

St Andrew the Apostle School Weekly Newsletter



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

01 December 2023

St Andrew's Day Celebrations



Netball

A huge well done to our Y9 netball team who won a very close game on Wednesday against QE Girls School. An outstanding performance, despite freezing conditions! The game was very close, where the scores were level at the end of the first three quarters, some outstanding shots from Elena in the final quarter resulted in a 7 – 5 win for STA. Notable performances from Myna and Tiana, our excellent Y7 students who stepped up on the day. POTM: Hana

Miss Walt (Head of Y11 and PE Teacher)

Message from the Headteacher

It was really encouraging to see our year Y9 netballers brave the chilly conditions to record such an excellent result against a strong QE side.

As I write, we have just returned from a wonderful service at St Katherine's with Father Damian, where we celebrated St Andrew's Day. It was a delight to hear our pupils read so fluently in English and Greek as part of the service and to hear the beautiful chants lead by Ilya, the Director of Music at St Katherine's. Many of our pupils participate regularly to services at St Katherine's but to two of the altar boys it was a new experience; you would never have guessed this however, as Theo, an old hand from Year 10, guided his younger companions seamlessly through the service. We are very grateful to Father Damian and his team and look forward to joining them once more for our Christmas services in December.

Last night our building contractor, Bowmer and Kirkland, showcased the latest exciting developments on site of the new school buildings and there was a palpable buzz of enthusiasm from both staff at the school and all the local residents who attended the sessions. As the Sports Hall is now fully encased in its insulating material we can really see the new development taking shape.

Philip Hills



Christmas Events

- Monday 11 December – Y7 & Y8 Church Visit
- Wednesday 13 December – Y9& Y10 Church Visit
- Thursday 14 December – Y11, Y12 & Y13 – Church visit
- Friday 15 December – Christmas Concert
- Tuesday 19 December – Sixth Form Christmas Fare
- Tuesday 19 December – A level and GCSE Award Evening
- Tuesday 19 December – Trafalgar Square Performance
- Wednesday 20 December – Christmas Lunch & Jumper Day
- Thursday 21 December – Last day of term

Upcoming Dates and Information 2023 - 2024

- Please click [here](#) to access term dates.
- Please click [here](#) to access school calendar.

Social Media



[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

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Faith



November 30 Feast Day of St Andrew

On Thursday we celebrated the feast day of St Andrew with Father Damian and St Katherine Church.

The name "Andrew" (meaning 'brave' in Greek), like other Greek names, appears to have been common among the Jews and other Hellenized people since the second or third century B.C.

Andrew the Apostle was born between 5 and 10 AD in Bethsaida, in Galilee. Andrew was the brother of Simon Peter, and likewise, a son of Jonah.

Both he and his brother Peter were fishermen by trade, hence the tradition that Jesus called them to be his disciples by saying that he will make them "fishers of men" (ἀλιεῖς ἀνθρώπων). According to Mark 1:29, at the beginning of Jesus' public life, they occupied the same house at Capernaum.

In the Gospel of Matthew and in the Gospel of Mark Simon Peter and Andrew were both called together to become disciples of Jesus and "fishers of men". Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, observed Simon and Andrew fishing, and called them to discipleship. The Orthodox Church honours him with the name *Protokletos*, which means "the first called". Thenceforth, the two brothers were disciples of Christ. On a subsequent occasion, prior to the final call to the apostolate, they were called to a closer companionship, and then they left all things to follow Jesus.

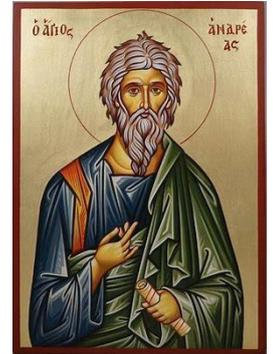
Subsequently, in the gospels, Andrew is referred to as being present on some important occasions as one of the disciples more closely attached to Jesus. Andrew told Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fishes, and when certain Greeks went to see Jesus, they came to Philip, but Philip then had recourse to Andrew. Andrew was present at the Last Supper. Andrew was one of the four disciples who came to Jesus on the Mount of Olives to ask about the signs of Jesus' return at the "end of the age".

