



Headteacher's Update

11 June 2021

Key Messages



Icon of the Feast of the Ascension of Christ-St Paul Orthodox Church

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great return to school following the Whitsun break. Staff have worked hard to prepare the Year 11 and Year 13 grades for submission to the exam board. I will write and record a message to the parents and carers of both year groups soon with further details of the results days in August 2021. I will also explain how appeals will work in summer 2021.

We were delighted to welcome [Andria Zafirakou](#) (Winner of the Global Teacher Award, 2018 and CEO of Artists in Residence) to our school on Tuesday 8 June. Andria visited lessons and spent some quality time working with Ms S Constantinides in the Art department. Andria commented on the wonderful artistic and creative skills displayed by our students and ended her day by telling me how inspired she was by our staff and students. We have invited Andria back to STA next term when we will showcase some of our excellent GCSE Artwork.



Year 10 and Year 12 have had a fantastic start to their end of year exams. The external invigilators have commented on the excellent behaviour and focus seen in both year groups. Next week will mark the final week of exams for Year 10 and Year 12.

Years 7 and 8 exams will commence in the week beginning Monday 21 June with the final week of exams dedicated to Year 9 in the week beginning Monday 28 June.

We will send home reports with information about your child's progress on Thursday 15 July. In all cases, please do remind your child that we are doing end of year exams to help us to identify gaps in students' knowledge and understanding so that we may address those gaps in lessons or in targeted interventions.

We are waiting for information from the Government about the potential further easing of COVID-restrictions before we inform you of the arrangements for several planned summer events including Sports Day.

A reminder that all staff and students are asked to continue with home testing (lateral flow) and reporting results via www.testregister.co.uk and NHS track and trace. Lateral flow testing is essential for identifying asymptomatic cases in the community and for stopping the spread of COVID. Please remember- everyone can carry COVID 19. If you have had a vaccine, you are less likely to get seriously ill from the virus, but you can still carry and pass on COVID to other people.

Home tests should be completed on Sunday and Wednesday evenings and reported through TestRegister (so the school is notified) and NHS track and trace (for national contact tracing). If you have any problems using either of these sites, or if you need additional test kits please contact the school.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes,

Mrs I Warwick

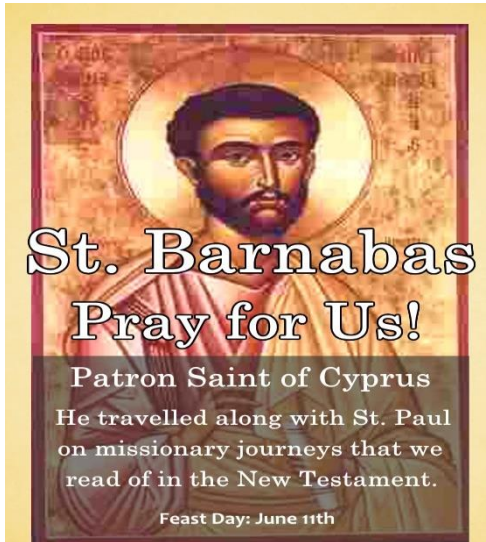
(Headteacher)

Cyprus Day-Feast of the Apostle Barnabas

Please [click here](#) to view the Homily by His Grace Bishop Iakovos of Claudioupolis.

The exemplary name of the Holy Apostle Barnabas shines brightly throughout the history of Cyprus, the Island of

Saints. He is commemorated on 11 June as "the great glory of Cyprus," not only because he is the founder of this ancient and martyric Church, but because his presence has guided the Cypriot people throughout the ages.



Faith

Holy Ascension

On the sixth week after Holy Easter, we celebrate the Ascension of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Lord Jesus passed forty days on earth after His Resurrection from the dead, appearing continually in various places to His disciples, with whom He also spoke,

ate, and drank, thereby further demonstrating His Resurrection. On the Thursday which just passed us, the fortieth day after Pascha, He appeared again in Jerusalem. After He had first spoken to the disciples about many things, He gave them His last commandment, that is, that they go forth and proclaim His Name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. But He also commanded them that for the present, they were not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait there together until they receive power from on high, when the Holy Spirit would come upon them.

Saying these things, He led them to the Mount of Olives, and raising His hands, He blessed them; and saying again the



words of the Father's blessing, He was parted from them and taken up. Immediately a cloud of light, a proof of His majesty, received Him. He was taken up into Heaven, and after a short time was concealed from the sight of the disciples, who remained where they were with their eyes fixed on Him. **At this point, two Angels in the form of men in white raiment appeared to them and said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into Heaven? This same Jesus, Who is taken up from you into Heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into Heaven" (Acts 1:11).** These words, in a complete and concise manner, declare what is taught in the Symbol of Faith concerning the Son and Word of God. Therefore, having so fulfilled all His dispensation for us, our Lord Jesus Christ ascended in glory into Heaven, and sat at the right hand of God the Father. As for His sacred disciples, they returned from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem, rejoicing because Christ had promised to send them the Holy Spirit.

O Christ our God, upon fulfilling Your dispensation for our sake, You ascended in Glory, uniting the earthly with the heavenly. You were never separate but remained inseparable, and cried out to those who love You, "I am with you and no one is against you."

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: Isabella G (7T) and Charles H (7E) for showing outstanding progression and confidence in French with high standard marks.

Year 8: Yezda S (8P) for outstanding effort, knowledge and skills in PE this week. **Christos P (8M)** for brilliant homework produced in Classics, and excellent contributions to a DT lesson.

Year 9: Congratulations to the following children, who have demonstrated the school's values throughout this week: **Remiel CG (9O) and Sophia C (9E).**

Sixth Formers of the Week

Karim OB (12O) for showing maturity and professionalism during the week and in his English class, whilst also assisting in sixth form duties and responsibilities.

Socrates A (13O) for assisting in duties throughout the school and showing outstanding effort in lessons.

Year 6 Transition Information – Welcome to the VIP Zone



To all our Year 6 students and soon to be new Year 7 students, we are pleased to announce that our VIP Zone is now up and running, you will find this on our school website by [clicking here](#).

The VIP Zone is a site for our Year 6 students who are transferring to St Andrew the Apostle School in September. We know that you will have a variety of questions that you would like to ask about secondary school and, on this page, we will try to answer as many of those questions before you arrive in September.

But more than that, the VIP Zone will also be a fun and interactive way in which to engage with all sorts of different activities, challenges, and competitions between now and September. Some of these activities include:

- All About Me
- STA Summer Reading Challenge Instructions
- KS3 Reading List
- More book titles to choose from...
- STA Summer Photo Challenge
- Headteacher's Challenge

- Get Ready for Science

We would like to start by getting to know as much as we can about you before September. Please complete the first challenge called '**All About Me**' followed by the '**Headteacher's challenge**'. Try to complete these two challenges by **Monday June 21st**. The top three entries will be awarded prizes. Once completed please submit to admissions@standrewtheapostle.org.uk and marked for the attention of **Mr Vassiliou**.

We look forward to receiving your entries but in the meantime, do check out our Year 6 Transition page for all sorts of other information about secondary life. We also look forward to receiving you on the week commencing **June 22nd** for your taster lessons/activities as well as seeing you all again on **Thursday 1st July**, as part of the Barnet Schools Transition Day for all Year 6 students. See you soon!

Mr M Vassiliou (Senior Deputy Headteacher)

Gonville and Caius, University of Cambridge Opportunities



Informal Reading Group – deadline 14 July

This summer, Caius will be running a series of informal reading groups for students between year 12 and 13 (or equivalent), from UK state schools/colleges. These will be led by graduate students at Cambridge across six subject strands. Provisional dates are:

- **Wednesday 28 July:** launch and first session
- **Wednesday 4 August:** second session
- **Wednesday 11 August:** third session
- **Wednesday 18 August:** application workshop – how to make use of readings in personal statements
- **Wednesday 25 August:** fourth session
- **Wednesday 1 September:** round up

STA students may sign up by [clicking here](#)

July Open Days- Message from outreach team

We are hoping to be able to offer some form of in-person open days over the summer, alongside our and the University's online provision.

To register interest in visiting Caius in person on the 8th or 9th July, STA students should follow this link and complete the registration form by [clicking here](#).

Gonville and Caius will also be running live virtual sessions on the 8th, 9th and 14th July. Students can sign up for these [here](#).

Year 9 and Year 10 Summer Support

At the end of August, Gonville and Caius will be running sessions aimed at Year 9/10 pupils from UK state schools. The sessions will give advice about choosing A levels, exploring supercurricular options and study tips. Sessions will run from 1-2pm on **Monday 16 August, Wednesday 18 August, Wednesday 25 August and Friday 27 August**. STA students should [sign up here](#).

Online Sessions

Our Tutor for Admissions and Outreach and Schools Liaison Officer will be running a series of online outreach events this summer to provide more information about Cambridge and Caius. These are open to all students at UK state schools/colleges (or their parents/guardians, in the case of our parent events!).

[Sign up](#) - **7 July, 5pm**: Cambridge for parents/guardians.

[Sign up](#) - **12 July, 5pm**: take a look round Caius!

[Sign up](#) - **15 July, 5pm**: making competitive Cambridge application.

[Sign up](#) - **26 July, 5pm**: application and personal statement Q&A/drop-in session.

[Sign up](#) - **16 August, 5pm**: Cambridge for parents/guardians.

[Sign up](#) - **17 August, 5pm**: take a look round Caius!:

Caius Explore – Year 12 students -deadline 31 July

Year 12 students are nearing the end of their assessment period, so now is the perfect time to start thinking about supercurricular interests. One great way to do this is through academic competitions and there's still over 6 weeks for STA

students to get involved in the Caius Explore challenges. More details about these competitions can be found here: [Caius Explore | Gonville & Caius \(cam.ac.uk\)](#)

Interview news

As I'm sure some of you will have heard, in 2021-22, the University of Cambridge will be interviewing all shortlisted applicants virtually, with interviews usually taking place in December. Though the interview will be online, the aims and content will still be the same as in person interviews. For more information on how our online interviews will work, please visit the online interviews page –

<https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/applying/interviews/online-interviews>

External opportunities for Year 12 students

Cambridge – deadline 18th June

Apply: Cambridge is a specialist and free programme designed to support highly able students from underrepresented backgrounds and areas to make successful applications to the University of Cambridge. The programme will be delivered by Cambridge staff and admissions tutors who will be sharing their expertise on the application process. They will work with our students every step of the way over a 6-month period, helping them to navigate the process and effectively prepare for their Cambridge application. To learn more about the programme and to review the eligibility and priority criteria please visit the website by [clicking here](#).

Support for disabled students

Head Up! - a new project run by Cambridge university students looking to support young people with disabilities. Anyone aged 14-18, who self-identifies as disabled (or falls into any of the following categories: physical/mental health condition, specific learning difficulty, neurodiversity) is eligible. The scheme is led by the mentee, so it can cover university applications, study tips, awareness and confidence in asking for access arrangements or decision-making for the future (it doesn't have to be academic). Mentoring is 1 hour per month online, and all the mentors have enhanced DBS checks and are safeguarding trained. The safeguarding policies are on the website, head-up.org, where they also offer general information and signposting of resources for education, finance, mental health, university, and share

some of their experiences. Any interested STA students should sign up by [clicking here](#).

University of Cambridge Open Day for Disabled Students -

The University of Cambridge is hosting a virtual open day for UK year 12 (or equivalent) students with a disability or long-term health condition. The event will take place over two days from Saturday 10 to Sunday 11 July 2021. The online open day will feature a mixture of webinars, panel events and discussion sessions delivered by university staff and current students which will aim to provide:

- An insight into the lives of disabled students at Cambridge
- Useful information about the Cambridge application process
- Information about the various kinds of support available for disabled students

Students can apply [here](#) before **Tuesday 15 June**

Generation Green



Thank you to Ms McDonnell (Lead Teacher of Geography) for securing funding for 30 of our students to take part in a series of exciting events organised by YHA’s Generation Green, who contacted us to say *“We are delighted to share the news that you have been selected for support from Generation Green funding. This has been hugely over-subscribed; many congratulations!”*

We look forward to hearing more news about this exciting initiative from Ms McDonnell in the Autumn term.

British Army Careers



If you are passionate about data, communication systems and cyber intelligence, a Computing role in the Army could be for you. From an [Operator Technical Intelligence](#) to [Electronic Warfare & Signals Intelligence](#), click below to discover the wide range of roles available.

[Click here to Explore Roles](#)

Cyber Engineers in the Army focus on one of three trades:

- Information Services Engineers manage, configure and deploy a wide range of systems
- Network Engineers ensure frontline troops and Commanders can communicate worldwide
- Infrastructure engineers are experts in building voice and data telecommunications networks

The [video](#) on Cyber Engineers gives an extra insight into the role. Do have a look if you are interested.

Alumni

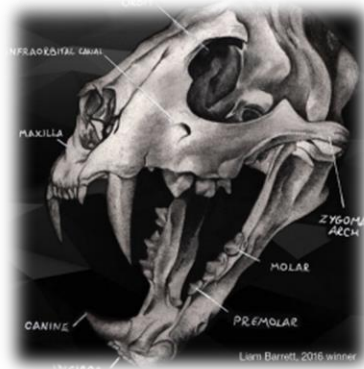
We would like to congratulate and express how proud we are of our ex- student **Hideshi (10S)** who has moved abroad to one of the best schools in Japan. We were delighted to hear from Hideshi as he explained how his very positive experience at STA prepared him for his future. Good luck and keep in touch Hideshi!



Royal Society of Biology Competitions

The Nancy Rothwell Award[The Nancy Rothwell Award](#)

celebrates specimen drawing in schools and highlights the benefits of combining art and science. The Nancy Rothwell Award 2021 is now open for entries. Each entrant can submit only one drawing for the award. We encourage entrants to enter scans of their specimen drawings rather than photographs. Entrants should keep hold of their original drawings as these may be requested at a later date. The Award will close for entries at **30 July 2021**. Winning entries will be announced on the RSB website in September 2021.

**Photography Competition**

Interconnected' is the theme of this year's Royal Society of Biology

[Photography Competition.](#)

Life on Earth is connected and this year we invite you to capture these interactions. Your photograph could depict the relationships between living things or of a living thing with its environment. You could also consider the exchanges between different species, such as mutualistic or parasitic behaviours. You may want to focus on the impact humans have specifically had on other organisms and the world around them, whether that is at home or at work, in urban or rural areas.

Your entry can show the impacts of biological processes and phenomena in a range of settings, or portray the chains of consequences and how knowledge about biology can illuminate a story. The competition will close for entries on **23 July 2021**. Winning entries will be announced on the RSB website in October 2021.

Maths Art Competition 2021



**Institute of
mathematics
& its applications**

In this competition we want you to create an original piece of A4 sized Maths Art. Make it look amazing, and make sure you explain how you did it.

Follow the simple instructions below and you could win an Android tablet.

- Your Maths Art must be on a flat A4 piece of paper – no sculptures.
- Your Maths Art must be created by hand – not on a computer.
- Use whatever tools and materials you like (e.g coloured pencils, paint, scissors and glue) –it's all ok, as long as you don't make it using a computer and as long as it sits fairly flat on the paper.
- You must add a 50-100 word explanation of your methods and how you used maths to make your art. You could hand write this and add it like a label to your Maths Art.
- Scan or take a photo of your Maths Art. Your entry must be in PDF format.

The winning piece of Maths Art from students in each category will receive an Android tablet. There will also be five 'highly commended' certificates awarded in each group. All winning and highly commended artworks will be on display on the Maths Careers website.

The closing date is **Sunday 20 June** and winners will be announced here in July 2021. [Click here](#) to find out more on how to enter.

Barnet Local Offer Consultation



Barnet would like to hear feedback from children, young people, parents and carers, and professionals about their Local Offer: what they are doing well, and what they could improve.

The feedback from our consultation survey will be published on the Local Offer website and will be used to continue to develop the Local Offer website and our local services.

How do I give my feedback and complete the survey?

You can complete the consultation survey using the following link: [Consultation Survey Link](#). This survey will close on **Wednesday 30 June 2021**

National Clean Air Day

Protect our children's health
from air pollution this
#CleanAirDay – 17 June



Clean Air Day is coming up on 17 June with the theme "protect our children's health from air pollution". The annual campaign is a moment when thousands of people up and down the country come together to collaboratively voice support, hold events, make pledges and take action on toxic air.

Children are more vulnerable to the effects of air pollution; it not only impacts their health but also their ability to learn. The damage can start in the womb and carry on through to old age. As we return to our lives, we must take this opportunity to create a clean air environment where they can learn and play safely.

Mental Health Awareness

**Mental Health Crisis Line
for Pupils in Barnet
Secondary Schools**

Please [click here](#) for information from North London Partnership about a mental health crisis line for secondary aged pupils. This is a newly developed crisis service and will be able to offer guidance and support and provide a same day appointment if required.



Clinics can also be contacted directly on 0208 702 4500 or 0208 702 3300 and the duty clinician on the day will also be able to help.

We are also able to offer our students and staff a drop-in service to help those coping with grief.

Please [click here](#) to access helpful advice and support from Young Minds.

Please [click here](#) to access helpful advice and support from the NHS for teenagers and young adults who need support with their mental health and are coping with bereavement.

Reminder: During school, students needing emotional support can talk to their Form Tutors and their Head of Year. The following members of staff are also available: **Mr C Sweet (DSL*); Mr M Vassiliou (DDSL*); Mr C Martin (DDSL*); Ms M Henshaw-Devall (Millie); Mr N Anemori and Ms M Hirli (Melissa) *DDSL is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead *DSL is the Designated Safeguarding lead**

Pastoral Notices

You may have seen in the news this week that a recent Ofsted report has said that 90% of girls in schools and colleges say that sexist name calling is something that happens 'a lot or sometimes'. Part of this report said that children often don't report these instances because this is seen as normal behaviour and is part of the experience of school.

It is not and should not be.

Our PSHCE and pastoral curriculum teaches students, in an age appropriate manner, about matters such as consent and the dangers in sharing explicit images. We know that all our families will support us to help our students to understand what is right and what is fair. Should there be any sexist, or prejudicial comments of any kind, as a pastoral team we want to know and we want to follow this up immediately to support and challenge this with our students. We don't accept that this, or 'banter', should be part of school life. Please do speak with your child if they are experiencing any of these issues and then please report this to us by contacting your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year.

Mr C Martin (Assistant Headteacher)

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)

On behalf of the Friends of St Andrew, we would be grateful if you would kindly spare a few minutes to complete the survey attached.

<https://forms.office.com/r/rbBYeeR9kU>

Please see opposite a reminder message from FOSA asking for a donation of new and nearly new school uniform. We will use your donations to give free uniform to families in need. We will let you know when we will open a uniform stall for families where we will sell items of uniform in good condition at a fraction of the cost if you were buying from new.

There is still time to join our small group if you would like to do so. Please email admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk and mark your email for the attention of **Mr M Vassiliou (Senior Deputy Headteacher)**.

Uniform Donations Welcome

Do you have any items of school uniform you no longer need?

Please donate items in a clean and good condition to the School Reception.

While another child gets to benefit from your donations, you are also helping to reduce the amount of old uniform going to landfill sites.

Thank you for your support.

FOSA (Friends of St Andrew)



Important dates for the calendar

Please [click here](#) to access term dates for this and for next academic year. 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