

04 April 2025



### Year 8 Mixed NFL Flag Tournament

This week our Year 8 boys and girls competed in their first-ever NFL Flag tournament, and they delivered an outstanding performance that earned them the silver medal and a spot at the regional finals, where they will proudly represent Barnet.

The squad, made up of Tiana, Monroe, Matheos, Kimia, Myna, Dominic, Jai, and Alexi, demonstrated incredible teamwork, determination, and skill throughout the competition. Jai, taking charge as quarterback, showed exceptional leadership, guiding the team with confidence and making smart decisions under pressure. Tiana and Monroe stood out with their explosive runs, breaking through defences and gaining valuable yards and touchdowns for the team. Matheos and Myna impressed with their safe hands and excellent catches, keeping the offense moving and creating scoring opportunities. On the defensive side, the entire squad showed commitment and discipline, with their all-round tagging making it difficult for opponents to find space.

The team's hard work and determination paid off as they secured second place in a closely contested final, earning a well-deserved opportunity to compete at the regional level. With their impressive debut performance, this talented group is ready to take on the challenge of representing Barnet in the upcoming regional tournament. We're excited to see how far they can go in the next stage!



04 April 2025

As we approach the Easter break, I do hope that you are well. It has been a busy and exciting term, and I want to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the highlights from the past week and look ahead to the next term.

One of the most exciting events last week was our visit to the new school site. It was fantastic to see the progress being made, and I know that both staff and students were impressed with the facilities that will soon be available to us. Many of our students have been talking about the visit in school, sharing their excitement about the opportunities this new space will bring. It is wonderful to see such enthusiasm, and we are looking forward to the final stages of this building work. The 4G full sized football pitch will have a carpet laid towards the end of May, for example. Much work for us all to do to prepare for this, but we are very much looking forward to seeing our new home move to completion.

We also had the privilege of attending our Easter services at St Katherine’s Church, which were beautiful. It was a time for reflection and celebration, and I want to extend my thanks to Father Damien for leading the services. These moments of togetherness and spiritual reflection are an important part of our school community, and it was lovely to see so many students engaging in the services with reverence. Click [here](#) to view a short video of the visit

A big thank you as well to all the parents who took the time to complete the survey on mobile phone use this week. Your feedback is invaluable as we continue to ensure that our school procedures and policy support both learning and student well-being. We will be reviewing the results carefully and considering any necessary adjustments.

As we head into the Easter break, I want to remind our Year 10 and 11 students that this is a crucial time for revision. With mid-course and GCSE assessments approaching, all students need to make good use of their time over the holiday to consolidate their learning. A balance of rest and focused study will be key in ensuring they return feeling prepared and confident. Teachers have provided guidance and resources to support their revision, and I urge students to take advantage of these and parents and carers to check that students are working hard.

Finally, I want to wish all our families a restful and joyful Easter break. Whether you are spending time with loved ones, travelling, or simply taking the opportunity to relax, I hope that this holiday brings you peace and rejuvenation. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the summer term, refreshed and ready for the exciting challenges ahead.

Christopher Martin | Headteacher

#### Upcoming Key Dates and Information

- **Friday 4 April** – End of Term – Students leave at 12.35pm
- **Tuesday 22 April** – Students back to school
- Click [here](#) to access **Term Dates**

#### Faith and Values in Our School Community

As we approach the final days of Lent and prepare to celebrate the joy of Easter, I want to take a moment to reflect on the past week and the values that continue to guide our school community.

First, I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Father Damien for his inspiring service at St Katherine’s Church. His wisdom, warmth, and spiritual leadership are a blessing to us all, and we deeply appreciate the time and dedication he gives to our school and his parish. Our recent services have been a wonderful opportunity for students to come together in prayer and reflection, strengthening their faith as we journey towards Holy Week.

During this Lenten period, we also remember the life of **Saint Mary of Egypt**, a powerful example of repentance, transformation, and faith. Once lost in a life of sin, she experienced a profound spiritual awakening and devoted the rest of her life to God in the desert. Her story is a testament to the power of humility, perseverance, and divine grace.

At our school, the value of **respect** is central to all we do. Saint Mary’s journey teaches us the importance of respecting ourselves, our faith, and the transformative power of God’s love. Just as she found a new path through faith and humility, we encourage our students to show respect in their daily lives—towards their peers, teachers, and the world around them.

May this season of reflection and renewal bring peace and spiritual growth to all our families.

Wishing you a blessed Holy Week and a joyful Easter.





04 April 2025

## U16 Boys progress to Borough Cup Finals

In a thrilling borough cup semi-final match, St Andrew's Year 9 team clinched a dramatic 4-3 victory over Ashmole, defying expectations against a renowned formidable school. The game kicked off with Ashmole taking the lead through a brilliant long-range effort, but STA quickly levelled the score. Maxim perfectly weighted through ball set up Alex, who shot past the goalkeeper to slot home to make it 1-1. Ashmole briefly regained their lead with a penalty, only for Alex to coolly convert a penalty of his own, sending the teams into halftime tied at 2-2.

In the second half, STA displayed immense determination, with Jayden and Jaasiel commanding the midfield, and Monroe adding impact from the bench. Alex, in sensational form, netted two more goals, completing his four-goal haul and securing a 4-2 advantage.

Although Ashmole pulled a goal back, the defence, bolstered by Dinari, Armelo and Loughran's steadfast performances, held firm through a nervy conclusion. This victory propels STA into the borough final, with hopes high for their first trophy win as a year group.

**Mr Fowlie | Teacher of PE**



## Year 11 Football

The footballing success continued on Tuesday with Year 11 boys football team booking their place in the borough cup final after beating local rivals Wren Academy 3-2 in a thrilling encounter. The side were seeking revenge against Wren after being beaten in the league final a few weeks previously. Captain Jayden made a welcomed return from injury and was inspirational throughout the entire match leading the side. STA took a deserved lead after excellent attacking play by Kyros and Angel before Kaine scored. Wren equalised before half time after a defence mix up from STA. 1-1 at the interval. STA regained the lead after a defence mix-up by Wren resulting in an own goal from a dangerous Jayden set piece. A second defensive error allowed Wren to score against the run of play. Wren took the momentum and looked the side which would win the match.

Excellent work by Kaine resulted in a free kick on the edge of the area with minutes remaining. Kyros took the free-kick and calmly slotted the ball under the wall and into the bottom right-hand corner. STA performance showed resilience, character and determination. Students voted Kaine and Kyros joint player of the match. The side progress into the final which will be played after the holidays. The result rounded off a fantastic week of football results for the school.

**Mr Fowlie | Teacher of PE**



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## Byzantine Choir

As part of our lead up to Easter and our ongoing commitment to faith and ethos, the St Andrew Byzantine Choir recently visited St Katherine’s Greek Orthodox Church to take part in a special school church service. This visit formed part of our school’s wider programme of spiritual and cultural engagement through music.

During the service, our choir performed selections from the Lamentations, or Engomia, which are a series of deeply moving hymns traditionally sung on Good Friday during the Orthodox Matins of Holy Saturday. These poetic verses, chanted in Ancient Greek, mourn the death of Christ while also pointing towards the hope of the Resurrection. Although usually reserved for Holy Week, our students had the rare opportunity to explore and share this powerful tradition in advance, as part of our educational and spiritual preparation for Easter.

The priest and congregation were visibly moved by the performance. In particular, the priest commented on the exceptional clarity and accuracy of the choir’s Ancient Greek pronunciation, which is no small achievement given the linguistic and musical complexity of the hymns.

Father Damien was so impressed that he extended a warm invitation to our choir to join the church’s own choir during the actual Paschal Easter services. This was a great honour and a testament to the respect and admiration our students earned through their preparation, musical skill, and reverence.

At St Andrew, we believe in nurturing the spiritual life of our students through meaningful, real-world experiences. This visit exemplified the powerful connection between faith, music, and cultural heritage, and we are proud of the role our choir continues to play in strengthening those values.

**Mr Lasithiotakis | Lead teacher of Music**



## Exploring Lent and Miss Lent Traditions

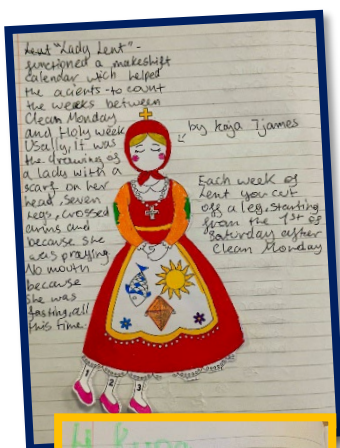
In our recent Year 7 Latin lesson, we discussed the traditions of Lent and how it was observed in the past. We explored the significance of this period as a time of reflection, fasting, and preparation for Easter. One of the most interesting traditions we learned about was *Miss Lent*, a symbolic figure used in some cultures to represent the weeks of Lent.

*Miss Lent* is often depicted as a doll or figure with seven legs, each one representing a week of Lent. Traditionally, one leg would be removed each week to mark the countdown to Easter. This creative way of keeping track of the Lenten season helped people stay mindful of their journey toward Easter Sunday.

In class, we designed our own *Miss Lent* in our books, using our imagination to create different versions of this historical figure. Some of us drew traditional designs, while others gave *Miss Lent* a modern twist! It was a fun and creative way to connect with an old tradition while deepening our understanding of Lent.

We look forward to exploring more fascinating cultural and historical topics in our Latin lessons!

**Miss Ntaountaki | Teacher of Greek & Latin**





04 April 2025



**BBC Young Reporter – Eastenders 40-year Celebration**

Because of our links with BBC Young Reporter programme, Apostle News journalists were invited to a very exciting event on Friday 21 March at the LMA [Love Media. Love Music. Love Arts – a third level campus in Hackney co-owned by Robbie Williams] to celebrate 40 years of the BBC’s iconic soap opera Eastenders.

At this wonderful event Apostle News journalists, Media, Drama and English students from Years 9 to 10 got to learn more about the soap, what it’s like working in TV and the chance to meet some of the production team, and even a couple of cast members.

It was a great experience for our students and for us teachers too, to connect with people from the BBC and an opportunity for them to learn more about what goes on behind the scenes of one of the longest running soaps in the country. They also learned the skills and insights into different careers in the creative industry.

*“It was both educational and enjoyable, we appreciated participating in such an inclusive event.” Alex Year 10*

The event was a series of 4 masterclasses and talks (Q&As) covering:  
Writing – the script-writing process  
Content creating – how to use social media to engage audiences  
Acting – what it’s like creating that duff duff moment  
Production – the behind the scenes team that make ‘it’ happen.

*“It was really fun and it was quite an eyeopener regarding the acting industry.” Parmis, Year 10*

What was great was that as well as hearing the workings of making a programme, the students got to make their own videos, act out improvised typical soap opera scenes, meet the actors, question the BAFTA award-winning script writer who actually wrote the recent live show.

*“I found that it was a really amazing experience for me and I got to learn all about the behind the scenes of Eastenders. I would happily go again.” Isabella, Year 10*

It was just fantastic and you can read more about it in the next edition of Apostle News.

**Miss Casey and Ms Gomez Castro**



*“I enjoyed the BBC trip; it was brilliant meeting the Eastender actors and award-winning scriptwriter. And the challenges, we experienced making a video and telling a story...it was a new experience where I learned new things.” Arghavan, Year 10*





04 April 2025

## UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge

The Maths department is delighted to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our Year 9 and Year 10 students in this year's UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. These talented students embraced the challenge with enthusiasm, showcasing their problem-solving skills and mathematical reasoning.

As maths teachers, we are committed to fostering a passion for mathematics, encouraging our students to think critically and approach complex problems with confidence. The UKMT Maths Challenges provide an excellent platform for students to develop precision in their thinking, fluency in mathematical techniques, and a deeper appreciation for the subject.

Participating in such competitions not only enhances students' problem-solving abilities but also inspires them to explore further studies in mathematics and related disciplines. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments and look forward to seeing even more students take on this challenge in the future!

Well done to all participants—keep striving for excellence in mathematics!

**Miss Sorgente | Deputy Head of Maths**



## Year 12 Scientists Excel in UK Bebras Challenge

Congratulations to our Year 12 Scientists who competed in the Seniors group of the UK Bebras Challenge. This prestigious competition involved an online assessment designed to test their computational skills through a series of challenging, logic-based questions.

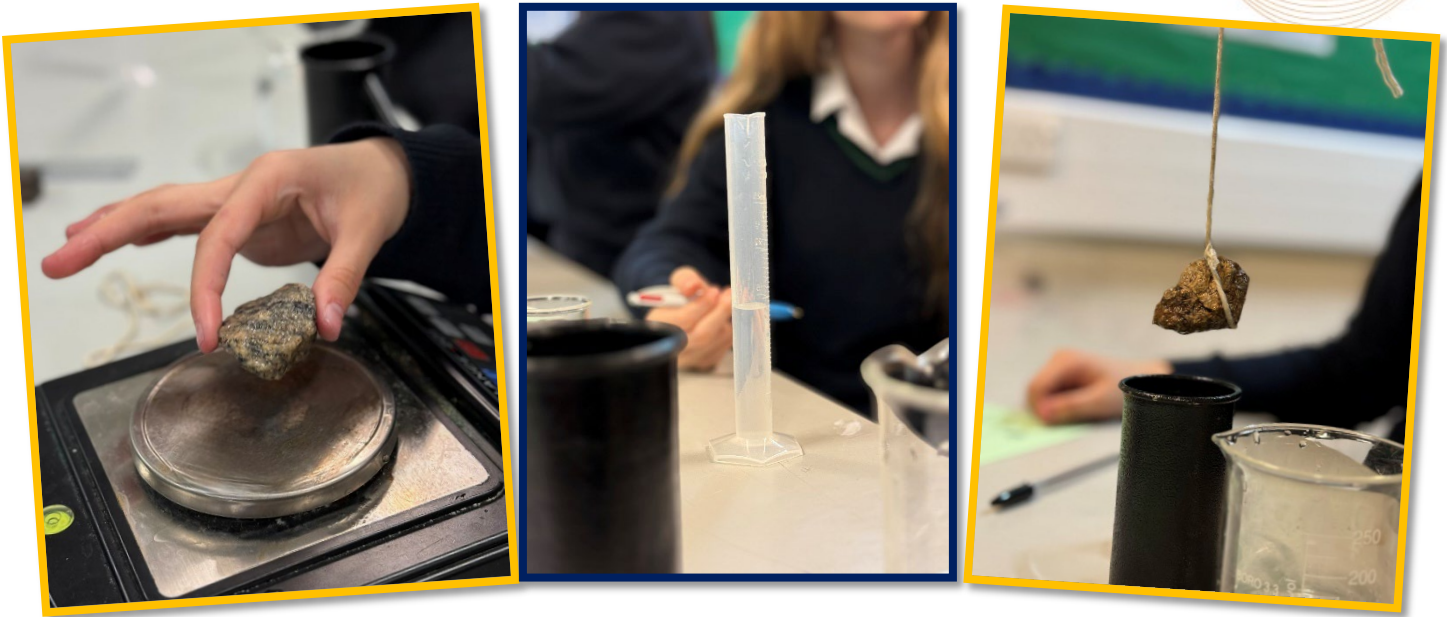
We are immensely proud of the students' achievements, including a high number of Distinction and Merit awards. Their outstanding performance reflects their dedication and problem-solving skills.

**Miss Msrar | Head of Science**





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## Year 9 Scientists Explore Archimedes' Principle

Year 9 Science students recently participated in a hands-on experiment to determine the volume of irregular objects, such as rocks, using a Eureka can. By observing the displacement of water, students calculated the objects' volumes, applying the same principle utilised by Archimedes in his historic effort to measure the volume of a crown and ascertain its purity.

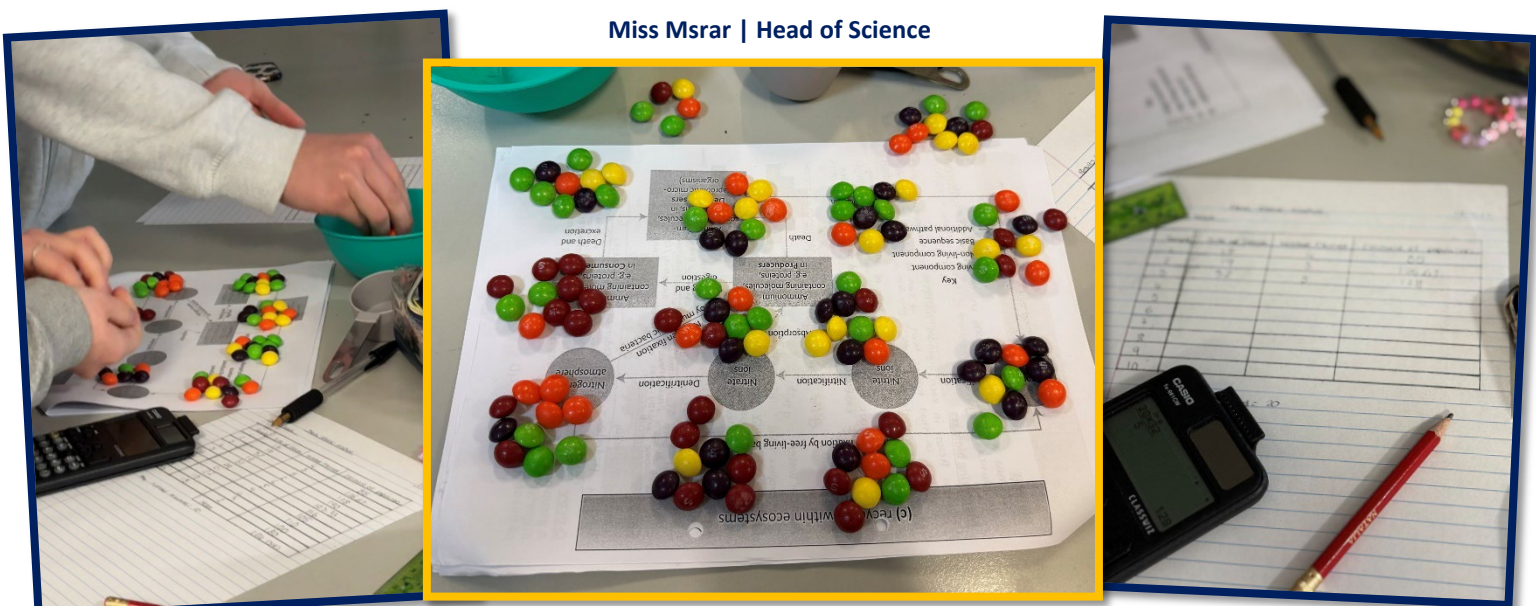
This practical activity provided students with a deeper understanding of Archimedes' principle and its significance in scientific inquiry, whilst enhancing their measurement and analytical skills.

## Year 13 Biology Students Demonstrate Precision in Capture-Mark-Recapture Methodology

The Year 13 Biology cohort recently undertook a practical exercise to study the capture-mark-recapture sampling technique—a method widely employed in ecological research to estimate population sizes. In this instance, Skittles were used as a representation of the population under investigation.

Students meticulously prepared their data tables in accordance with the OCR checklist, ensuring the completion of a key CPAC skill. Following the collection and recording of data, calculations were performed to estimate the total "population" of Skittles within each bag. The experiment yielded remarkably accurate results, with one group arriving within one Skittle of the actual count!

## Miss Msrar | Head of Science





04 April 2025



## Year 10 Design Technology

Year 10 are very close to completing their Lamp project, inspired by a place of interest! We have some wonderful outcomes to show you after Easter!

Ms Ayres | Head of Art & DT



## Year 8 Design Technology

Year 8 have been completing their Trinket box project with painting and adding decoration techniques. With Mother's Day last Sunday, some have made them as gifts! Well done Year 8!

Ms Ayres | Head of Art & DT





04 April 2025

## Maths and Reading Leaderboard



School Rank	Points This Year
131 <sup>st</sup>	2,229,203

Rank	Student	Total Mastery
1	Kavin Y11	22858
2	Sofia Y11	18393
3	Anna-Maria Y11	18053
4	Zara Y11	17696
5	Teshan Y11	17496
6	Luca Y10	17306
7	Katina Y11	16384
8	Yianni Y11	15770
9	Savan Y11	15579
10	Angelo Y10	15214

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	17496
2	Ayaz	7528
3	Dominic	7138
Year 8		
1	Aurelia	10657
2	Zoe	9977
3	Tia	9869
Year 9		
1	Andreas	12757
2	Sufyaan	12226
3	Alaya	11728
Year 10		
1	Anna Maria	18053
2	Luca	17306
3	Angelo	15214
Year 11		
1	Kavin	22858
2	Sofia	18393
3	Zara	17696
Year 12		
1	Savan	15579
2	Christos	12957
3	Theo	12126
Year 13		
1	Gabriella	12782
2	Natalia	11844
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	126204
2	Teshan	109285
3	Anu	87000
4	Ella	56832
5	Wealth	48874
6	Moyosoreoluwa	47659
7	Mark	34509
8	Olivia	32483
9	Wonder	30310
10	Anaya	29192

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 4272 hours of careful reading and read altogether 1 books so far. Truly well done!

Rank	Student	Total SRP
Year 7		
1	Dominic	126204
2	Teshan	109285
3	Wealth	48874
Year 8		
1	Anu	87000
2	Ella	56832
3	Mark	34509
Year 9		
1	Alaya	26631
2	Michelle	25249
3	Paria	19974

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

Mrs Bassington | Head of English





## Revision of Core Literature Texts Through Theatre Productions

Watching ‘Romeo and Juliet’ or ‘An Inspector Calls’ live is a great way of revising the texts and getting an insight into different interpretations of them. Students tend to remember the plays more thoroughly and have more insightful responses if they see and hear it being performed on stage.

The following theatre productions of English Literature GCSE texts that are available in London this spring:

### ‘Romeo and Juliet’ production:

Many Year 10 students are already attending our English trip to see ‘Romeo and Juliet’ at Hackney Empire on 24 April; however, if your child is not attending, there are still tickets available for some evening performances; please follow this link to find out more: [Romeo and Juliet | Hackney Empire](#)

### ‘An Inspector Calls’:

Stephen Daldry production is back in London at New Wimbledon Theatre between 27-31 May 2025. Please follow this link to find out more: [An Inspector Calls Tickets | New Wimbledon Theatre in Greater London | ATG Tickets](#)

**Mrs Bassington | Head of English**

## Apprenticeship Opportunities

FM Conway is a leading construction and infrastructure services company, specialising in providing a wide range of services including highways maintenance, civil engineering, and surfacing, as well as providing solutions for environmental and waste management.

We’re continually exploring apprentice opportunities within the business, with a regular intake joining us in September. Apprentices are placed across various roles within the company, working towards qualifications ranging from Level 2 to Level 6. Alongside their studies, our internal apprentice development programme has been designed to support the transition from education to the workplace, while offering continuous development opportunities for the apprentice as they advance in their careers.

As a business, we actively push the fantastic career opportunities that the construction industry offers and are always looking at ways to encourage young people to consider and experience the world of construction, including within our head office functions. The Conway Week is a predetermined **work experience week** available twice a year (once in Sevenoaks and once at a London location) to students aged 14 – 18. Each week provides up to 15 places for young people to follow a business orientation programme that includes site visits, careers information workshops, and work ready skills training.

For further details on any of our early career opportunities, please contact [Talent@fmconway.co.uk](mailto:Talent@fmconway.co.uk).

**Miss Walt | Acting Assistant Headteacher**



## Barnet Youth

Spring 2025



**Free Spring Camps and Activities**

**Free trips to**  
Laser Quest, Flip Out and Theatre

**Fun Days**  
Science Shows, Magic Shows and Nerf battles

**Volunteering**  
Could you be a Holiday Activity Volunteer?

[barnetyouth.uk](http://barnetyouth.uk)

Caring for people, our places and the planet

BACE Holidays: Fully funded by the Department for Education

## GROW HOLIDAY CLUB

FREE at the GROW Farm

For free school meal & looked-after children

**Ages 9-13**

**Monday 14th - Thursday 17th April 10am-2pm**

Farm activities & games  
Harvesting & cooking  
Chicken care  
Seed sowing  
And more!

[Sign up here](#)

[www.wearegrow.org](http://www.wearegrow.org) / @wearegrow

The GROW Farm, The Totteridge Academy



**MONDAY**  
**7th APRIL**  
**St Barnabas**  
**Wood Green**

**Ομιλία Καθηγουμένου Ιεράς Μονής Τιτίου Προδρόμου**  
**Εσσεξ, Αρχιμ. Πέτρου**  
*Εν όψει της Αγίας & Μεγάλης Εβδομάδας*

**Talk by Archim. Petros**, Abbot of the Monastery of St John the Baptist Essex  
*Ahead of Holy Week*

Η ακολουθία του Μ. Αποδείτνου θα τελεσθεί στον **Ι.Ν. Αρ. Βαρνάβα** στις **18:30** και θα ακολουθήσει η ομιλία.

The Great Compline will take place at **St Barnabas** at **18:30** followed by the talk.



## Barnet's Local Area SEND and AP Partnership Annual Survey for Parents and Carers

**Aims of the survey:**

- To hear from parents and carers of young people in Barnet with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and/or in alternative provision (AP).
- To help services in your local area understand what is working well and how we can improve support for children and young people.
- Redistributing this survey on an annual basis will help to identify whether responses to your suggestions for improvement have been effective.

*The survey will be open until Friday 25th of April*  
*Thank you for taking the time to share your valuable feedback*

[Click here for a link to the survey.](#)

**Or scan the QR code**

Caring for people, our places and the planet

[www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk)

**It's OK to talk**

## bics

Supporting Children and Young People's Wellbeing and Mental Health Service

**BICS FAMILY MINDS WORKSHOPS**

Workshop	Date/Time	Sign-Up Link
BICS Family Minds: Understanding Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA)	Date: Wednesday 30 April 2025 Time: 12:00pm to 2:00pm	<a href="#">BICS Family Minds: Understanding Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA) Tickets, Multiple Dates   Eventbrite</a>
BICS Family Minds: Understanding and Managing Anxiety Workshop	Part 1: Wednesday 4 June 2025 Time: 12:00pm - 13:30pm  Part 2: Wednesday 11 June 2025 Time: 12:00pm - 13:30pm	<a href="#">BICS Family Minds: Understanding and Managing Anxiety Workshop Tickets, Multiple Dates   Eventbrite</a> <b>Please ensure that you sign up for both dates</b>

**Download the Studybugs app**  
for reporting your child's absence.

A quick and secure way to report absence due to illness and send messages to school.

[Download on the App Store](#)  
[GET IT ON Google Play](#)

**Studybugs**

**Barnet SENDIASS** will be holding an in-person information session for parents/carers of children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities who attend a Barnet setting on: -  
**Date:** Tuesday 17 June 2025 **Time:** 10:00am to 12:30pm  
**Location:** London Borough of Barnet Colindale Office **Presenters:** Autism Advisor Team  
**Theme:** The Role of Autism Advisory Team in supporting autistic children and young people  
Registration details will be available soon. If you are interested in attending, please save the date in your diary. If you have any questions, please contact: [sendiass@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:sendiass@barnet.gov.uk)

**Parents:** feeling too busy rushing around to find out what your son/daughter is learning at school?  
Check out the curriculum online on our website to find out more: [Curriculum](#)

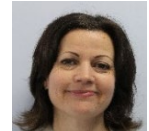


[Click here](#) to view all Extracurricular club's schedule

**Designated Safeguarding Leads**  
**Click for more information**



Miss Walt



Mrs Viala



Mrs Poole