Preaching the gospel

Eusebius in his *Church History* 3.1 (4th century) quoted Origen (c. 185 – c. 253) as saying that Andrew preached in Scythia. The Chronicle of Nestor (1113) adds that he preached along the Black Sea and the Dnieper river as far as Kiev, and from there he travelled to Novgorod. Hence, he became a patron saint of Ukraine, Romania and Russia. According to Hippolytus of Rome, Andrew preached in Thrace, and his presence in Byzantium is mentioned in the apocryphal Acts of Andrew. According to tradition, he founded the see of Byzantium (later Constantinople) in AD 38. This diocese became the seat of the Patriarchate of Constantinople under Anatolius, in 451. Andrew, along with Stachys, the first bishop whom he installed, is recognized as the patron saint of the Patriarchate.

Martyrdom and iconography

Andrew is said to have been martyred by crucifixion at the city of Patras (Patrae) in Achaea, in AD 60. Early texts, such as the Acts of Andrew known to Gregory of Tours (6th century), describe Andrew as bound, not nailed, to a Latin cross of the kind on which Jesus is said to have been crucified; yet a tradition developed that Andrew had been crucified on a cross of the form called *crux decussata* (X-shaped cross, or "saltire"), now commonly known as a "Saint Andrew's Cross" — supposedly at his own request, as he deemed himself unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus had been. The iconography of the martyrdom of Andrew — showing him bound to an X-shaped cross — does not appear to have been standardized, however, until the later Middle Ages.



B&K Neighbour Event

Staff and locals were delighted to meet with the developers of the new build, where we were given an insight to our future school. The plans are well on schedule and there really is something for everyone in the new buildings, with superb sporting, scientific, musical and creative facilities, to say nothing of the new dining hall and library.



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More Photos from St Andrew's Day Celebrations



Online Safety Evening

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Online Safety Evening, an essential event aimed at ensuring the safety of our children in the digital age. The evening will focus on raising awareness about the current trends of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Crime, particularly highlighting sexual-related offenses and incidents in the boroughs of Brent, Barnet, and Harrow, as well as across London. The evening will focus on raising awareness about the current trends around Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Crime, particularly highlighting sexual-related offenses and incidents in the boroughs of Brent, Barnet and Harrow, as well as across London.

Our event will delve into real-life examples, shedding light on the online landscape and its potential dangers. We will discuss prevalent issues such as cyberbullying and the alarming rise of social media-related incidents, including the sharing of indecent images. By exploring these topics, we aim to empower you with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the online world alongside your children.

Please click [here](#) to join us on Thursday 7 December at 4pm for an engaging and informative evening that will equip you with practical insights to ensure the digital safety of your family. Together, we can foster a secure online environment for our children. Please mark your calendars, and we look forward to your active participation.

Report it Portal

Ensuring a safe and supportive environment is our top priority at St. Andrew the Apostle School. Following a recent student conference we are pleased to introduce our new online reporting platform as part of our commitment to combat bullying and promote a secure school community.

Our Report-It Portal, accessible through the school's website at [Report it Portal](#), provides a confidential and user-friendly way to report incidents of bullying. This online tool allows students and parents to share details about any bullying, discrimination or harassment concerns, including cyberbullying.

By utilising this platform, we aim to ensure that incidents are addressed promptly and effectively. We encourage everyone to utilise the Report-It Portal to contribute to our collective efforts in maintaining a positive and inclusive learning environment.

Together, we can foster a culture of respect, kindness, and empathy within our school community. Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to creating a safe space for all.

Mr Martin (Deputy Headteacher & DSL)

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Young Barnet Charity Collection.

The Sixth Form are collecting gifts from St Andrew Students to deliver to the Young Barnet Foundation. The Young Barnet Foundation delivers gifts to disadvantaged children and young people living in Barnet via local charities, social enterprises, community and faith groups. In line with our Christian school values of kindness and responsibility we would like to support all young people in Barnet through this wonderful charity. If you are able to spare a gift, please give to your child before December 15th. More information about the charity and gift ideas can be found on their website:

www.youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk/christmascampaign

Christmas Gift Campaign



GUARDIAN & YOUTH FOCUS GROUP

BE PART OF OUR FOCUS GROUP & INFLUENCE THE FUTURE OF POSITIVE ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2023
18:00 - 20:00

CANADA VILLA YOUTH CENTRE, PURSLEY ROAD, MILL HILL, NW7 2BU

REGISTER NOW
BARNETYOUTH.UK

THIS IS NOT A TRADITIONAL FOCUS GROUP. THERE WILL BE GAMES, PIZZA & MUCH MORE!

Caring for people, our places and the planet.

www.barnet.gov.uk

APOSTLE NEWS

Bringing good news to our community

Scan me



Access our Student Newsletter - Apostle News Edition 2 by scanning the QR code!

CHRISTMAS FEAST

Roast Turkey, Stuffing & Pigs in Blankets
OR
Vegan Soya Bean & Cranberry Wellington

Both Served with Seasonal Vegetables,
Roast Potatoes & Gravy

&
Christmas Pudding with Vanilla Sauce
OR
Stained Glass/Window Shortbread



Swap the whole ride for PARK and STRIDE

Drop-off and pick-up for can be busy times on the North London Business Park. Please do encourage your child to use public transport or walk or drop off/pick up outside the NLBP as this helps possible congestion and makes our site safer. If you do pick up in the afternoon, please do use the designated orange bays to wait. Our partners, the Comer Group, have also allowed parents to use bays that are not in use on the ground floor of the multi-storey care park without paying. They have emphasised to us that waiting in your cars in these bays must not start before 2.45pm; we ask that you do not arrive before this time as you may be subject to a fixed penalty notice parking fine. Please do ensure that you do not park in the disabled parking bays if you are not displaying a blue badge as you may be liable for a fixed penalty notice parking fine also. We would like to thank all parents who do look for alternatives for drop-off/pick-up and for all of you who follow the routine of dropping off via the usual routes.

Mr Francis (Head of Year 8 & PE Teacher)

At St Andrew we have a team of colleagues ready to remove or reduce any barriers to students learning or wellbeing. If you have any concerns about your, or any other child in school please contact us. This should include:

- Their physical safety, such as their travel to and from school or the environment they are in outside of school.
- Their mental wellbeing, such as any concerns about anxiety, loneliness, bereavement or other mental health concerns.
- Their social development, such as concerning friendship groups or worries over gang involvement.
- Any other concerns such as obsession over gaming or being on the internet too much.

Please contact us through the staff contact form on our website, even if we cannot help directly, we can signpost families to local organisations and charities.

In particular, please contact the safeguarding leads below, or any other adults.

Your Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mr Martin, Ms Walt and Ms Viala



• Ms Awotona or Ms Henshaw – Devall or Ms Sanandres



Extra Curricular Clubs Timetable Autumn Term

	Lunchtime	After school
Monday	Y7 and Y8 Drama Club - DR1 (12.50 – 1.20pm)	All Years Dodgeball (3 – 4pm) KS3 (Y7 - Y9) STEM Club – SC4 (3.05 – 3.45pm) Homework Club – ICT1 (3.3.50pm)
Tuesday	Strategy Club: Chess, Connect 4, Backgammon, Card Games – MA3 (12.35 – 1.10pm) Y9 Drama Club - DR1 (12.50 – 1.20pm)	Homework Club – ICT1 (3.3.50pm)
Wednesday	Strategy Club: Chess, Connect 4, Backgammon, Card Games – MA3 (12.35 – 1.10pm)	Dance - B5 Changing Rooms (3 – 4.30pm) Art Club – Art1 Sign Up Only (3 – 4pm) Homework Club – ICT1 (3 - 3.50pm)
Thursday	Guitar Club - MU1 (12.35 – 1.20pm) MFL Speaking Club – CR11 (12.35 – 1pm) A Level girl Club – EN6 (12.35 – 1.15pm) Apostle News Writing Group (12.35 – 1.15pm)	All Years Basketball – B5 Changing Rooms (3 – 4pm) Netball - B5 Changing Rooms (3 – 4pm) Choir – MU1 (3 - 3.50pm) Homework Club – ICT1 (3 - 3.50pm)
Friday		Homework Club – ICT1 (3 - 3.50pm)