

# Headteacher's Update

Be kind to one another, forgiving one another, as God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

9 September 2022

Queen Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

Staff and students at St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Queen Elizabeth II yesterday afternoon and we join the country in this national period of mourning. Tutors delivered a reflective session for students this morning in tutor time: students had the opportunity to watch a short video outlining the key events in Queen Elizabeth's life and looked at some photos taken from across her long reign. Students were invited to pray, giving thanks for the example of selfless public service given by the Queen, and asking for God's blessing on her family and those who mourn her passing at this time. We, as a school, will ensure that they keep fully abreast of plans for the national period of mourning and any impact this might have on the operation of the school. We will continue to give thanks as a school community for the Queen's life of selfless public service and the example of Christian faith in action she gave us.

## Welcome Back and Results 2022

I hope you all have had a wonderful restful summer.

It is great to be back in school with our students as September and the start of a new school year feels brim-full with opportunities.

In the summer term it was great to get back to a bit of normality with a normal exam series after the previous two years with CAGs (Centre Assessed Grades) and TAGs (Teacher Assessed Grades). This was an important event not only for our Year 11 and Year 13 students, but also for the school as it was our first set of Year 13 examination results.

Official results arrive in school on the day before and it is a busy time for our exams officer, Mr Christou, and senior leaders as they download the information and prepare the official documents for collection for the following day. It is also a nervous time, especially as the national press published negative articles about reduction in grades compared to previous years.

In both exam series – Year 13 and Year 11 – our students have done themselves, their parents and the school proud. Our students have worked hard to overcome periods of lockdown over the past two years as they prepared for the exams and they should be proud of themselves. We are.

My initial stand-out thoughts from our 2022 set of results:

- Two students from St Andrew the Apostle School will start at University of Oxford in the autumn.
- Many students made stunning progress.
- Pathways for all our students opened as a result of the examination results they achieved.

Again, we are very proud of all of our students and what they will go on to achieve. We are pleased that so many Year 11s have chosen to stay with us in our sixth form.

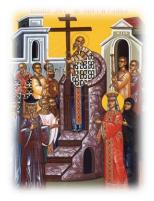
Our Senior Leaders have started the analysis of how well the school has performed in this exam series and will, alongside Heads of Department, identify areas where we can improve our support students in future years.

Please read on for more details of the examination results.

I look forward to seeing you during this school year.

Mr A Easton (Executive Headteacher)

## Faith- πίστη



Marking the Feast of Universal Exaltation of **Precious and Life-Giving Cross** 

This week we marked the Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each vear September 14. The **Feast** commemorates the finding of

the True Cross of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

Background - In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord. However, Helen had no way of determining which was the Cross of Christ.

With the healing of a dying woman who touched one of the crosses, Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem identified the True Cross of Christ. Saint Helen and her court venerated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross along with many others who came to see this great instrument of Redemption.

The Patriarch mounted the pulpit and lifted the Cross with both hands so that all of the people gathered could see it. The crowd responded with "Lord have mercy". This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame and torture for Our Lord was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the earthly powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ's people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross.

Mr M Vassiliou (STA Spiritual Director)

## FIRST SET OF POST-16 EXAMINATION RESULTS!

We are really thrilled with our first set of Post-16 examination results.





12.3% of all A Level grades were A\*/A and 34.4% were A/B.

This is a wonderful achievement for our students and the school.

Again, two St Andrew the Apostle School students will start at University of Oxford this autumn and we are so pleased that Victoria (results below) and Stas (3 x A\* grades and 2 x A grades from 2021) will have this opportunity.

Please see below for some more stand-out results:

- Victoria A\* A\* A
- Saihan A\* A\* A\* A
- Radislav A\* A A
- Melody A\* A B B
- Alex A\* A B
- Tia A A B

- Radoslav
- Orestes
- Annie
- Zac
- Peter





Thank you to all teachers of our Year 13 cohort. The main strengths of our results were in Further Maths, Maths, English Literature, Classics and History and this is testament to our commitment to core subjects and our school's focus on classical education – something our founding governors were so passionate about. Our Health and Social Care students as a cohort also did extremely well.

Mr A Easton (Executive Headteacher)

Progress for the following students meant that they were a grade above their target set using their GCSE results, which is a fantastic achievement:

9 September 2022

## Main destinations for our students:

We could not be prouder of our leaver Y13 students: following wonderful A-Level and BTEC results, our students have secured fantastic university places or apprenticeship. We trust their dedication to their own studies and futures will perpetuate as they embark on the next stages of their journey.

Miss J Fourcade (Assistant Headteacher - Development (Head of Sixth Form)

Full name	Provider name	Course placed
Anastasis A.	University of Oxford	Medicine
Victoria D.	University of Oxford	Mathematics
Melody S.	University of Leicester	Medicine (with a foundation year)
ZantiaT-E.	UCL (University College London)	History and Politics of the Americas
Thomas F.	University of Kent	Law
Neerav R.	University of Kent	Law
Roksolana W.	City, University of London	Law
Matthew A.	Falmouth University	Career Musician
Kapil S.	Queen Mary University of London	Aerospace Engineering with Industrial Experience
Peter T.	City, University of London	Law
Yahya M.	Lancaster University	Economics (Industry)
Maxim V.	University of Bedfordshire	Biochemistry
Georgia C.		Apprenticeship (Law)
Petros S-R.	University of Brighton	Ecology and Conservation
Koluvuma K.	University of East Anglia UEA	Film Studies and English Literature
Hailu B.	University of East Anglia UEA	Law with Criminology
Radoslav H.	University of Exeter	Computer Science
Karim O-B.	Kingston University	Biomedical Science
Alex M.	Queen Mary University of London	Economics
Orestes D.	Loughborough University	Politics, Philosophy and Economics
Sarah F.	Middlesex University	Education Studies
Mihail G.	University of Surrey	Psychology with Foundation Year
David M-V.	University of Greenwich	Computer Science (Artificial Intelligence)
Mario P.		Apprenticeship
Felix F.		Apprenticeship (Aeronautics)
Michael S.		Apprenticeship
Evangelia D.	University of Roehampton	Classical Studies
James H.	Middlesex University	Education Studies
Масу К.		Apprenticeship (Childcare)
Louis K.	University of Hertfordshire	Business Management with Foundation Degree
Medine A.	University of Hertfordshire	Initial Year for Extended Degree Science- PSYCHOLOGY
Samuel G.	Swansea University	Civil Engineering with a Foundation Year
Annie M.	City, University of London	English
Hani R.	City, University of London	History
Luigi S-F.	Middlesex University	Accounting and Finance with Foundation Year
Theo K.	Middlesex University	Business Management
Sevaan K.	City, University of London	History
Sam H.	Middlesex University	Business Management
Mashal S.	City, University of London	History and Politics
Miran G.	University of Essex	Business Economics (Including Foundation Year)
Lily G.	London South Bank University	Law (Criminal Law)
Gabriel O		Apprenticeship

## Year 11 GCSE Results 2022



## ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE GREEK ORTHODOX SCHOOL GCSE RESULTS 2022





Students, parents and staff members all celebrated on together on Thursday 15 August 2022 when students received their GCSE results. There was palpable joy as students opened their envelopes, with the results inside them ensuring that students could move on to the next stage of their education.

#### **Headlines**

- 29% of all grades were grades 9-7.
- 59 grade 9s awarded.
- Results where students achieved English and Maths at Grade 5 or 4 and English or Maths at Grade 5 and 4 were all significantly above most recent national figures.

#### Notable achievements include:

- Alegra L: 7 x Grade 9s; 2 x Grade 8s; 1 x Grade 7
- Toni R: 5 x Grade 9s; 5 x Grade 8s
- Anatasia K: 5 x Grade 9s; 3 x Grade 8s; 2 x Grade 7s
- Antal M: 4 x Grade 9s: 5 x Grade 8s: 1 x Grade 6
- George C: 3 x Grade 9s; 3 x Grade 8s; 3 x Grade 7s; 1 x Grade 6
- Zain J: 2 x Grade 9s; 3 x Grade 8s; 2 x Grade 7s; 2 x Grade 6s
- Ela Y: 2 x Grade 9s, 4 x Grade 7s; 3 x Grade 6s
- Emily G: 2 x Grade 9s; 1 x Grade 8; 4 x Grade 7s; 2 x Grade 6s

Students have shown resilience in overcoming all the school missed due to the pandemic and have achieved a fantastic set of results overall with a great many individual successes. Along with those students listed above, many students have out-performed and gone beyond their target grades by at least two grades on average(!): Alegra L, Vladimir I, Max S, Vasilikia G, Iqbal Z:

It was great to see so many successes and wonderful performance in our Performing Arts subjects – Music and Drama. The other strengths of our results were in History, French, Media and our single Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics).

I would like to thank all staff members who were able to come in on the day to celebrate with and support students, who were very thankful for the guidance given as they made important decisions about the next stage of their education and the courses they wanted to undertake.

Many congratulations to our Year 11 students on their wonderful GCSE results.

Mr A Easton (Executive Headteacher)

## Open Evening 15 September 2022

I would like to invite all prospective parents/carers and students to the St Andrew the Apostle School Open Evening on Thursday 15 September 2022. This event starts at 6.00pm and will conclude at 8.00pm.

Our Open Evening is a wonderful event that showcases our school and gives prospective students and their parents the opportunity to experience our ethos.

There will be a presentation by myself and students in the hall and these will take place at the following times:

> 6.15pm 6.45pm

7.15pm

The Open Evening will take place in Building 5, one part of our temporary home. I will be about to give you updated information about our permanent school building during the presentation, which will be approximately 20 minutes. On the evening, I want you to be able to tour our site, meet our students, staff and governors; all of whom will want to meet you to discuss our school and what it means to them, and answer any questions you may have.

There will also be opportunities to tour both our buildings during the school day in the week beginning 19 September 2022. Details and booking are on our website.

We are a popular, inclusive school with a wonderful community feel. We have brilliant pastoral care and high aspirations for all our students - with two former sixth formers starting at University of Oxford this autumn. I am sure you will get a feel for us either during our Open Evening or during the Open Morning tours.

Year 5 and Year 4 parents are also invited at these events, as from previous years it has been beneficial for those parents who started looking early in the transition process.

If you have any questions regarding the arrangements, please do contact the school through the usual channels. Please see details in this newsletter and look on our website for more details about our school. I look forward to meeting you.

Mr A Easton (Executive Headteacher)

Open Evening Information for current students and parents

## Open Evening Thursday 15 September 2022 – early closure and late start for students on 16 September 2022

Our Open Evening for prospective students is always an exciting opportunity to showcase our school, its students and staff and the ethos of St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School. This event takes place on 15 September 2022, starting at 6.00pm and concluding at 8.00pm. We will be asking for help from our students to support us with this evening and we will be in contact with you if this involves your child.

So that we can prepare for the event, the school will close at 12.35pm on Thursday 15 September at 12.35pm. Students in receipt of free school meals can collect these from the school canteen at that time. This will allow staff to prepare classrooms and displays for the evening.

Also, please note that on Friday 16 September 2022, students will have a later start to the school day so that staff can ensure that classrooms are ready for lessons on that day. Students must be in school at 9.15am where they will be registered in tutor time.

If you have any questions regarding the arrangements, please do contact the school through the usual channels. If you have friends or family with children in Year 6, Year 5 or even Year 4, please do encourage them to come along to see our school.

Thank you for your continued support for St Andrew the Apostle School.

## Mr A Easton (Executive Headteacher)



## Upcoming Key Dates and Information



- Please <u>click here</u> to access previous editions of the Newsletter.
- Please click here to access term dates.
- Please <u>click here</u> to access school calendar for upcoming

## **Upcoming Events**

- School Photographer Visit Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October
- Open Evening Thursday 15th September

## Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs

PE extra-curricular clubs commence on Monday 12th September 2022.

### **Monday**

Activity: All Years Girls and Boys Football

Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm Venue: Bethune Park

\*Year 7 to change in building 4 changing rooms. Year 8, 9 & 10 in building 5 changing rooms.

#### Tuesday

No clubs due to football and netball matches

#### Wednesday

Activity: All Years Girls Netball

Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm

Venue: Building 5 Playground

\*Change in building 5 changing rooms.

#### Thursday

Activity: All Years Basketball Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm

Venue: Building 4 and 5 Playground \*Change in building 5 changing rooms.

Please note students do not wear PE kit to school on the day of clubs. If you do not have PE on the day of the club, but

wish to attend, please bring PE kit to change into afterschool. Full PE kit must be worn to after-school clubs. If you have PE lessons on the day of a chosen club, you will already be changed into full PE kit.

#### **PE Kit Message**

Students will continue to wear full PE kit to school, on the days of Physical Education lessons. The procedure has been in place for the last two years and has worked incredibly well saving crucial lesson time. Please can you ensure your son/daughter are wearing their blazer and full school PE kit on the days of Physical Education lessons, this does not include any additional garments such as jumpers, hoodies, tracksuits, or inappropriate clothing. All PE kit worn should be in-line with the advertised PE kit list.

Thanks,

## Mr Rob Browell (Head of Physical Education)

## Sporting Success



Congratulations to Year 10 student Koni Ivanov, who last week represented the U17 Bulgarian national team. Koni represented his national team for the first time in a game against Azerbaijan on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 2022. September By making his debut at the age of 15, Koni becomes the youngest ever play to represent the Bulgarian

U17 national team. The call up to the national team comes after an impressive season for his club side in England. A huge congratulations to Koni from all staff and students from St Andrew the Apostle. A fantastic way to start to Year 11.

Thanks,

## Mr Rob Browell (Head of Physical Education)

## School Photographer Visit

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October Vancols Photographers will be visiting our school to Photograph Year 7, 10, 11 & 12. If your child has PE on this day, please ensure they come to school in their School Uniform, not their PE kit.

PE kits can be brought to school and students will be able to change into them after the photographs have taken place.

## Flu vaccination campaign for years 7, 8 and 9



The NHS has written to schools to update them on changes to the national flu vaccination programme. Please see the contents of their letter below:

We have recently been informed that the flu programme will now include the school years 7, 8 and 9 from September this year.

Early information from the flu season in Australia, shows flu has been circulating earlier than expected and has been affecting younger age groups, therefore DHSC has taken steps to include these age groups in the 2022/23 vaccination campaign. Sessions for flu vaccination have already been planned and confirmed for primary schools so providers will be working with you to arrange additional dates to ensure vaccination can be offered to your students. It is likely that this will be from November onward once additional vaccine supply is available.

We would be very grateful if you could remind parents that their children are entitled to free flu vaccination on the NHS. This vaccine will be provided by a school aged vaccination team that visits the school and is given as a nasal spray. This form of the vaccine is very easy to administer and is especially well suited to preventing onward spread of infection. The vaccine protects the child against the four main strains of influenza predicted to be in circulation this winter. Young children catch influenza very easily. Children can spread the infection for up to 7 days, which is longer than in adults, therefore vaccinating children reduces the risk of influenza for family members, teaching staff and other children. In school, children will be mixing with large numbers of other children in a confined environment, which increases the risk of germs (virus and bacteria alike) spreading. Vaccination builds children's immunity to protect against illnesses. Vaccines stop influenza germs being spread, thus protecting the very vulnerable children and those in the wider community who may not have, or may not be able to develop, immunity.

Public Health and Primary Care Commissioning NHS England (London Region)

I will provide all the other text and photos in due course.

Thank you,

#### Mr A Easton (Executive Headteacher)

## An ONLINE evening with author Tanya Landman

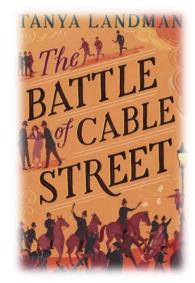
Barnet Libraries welcomes: An ONLINE evening with Carnegie Medal winning author Tanya Landman in conversation with writer Miriam Halahmy, talking about her stunning new book 'The Battle of Cable Street.'

Carnegie Medal winning Tanya Landman is the author of more than forty books for children and young adults. The Battle of Cable Street is her latest book.

The event will be held on Wednesday 28 September 2022 from 7-8pm, including a Q&A session with a prize for the best question.

Tickets will go live on Friday 26 August at 9am

Click here for more information and to book your tickets when they go live.



Ms Androulla Athanasiou (English Department)

## Mental Health Crisis Helpline – Reminder



If you're in crisis and need to talk right now, there are many helplines staffed by trained people ready to listen. They won't judge you and could help you make sense of what you're feeling.

- Samaritans. To talk about anything that is upsetting you, you can contact them 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can call <u>116 123</u> (free from any phone)
- SANEline. If you're experiencing a mental health problem or supporting someone else, you can call
- National Suicide Prevention Helpline UK. Offers a supportive listening service to anyone with thoughts of suicide. You can call the on 0800 689 5652 (open 24/7).
- **CALM**. You can call them on 0800 58 58 58 (5pmmidnight every day) if you are struggling and need to talk. Or if you prefer not to speak on the phone, you could try the CALM webchat service.
- Papyrus HOPELINEUK. If you're struggling with suicidal feelings, or concerned about a young person who might be struggling, you can call on 0800 068

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.

Shout 85258- a free, confidential, 24/7 text-messaging support service for young people.

Support for Parents and Carers- advice and support for you if you're worried about a child or young person.

#### **Young Mind's Parent Helpline and Webchat**

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 Martin, Deputy Headteacher (DSL\*)
- Mrs L Cooke, Deputy Headteacher (DDSL\*)
- Ms D Moustaka (Safeguarding & Inclusion Manager)
- Mr N Anemouri (Pastoral Support Officer)
- Ms M Henshaw-Devall (Safeguarding Officer)

These open days provide a fantastic opportunity for prospective applicants to visit departments, colleges, meet current students, as well as tutors.

For more information about admissions and open days.

For any students for whom the cost of travelling to Oxford for the Open Days would be a barrier, please contact aaccess@chch.ox.ac.uk to get support.

Childline – a free, private, and confidential service available for all young people. This can be found on ParentPay as we are a cashless school.

Please note that students should wear their normal school uniform, but are permitted to wear an additional colourful accessory; for example, colourful socks, hair accessories etc.

If you have any questions or would like to offer additional support, please contact Mrs Hammond, Assistant Head or myself, Ms Moustaka, Safeguarding and Inclusion Case Manager.

## Solutions 4 Health New Free Apps



BREAKING NEWS: 2 x NEW FREE APPS Available from Solutions 4 Health

- Camp Island (5 10 years)
- Become Your Best Self (11 17 years)

Interactive and engaging apps supporting healthy and positive lifestyle choices.

The apps are free to access in Barnet as long as the user allows the location permission that pops up.

Please share far and wide...... And enjoy playing

<sup>\*</sup>DSL is the Designated Safeguarding lead.

<sup>\*</sup>DDSL is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead