

02 May 2025



French Connection!

Two Russell Education Trust Schools have collaborated over the past two years to support a sixth form student in her quest for an A Level in French. After doing brilliantly in her GCSEs at St Andrew the Apostle School, Myriam (pictured) wanted to stay at STA Sixth Form and study for her A Levels (including French). With Bristol Free School already having a cohort of students studying French, it offered to support Myriam and she has been studying French A Level online through Microsoft Teams for the past two years, ably assisted by the teachers at BFS.

However, Myriam had never met her classmates or her teachers in person. That was until 24 April when the schools arranged for Myriam to travel from her home in North London to Bristol Free School to visit the school, meet her classmates and have an in person double French A Level lesson!

Myriam said of her day, *"It was such a surreal experience finally meeting everyone face-to-face after two years of learning online. The opportunity to connect with my teachers and peers in person made the day truly special. Joining the French lesson and tackling exercises together with my classmates made me feel part of a wider school community. The kindness and hospitality I experienced at BFS made me feel completely at home. I'm incredibly grateful to STA for investing in my academic and personal growth and for reminding me that being part of this community means having the support of an incredible network of schools. It's opportunities like these that make our sixth form so special!"*

The students, her teachers and the whole school at BFS made her feel really welcome, and she had a great day, seeing another school in action and having an experience that will support her as she takes the steps to get ready for university next year.

The number of students studying languages at A Level is reducing year on year and both schools wanted to ensure this student had the opportunity to study French, a subject she would like to take forward at university.

We, at St Andrew, are extremely grateful for the support that Bristol Free School and its A Level French teachers, Mr Yacous and Ms Clavell, have given Myriam.

Well done Myriam for exhibiting the resilience to pursue your studies in this way; we are very proud of the person you are and thank you - again - to Bristol Free School and its staff for support an RET student from a far. We are definitely glad she got to meet you!

Mr Easton | Lead Adviser



Dear Parent and Carers,

It has been a really exciting time for our school community over the past few weeks. First, we congratulate our Year 10 students for completing their mid-course assessments with such dedication and maturity. The effort they have put into their studies has been clear to see. Their resilience, commitment, and focus reflect the high standards we expect in school. We could not be prouder.

Well done Year 10 — we look forward to seeing you build on this we move into our New Building where you will sit Mock 1 papers in November 2025.

We were also delighted to welcome students from Finchley Greek School to our campus this week as they completed their Greek Language speaking exams. It was wonderful to see so many young people embracing their heritage and striving for excellence in their studies. We were pleased to have hosted these students with their exam and extend our congratulations to all the students involved.

As part of our commitment to supporting not only academic excellence, but also the well-being of our students, I would like to share a brief reflection on a book that has sparked important conversations among our staff: [The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt](#). This book discusses how children are experiencing unprecedented levels of anxiety, much of which is linked to excessive smartphone and social media use. The book calls for changes in the way we support our young people, especially in schools. His research supports what many educators and parents have been observing — that young people need more opportunities for face-to-face connection, physical activity, and time away from screens.

With this in mind, we announced a change to our procedure on mobile phones, which reflects all of Barnet's School which are becoming smart phone free. From September 2025, smartphones will be banned on the school site. We believe our students deserve a digital break with time to focus fully on their learning and enjoy their school day with no distractions. I wrote to all parents this week with more details of this and with information on brick phones which will be allowed on site but turned off and in students' bags.

As always, we thank you for your ongoing support of our school to provide where our students can flourish in every way possible.

Wishing all our families a blessed and restful Bank Holiday weekend.

Christopher Martin | Headteacher

Upcoming Key Dates and Information

- Monday 6 May – May Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 7 May – Trip to Christ Church College – Horizon Programme
- Friday 9 May – GCSE Exams Begin
- Click [here](#) to access **Term Dates**

COUNTDOWN

DAYS

COMING

122

SOON

NEW BUILD



Faith and Values in Our School Community

Caring as a Core Value: Nurturing Hearts in Our School Community

At our Greek Orthodox school, one of our foundational values is *caring*. This principle is deeply rooted in our faith and educational philosophy, guiding us to foster a community where compassion, empathy, and kindness are paramount.

The story of Jacob from the Book of Genesis offers profound insights into the transformative power of caring. Jacob's journey—from deceiving his brother Esau to becoming a devoted patriarch—highlights the importance of personal growth and the impact of caring relationships. His reconciliation with Esau exemplifies forgiveness and the healing that comes from genuine care and concern for others.

In our school, we strive to emulate such virtues by encouraging students to support one another, recognize each other's struggles, and celebrate successes together. This environment nurtures not only academic excellence but also the development of compassionate individuals.

The Greek Orthodox tradition emphasizes the concept of *koinonia*, or fellowship, which underscores the importance of community and mutual support. By fostering a sense of belonging and interconnectedness, we aim to create a space where every student feels valued and cared for.

Parents play a crucial role in reinforcing these values at home. Engaging in family prayers, discussing stories like Jacob's, and encouraging acts of kindness can significantly impact a child's understanding and practice of caring. As highlighted by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, nurturing empathy and compassion in children helps them resist the self-centred tendencies prevalent in today's society and aligns them with the teachings of Christ.

02 May 2025

British Gymnastics

Individual Sporting Success

A huge well done to our Year 11 gymnast, Jana who competed in Newcastle this weekend at the British Open. Jana placed 1st and 3rd in her events. We are so proud of the way Jana has balanced her GCSE Exam preparation with training and competing at such an elite level. Jana has several competitions in the coming weeks, and we are excited to share the results with you.



A huge well done to our Year 8 student, Alice who competed in the British Open Apparatus competition.

Alice came 2nd for her hoop routine of out a total 13 girls.

Best of luck for future competitions girls!



02 May 2025



Achievement Stars

Congratulations to the Year 8 students for earning their gold and silver stars in assembly!

It's a testament to your hard work, dedication, and positive attitude. Keep shining bright and setting a great example for your peers!

Root word of the week

loc- [from **Latin**] meaning 'place'

Dis**loc**ate (put out of its normal place)



Local (relating to a specified place)

Locomotive (a powered vehicle used for pulling trains from one place to another.)



02 May 2025

Strategy Club Announcement: New Game Launch – Rummy (Rummikub)

Strategy Club is excited to announce the arrival of a new game: Rummy, also known as Rummikub!

Rummy is a tile-based game played with dominoes, similar to popular games like Rummikub and Conveyor Rummy. Much like card rummy, players aim to create sets or runs of dominoes, racing to be the first to finish their hand.

Our Year 11 and Year 7 students have already had a chance to try out the new game — and they’re looking forward to playing it again soon!

Come and join the fun!

Mr Dogan | Head of Maths



🎵 Calling All Young Musicians! Join the BEAT Youth Orchestra Summer Holiday Course 🎵

We’re excited to share an incredible opportunity for our young musicians this summer! The **BEAT Youth Orchestra Summer Holiday Course** is set to take place from **26th–28th August** at **artsdepot**, and it promises to be a truly inspiring musical experience.

This three-day course offers students the chance to:

- Develop their orchestral playing skills in a fun and supportive environment
- Rehearse and perform alongside like-minded young musicians
- Take part in a final concert to showcase their hard work and musical growth

Who can join?

The course is open to students in **Year 7 and above** who play an **orchestral instrument at Grade 5 standard or higher**.

Cost?

Thanks to generous subsidies from BEAT, **places on the course are FREE!** There is just a **£20 non-refundable registration fee** to secure your spot.

Don’t miss out on this fantastic musical opportunity!

Mr Lasithiotakis | Lead Teacher of Music

Live Music Make Music

YOUTH ORCHESTRA 3-DAY COURSE 2025

Free Course!
£20 Registration fee

- Ensemble-skill focused
- Diverse Repertoire
- Expert coaching
- Tutti & Sectionals
- Professional Performance

SIGN UP HERE!

Year 7 + Grade 5 +

Tuesday 26th - Thursday 28th August 2025

artsdepot, Nether Street, London N12 0GA

Sponsored and funded by: CHARITY NO. 182044 COMPANY NO. 850755 FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.BEATRUST.ORG.UK

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

02 May 2025

Maths and Reading Leaderboard



School Rank	Points This Year
114 th	2,363,734

Rank	Student	Total Mastery
1	Kavin Y11	22858
2	Sofia Y11	18517
3	Anna-Maria Y11	18476
4	Zara Y11	17696
5	Luca Y10	17579
6	Teshan	17488
7	Angelo Y10	16451
8	Katina Y11	16384
9	Yianni Y11	15812
10	Savan Y12	15662

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	17488
2	Ayaz	8109
3	Dominic	7097
Year 8		
1	Aurelia	10707
2	Tia	10101
3	Zoe	10002
Year 9		
1	Andreas	12857
2	Sufyaan	12160
3	Bowen	11886
Year 10		
1	Anna Maria	18476
2	Luca	17579
3	Angelo	16451
Year 11		
1	Kavin	22858
2	Sofia	18517
3	Zara	17696
Year 12		
1	Savan	15662
2	Christos	12982
3	Theo	12218
Year 13		
1	Gabriella	12782
2	Natalia	11877
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

Understanding and Managing Anxiety

CAMHS together with Barnet Educational Psychology Team are offering support to families of children who are having difficulty attending school due to emotional reasons.

This groups aims to support young people to manage emotions, particularly worries and anxiety.

Programme details

Structure:

This is a small group programme for year 7 students. A parent group will run at the same time.

Duration:

The programme is for 9 x sessions in total and runs weekly from May 21st– July 17th (excluding school holidays).

Timings:

It will run from 1pm– 3pm on Wednesdays.

Venue:

The Pavilion Study Centre (110 Meadway, High Barnet, EN4 5JX)

The goals of the programme are to:

- Increase confidence
- Reduce anxiety
- Reduce school avoidance
- Reduce family distress
- Improve peer relationships

The Programme has the following components:

- Understanding the nature of anxiety and what might contribute to it
- Learning strategies to manage anxiety
- Helping parents to support their child with their anxieties
- To create a plan to gradually overcome young-person’s anxiety
- Learning social skills, engaging with people and learning to interact confidently with peers.
- Learning strategies to build resilience

Start date is Wednesday 21st May 2025

Refreshments will be provided.

Rapee, R., Lynham, H., Schniering, C., Wuthrich, V., Abbott, M., Hudson, J. and Wignall, A (2006). Cool Kids’ Program.

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.

Miss Walt | Assistant Headteacher

02 May 2025



U18 FEMALE PLAYERS WANTED

Omonia Youth FC U18 Girls are currently looking for **players** to join their squad ready for **September 2025**.

If your daughter is interested and **currently** in years **11 or 12**, please contact us.

Training: Tuesdays at Enfield Powerleague 6:00 - 7:30pm

Contact: queries@omoniayouthfc.com

omoniayouthfc.com @omoniayouthfc @omoniayouthfc1994



PLAYERS WANTED

Omonia Youth FC are looking for **players** to join their various teams for the **2025/2026 season**

(Note: Age groups stated below are for this season)

Development Team: U6 & U7

Boys Teams: U8, U9, U11, U14(+GK)

Girls Teams: U8, U9, U10, U12, U18

Contact: queries@omoniayouthfc.com

omoniayouthfc.com @omoniayouthfc @omoniayouthfc1994



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

Caring for people, our places and the planet

BACE Holidays Fully funded by the Department for Education

Free SEND Independent Travel Training session

Tuesday 19 August 2025
10.15am – 11.50am OR
12.15pm – 1.50pm

Parents and carers, we would love to welcome you and your child(ren) to our fun and friendly summer travel training session taking place in Edgware on a private travelling bus!

Suitable for anyone with SEND, or those who may be particularly vulnerable or anxious whilst travelling on public transport, are independent or working towards independent travel and are aged 10 – 100.

Top travel tips will be shared in this interactive workshop, to help make travelling easier and safer.

Please contact road.safety@barnet.gov.uk for more information and a booking form.



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

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



BICS FAMILY MINDS WORKSHOPS

Workshop	Date/Time	Sign-Up Link
BICS Family Minds: Understanding and Managing Anxiety Workshop	Part 1: Wed 4 June 2025 Time: 12:00pm - 13:30pm Part 2: Wed 11 June 2025 Time: 12:00pm - 13:30pm	BICS Family Minds Please ensure that you sign up for both dates




PASCHAL YOUTH CELEBRATION

Πασχαλινή Συναξη Νέων

- Outdoor & Indoor Sports and Activities.
- Paschal Food and Traditions.
- Fellowship and Discussion.
- Free Orthodox Christian books and leaflets.

Including a Presentation and Q&A on the theme of "Keeping Safe" with a member of the Greek Cypriot Association of **The Metropolitan Police**

Tuesday 6th May 18:30
St Mary's Cathedral, N22 8LB



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.

[Google Play](#) [App Store](#)

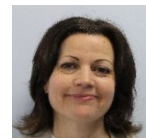
Studybugs

Designated Safeguarding Leads

Click for more information



Miss Walt



Mrs Viala



Mrs Poole