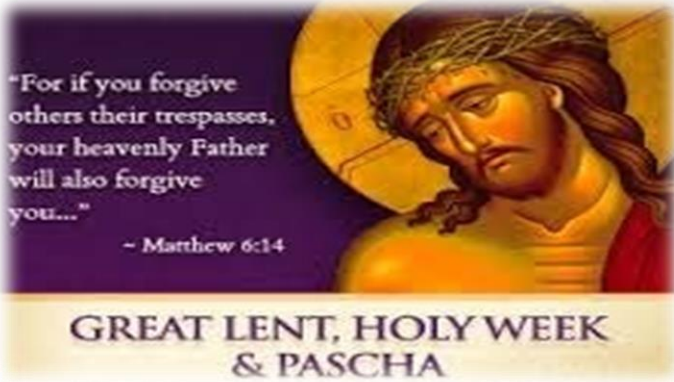




Headteacher's Update

26 March 2021

Key Messages



views will be available on the project website after the events standrewtheapostleplans.co.uk



Dear Parents and Carers

Many thanks for your continued support as we come to the end of our second full week altogether since our return from the national lockdown.

I have really enjoyed going into lessons and seeing excellent learning in action. The focus from all students across the full range of subjects highlights the thirst for learning that exists in our school. Our inclusive community ethos is evident at social times where no student is left out and happy faces abound. Our distinctive Greek Orthodox ethos can be seen every day at form time when we say our school prayer. Please [click here](#) to read more about how we celebrate our Christian faith and click here to hear [the prayer](#) that we listened to this week from Father John who is the priest in charge at St Demetrius Church.

I hope you will all be attending the webinar about the exciting plans we have for our new building. This will take place on **Tuesday 30th March 6.30 – 7.45pm**. If you would like to attend, please [click here](#) to register and pre-submit any questions.

If you are unable to attend, detailed information about the plans and a feedback form for you to share your



Finally, I would like to remind all parents/ carers that students in Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will be dismissed at 12.30pm on Thursday 1 April. Some students in Year 11 and Year 13 will remain in school for an hour to complete assessments or for intervention. Parents/ Carers will be notified in advance of the names of these students. All students will return for a normal start time of 8:30 on Monday 19 April.

With very best wishes,

Mrs I Warwick (Headteacher)



Pascha Easter – Sunday of Orthodoxy



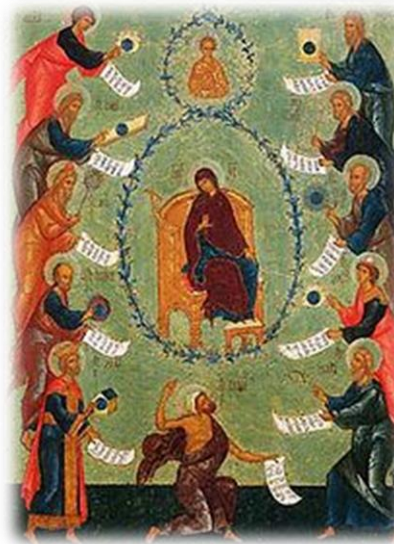
This week, the Orthodox Church also celebrated the Annunciation by Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that she should become the mother of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Icon depicting the Annunciation to the Theotokos (Virgin Mary) by the Archangel Gabriel

It is the day Archangel Gabriel announced the Incarnation of Christ, saying to the Theotokos (Virgin Mary), **“you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus”**. (Luke 1:31) Today we commemorate a sacred event when the love and will of God was made known to humankind. This holy Feast is a sacred event as the will of God was made known to humankind.

We sing the exclamation of the Virgin Mary, **“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour!”** (Luke 1:46-47).

We offer thanksgiving and praise to God for His marvellous works and His glorious revelation. Through the message of the Gospel, we affirm that joy greeted the Incarnation of our Lord; joy filled the hearts of the multitudes who received Him in faith and those who found hope; and joy compelled many to go forth to the ends of the world and proclaim the blessed and eternal life that comes through Christ and the Gospel.



Detail of the of the Akathist icon. The Theotokos (Virgin Mary) is shown enthroned in the centre, with Christ above her. To either side are shown the prophets who foretold the Incarnation

THE AKATHIST HYMN (ΧΑΙΡΕΤΙΣΜΟΙ) Sung during the Great Lenten Period

Detail of the of the Akathist icon. The Theotokos (Virgin Mary) is shown enthroned in the centre, with Christ above her. To either side are

On the Fridays of Great lent, a special service is sung, in the Orthodox Church. The service is the Akathist Hymn or more appropriately the “Χαίρετισμοί” The Akathist Hymn consists of 24 stanzas/verses and is divided into four parts, with each part sung on the four Fridays of Lent and then on the Fifth Friday the complete service is sung.

The hymn is made up of praises addressed to the Mother of God, each beginning with the salutation of the Archangel Gabriel Hail - “Χαίρε” which is why the hymn is called “Χαίρετισμοί” or Salutation. Its proper name of Akathist means “not sitting” and is so called because everyone should remain standing while it is sung. The hymn makes mention of all the main events connected with Christ’s incarnation beginning with the Annunciation to the Holy Virgin, all the events of the Nativity, the flight into Egypt and the Presentation of our Lord in the temple.

As our victorious leader of triumphant hosts, and our deliverer from evil we thy flock ascribe to thee, songs of thanksgiving O Mother of God. Inasmuch as thou hast invincible might, keep us free from every danger, that we may cry to thee, Hail, O Bride Unwedded.

Mr M Vassiliou (Senior Deputy Headteacher)

Student of the Week

Well done!

All students mentioned in the weekly Newsletter will receive 10 recognition points awarded by their form tutor.

Year 7: Anastasia S (7O) For her initiative to complete an independent project which she presented in Form Time. Well done, Anastasia! **Zara T (7E)** For getting the highest number of recognition points in the Year group, second week in a row! Amazing work, Zara!

Year 8: Marcus S (8A) For brilliant effort in Maths and History. **Maya D (8L)** For incredible effort and work in Maths.

Year 9: Zachary M (9H) For brilliant work in DT and English. **Gabriella B (9E)** For achieving 50 Recognition Points across the school.

Year 10: Elvis P (10A) Outstanding contribution to form time. **Nicos N (10N)** Hardworking in all lessons

Year 11: Alex MN (11L) Top achiever this week. **Renaldo M (11G)** Showed a high level of care toward his peers this week.

Sixth Formers of the Week

Year 12: Mihail G (12O) and **Matthew A (12A)** for supporting the school community.

Year 13: Jason D (13O) and **Paul V (13A)** for excellent effort across all subjects.

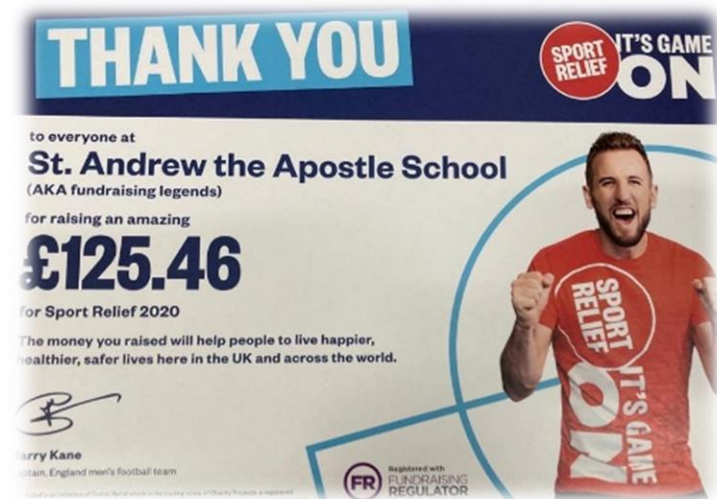
Please let us know of any accolades your child has achieved by emailing their Head of Year so we may celebrate them in future newsletters.

Sport Relief- certificate awarded



Sport Relief is the time, every two years, when the British public can get active, have fun and raise money and awareness, to help people living incredibly tough lives both in the UK and around the world.

Our fabulous fundraisers get sponsored for Sport Relief, and go the extra mile by organising sports tournaments, quizzes and challenges. St Andrew The Apostle School has proudly raised nearly £126 and will be used to help make a difference to the lives of millions across the UK and around the world. Thank you to everyone who participated and tried to make a positive change.



Opportunities for Student Leadership

We are increasing the number of opportunities for students to take up leadership positions in our school so that they can help to make a positive change. We will announce our student leadership team in this Newsletter soon.

Easter Themed Competitions



Coming to the end of term, Easter is upon us which means the celebration of Jesus' resurrection and the Individuals who fast for 40 days without meat or dairy during Lent. Easter marks the renewal of life and hope. Jesus' suffering upon the cross, is designed to teach us that he sacrificed his own life in order to forsake us of our own sins. During the Easter holiday, take part in these Easter themed competitions, helping you to understand and celebrate the holiday and have fun doing it!

Religious Easter Postcard



Tap into your creative side and take part in creating your own religious Easter postcard. The winning design will be printed, displayed around the school sent out to our local community in time for the Greek Orthodox Easter. Send your entries to:

admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk by Friday 23 April 2021.

Ultimate Easter Baking Competition



During Easter and Lent, baking can become a tradition within families and allows everyone to get involved. Why not try make your own Tsoureki (sweet bread) or Flaounes (Cypriot cheese-filled pastry) and show us your masterpieces? Send in your images to admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk by Friday 23 April 2021 and have a chance to win a great prize.

Egg Decorating

Easter eggs are the brightest symbol of Greek Easter. It is also very common to dye the eggs other colours, but red is the usual colour. Greek Easter eggs symbolise the sacrifice of Christ, the tradition of cracking the Greek



Easter eggs after 'Christ has risen', symbolises the resurrection from the dead and the new life. Take part in our Egg decorating competition and add creative details as you prefer.

Please bring your decorated Egg to the Chapel in Building 5 where it will be displayed and the best decorated Egg will win a prize. Make sure you have labelled your egg with your name and form. If you need any tips or recipes [click here](#) and try get some inspiration!

Deadline for the competition is on Friday 23 April 2021.

Candle Decorating



During Easter (Pascha) Greek Orthodox Christians are taught that candles symbolize what is known as the Light of God or the Light of Christ. In the Bible, Jesus said, "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). Orthodox Christians believe that without Jesus, we would be living in darkness. He came to the world to die on the cross to save us from our sins.

Bring in your amazing decorated candle designs to the Chapel in Building 5 and all entries will be displayed. Remember to label your candle with your name and form. The winning designs will receive an Easter prize. Entries must be submitted by Friday 23rd April 2021.

I, Write Competition 2021



I, Write is a science journalism contest organised by Imperial College's I, Science magazine. For all students in Years 10 - 13, we want to challenge students to think outside the box and consider where science can be found outside of the classroom.

All you have to do to sign up is complete the form [here](#) and attach a weblink for an article proposal based on the prompt 'science in my life'. Instructions on how to create the link via WeTransfer are provided in the form.

The submission deadline for proposals is 12.00pm on the 19 April.

Afterwards, the best pitches will be selected, and those students will each receive one-on-one mentoring (via ZOOM) from a current Science Communication MSc student on how to research and write their articles. [Click here](#) to find out more about the competition what the requirements.

Results will be announced on the 11 June 2021.

The science journalism contest organised by Imperial College's I, Science magazine.

"Science in my life"

Initial Proposal Deadline: 19th of April, 12pm

Young Artists' Summer Show



Message from the **Royal Academy of Arts**: "Whether you're just starting out or ready to perfect your masterpiece, there's still time to enter this year's Young Artists' Summer Show.

For your chance to feature in the exhibition, you can submit up to three artworks of any kind by Monday 26 April.

Find out everything you need to know about submitting by [clicking here](#). We can't wait to see your work!" Help for Parents and Carers

Help for Parents and Carers



Reminder: BACE Holidays: Helping Families to Live Healthily this Easter

Signup to BACE Holidays this Easter! Available to families in receipt of free school meals.



The school holidays are a time for children and young people to relax and have fun and we believe that every family across Barnet deserves a healthy and fulfilling holiday.

We're teamed up with Young Barnet Foundation to bring you Barnet's Active, Creative and Engaging holidays (BACE), recently named by Barnet's young people and highlights exactly what our holiday programme is all about!

Your child/teen will have access to:

- Our family-friendly BACE holiday booklet with useful facts, tips and activities for healthy living
- A food voucher
- Free online and face-to-face activities

Register now at: www.barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays

Supporting Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing

[Good Thinking new enhanced platform for young people](#) is live, online and those who are having problems with sleep, stress, anxiety, or depression to 24/7, seven days a week wellbeing support.

London's unique digital wellbeing service is supported by London's NHS, London boroughs, Public Health England, and the Mayor of London.

So far over 100,000 Londoners have used Good Thinking to find innovative and personalised ways to improve their wellbeing.

So far almost half a million Londoners have used Good Thinking to tackle sleep, anxiety, stress, and low mood.

Speakers for Schools

Click [here](#) to view free inspirational broadcasts from a wide variety of speakers from the world of work. There has never been a more important time to think widely about possible careers in our ever-changing world. Write to us at admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk to tell us about your ambitions for your future career. Please mark your email for the attention of **Mrs S Halil (PSHCE lead)**

Additional information

Please click [here](#) to access last week's newsletters to see the exciting competitions we have on offer. There is still plenty of time to enter so be creative and send us your entry!

Please remember to include your full name, year group, form, school and contact details for your Parents or Carers.

Year 5 and Year 6 winners will be entered into a prize-draw competition and winning students will receive a certificate and a great prize!

Free Thank You Cards for School Staff

Please click [here](#) to send a free **'Thank you'** to a member of staff postcard. Anyone can send a card all year round. The *Thank a Teacher* campaign recognises ALL staff working in UK schools and colleges; school leaders, teachers, teaching assistants, and all support staff such as office staff, technicians, lunchtime supervisors and caretakers.

Headteacher Parent Surgery

If you would like to meet with the Headteacher or a Senior Deputy Headteacher at our new weekly Parent and Carer surgery, please email admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

This will take place every Friday from 5pm until 6pm. The time allocated for appointments will be 15 minutes in the first instance. Please send your request for an appointment in by 10am every Wednesday so that we may allocate an appointment and send you confirmation in good time. All appointments will take place via Microsoft Teams during current restrictions.

Friends of STA (FOSA)

COMING SOON: Our first meeting of FOSA. If you would like to join our small group of parents and carers, please can you email admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk and mark your email for the attention of Mr M Vassiliou.

Mr M Vassiliou (Senior Deputy Headteacher)



Important dates for the calendar

Please [click here](#) to access dates for the calendar. Please note that these dates are subject to change, so please do keep checking in on a regular basis. If you have any queries about a specific date, please email us at admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk