood Green N22 8LB. Commencing from *Monday* 17th ruary. All are welcome. 215



Designated Safeguarding Leads Click for more information

o Maximo

Download the

Studybugs app

for reporting your

child's absence.

Studybugs 👽



Mrs Viala Miss Walt

Mrs Poole