

St Andrew the Apostle
Greek Orthodox



Ever to Excel

Dear Parents,

We had a lovely BBQ with Y11 students at the end of last week. Saying goodbye to Year 11 students is always a time of very mixed emotions for staff and for other students. It is especially difficult when they have been the first cohort in a brand new school and helped to work with staff to shape our school. We are hoping that many of them will return to Y12 in September and we look forward to seeing them on Thursday 23rd August when they come in to pick up their exam results. Please remember that they must pick them up personally unless parents have made arrangements with the school.

We appreciated the Service of Blessing for Building 4 last week which was carried out by His Eminence Archbishop Gregorios. It was a shame that the meeting clashed with a certain football match! However it was a lovely service which included the Byzantine Choir and music from our own students.

There are a few staff who are leaving us at the end of term and we are also employing more new teachers as the school expand. It is a difficult year for recruitment as in some subject areas there is a definite shortage of quality candidates. However you will be pleased to know that we have interviewed a large number of candidates and selected those who have excellent subject knowledge and the character and skills to deliver outstanding lessons. I am very pleased with our appointments.

There are a number of school events coming up before the end of term. Please make sure you have checked our diary on the School App or our website to make sure you and your child are prepared and know where and when events are taking place.

Best wishes,

Rob Ahearn, Headteacher

Deputy Headteacher/Head of English – Mr Vassiliou

Message to Year 11 Leavers

When you were younger, you all wanted this day to come so quickly. To leave school is such a momentous time in your precious lives, as years of learning, laughing and growing comes to a close in the secondary chapter.

I am proud to say you are my first year group to take through to the final day of school. I have been privileged to know such a marvellous group of young adults.

From the outset, I chose to take this year group because I wanted a challenge. I have enjoyed being your Year Leader because I felt I took you under my wing as my 'students'.

I feel that you have developed into hard working, mature, enthusiastic young adults but more importantly, you have it within you to be polite, caring and genuine members of society.

Along the way, I have supported some of you with personal tough times and emotional journeys. These students know who they are and when things get tough for you, take a deep breath and remember how far you have come. Believe in yourself, I always have believed in you. Even though I have spoken to some more than others, I just wanted to highlight the ones I haven't - **your attitude, effort and commitment didn't go unnoticed... I am proud of you.**

But in fact, you all make me proud and I take great comfort in knowing that the talent in this room will produce doctors, teachers, paramedics, police men and women, accountants, writers, dentists, builders, plumbers, politicians, vets and the list goes on. You are at the start of a thrilling chapter!

Push yourself, take on challenges and explore this wonderful world. Keep strong friendships, respect your family and loved ones. Trust your instincts and take opportunities to better yourself.

But sadly, the start of a new chapter always means the previous one has to come to an end. Even in the most exciting of books end far too quickly. Especially our chapter. Good luck in everything you all do. Have fun and enjoy!

Be brave and positive

Be courageous about meeting people, about having a go at something you haven't done before.

Have big dreams and ambitions. School should have prepared you to be resilient and equipped you with the grit and determination to succeed and overcome the inevitable knock-backs along the way.

Get outside your comfort zone

Don't only stick to friends who are like you, reach out and listen to those who have different interests and backgrounds, and most importantly – volunteer some of your time.

Don't be afraid to fail

Learn from your mistakes and persevere, remembering this quote from Samuel Beckett: **'Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better.'**

Look to the future; but take the time to get things right

No matter whether you get the exam results you were expecting, you are at the start of a journey that is as yet undefined. Grab that precious opportunity with both hands and be bold. Get the little things right: be on time, treat others kindly and work hard.

Farewell to Year 11



Assistant Headteacher - Mrs Sampson



The Student Council has played an instrumental role in helping to change the catering in the school and below is an account from Habiba in Year 9 about what the process entailed.

“A few weeks ago, me and the rest of the school council team had a small trip to Building 4 to test out some food for our new catering regarding the school. The experience was great. We met 3 groups that had an amazing set up and a range of vegetarian to halal cuisines. When we first came in we were kindly introduced to the staff that gave us the opportunity. We sat in a room and waited for the first group to come in.

They stood in front of us and performed their presentation, showing the new set up they had planned for the school cafeteria, also including a faster way to pay; barcoding. It was incredibly impressive how much time and work they had given into thinking what would be better for the school, and actually putting our problems into a decision. Group 1 also told us the food was cheap and had a wide range and variety. When we went to taste, it did live up to its standards (Only some foods.) There were salad bars, halal chicken, vegetarian burgers, yet the prices were a bit high for small meals.

The second one was personally my favourite, even though they didn't introduce a way to make the lines quicker and shorter, they had great foods and a nice set up for the school cafeteria. Their foods were healthy and very tasty. They also did halal foods and vegetarian foods, but there weren't a lot of them. Their foods were cheap yet good quality and they also had a fixed menu with a breakfast bar. They had foods from all around the world, going from Korean beef noodles to Taco Tuesday! They had everything that group 1 had, but better.

The third one was unfortunately everyone's least favourite one. They took sweet foods and tried to turn them healthy. I felt that their presentation was boring and they didn't really have anything that stood out to us. Only one food was good and it was the basic pasta with pesto. Other than that, the foods were expensive and soggy and they didn't have a wide range. It was only vegetarian.

My favourite part about the whole trip, was that we got our own goodie bags! We were allowed to take food for our friends and family. I enjoyed the whole experience and I would love to do it again “



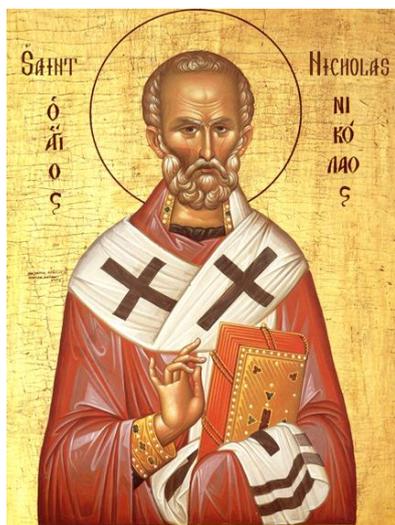
Habiba Mezine – 9KN

United Kingdom Thalassaemia Society

On 6th June, The School Council was visited by representatives of the United Kingdom Thalassaemia Society. The representatives, Romaine Maharaj and Cllr Stephanos Ioannou came to thank our students for raising money for their charity and to explain what the students needed to know about Thalassaemia. Below is an account of the visit from one of Year 7 students.

“When we gave the Thalassaemia group their cheque we discussed all the issues with today’s society including how there aren’t enough people supporting charities that are trying to raise awareness. The representatives Romaine Maharaj and Cllr Stephanos Ioannou, were extremely pleased with the amount of money our school had raised and we agreed to do another event to support a different charity in the future.”

Anastasia Klitou 7TT



Each year 7 tutor group has now been allocated a school ‘virtue’ and an attached ‘patron saint’. Each tutor group has examined the meaning of their chosen virtue, as well as studied the life of their associated saint. For example, 7LM have focused on the virtue of being ‘caring’. Their patron saint, who exhibited this virtue in his life, is Saint Nicholas. Students are now in the process of selecting a chosen charity which exhibits the qualities of their chosen virtue.

At the same time, tutor groups have been coming up with fundraising ideas in their PHSE lessons. They have planned fundraising activities for charity. Over the course of the next month, students will now carry out their fundraising activity, with funds being donated to their class’s charity. For example, students from 7CP are planning to bake cupcakes to sell at break and lunch times. We will let you know how they get on.

The full list of tutor group’s virtues and patron saints is as follows

- 7JE –Forgiveness, Saint Silouan
- 7TT –Honesty, Saint Paul
- 7TS –Fairness, Saint John Chrysostom
- 7CB –Respect, St John of Kronstadt
- 7CP –Responsibility, Saint Nectarios
- 7LM –Caring, Saint Nicholas



Year 7 PSHCE work on ‘what makes a good neighbour’:

This term year 7 students have studied ‘community’ and ‘neighbours’. They have reflected on the qualities required to make a good neighbour. They have been thoughtful and reflective in their consideration of both the school community and their local community and neighbourhood.

Ms McDonnell, PSHCE teacher

‘I think a good neighbour is someone who will help you out when you are struggling. They have good manners and a good heart.’

Kristiyan Dimitrov 7CP

‘A good neighbour is someone who doesn’t judge you by your material possessions e.g. your car. A good neighbour is considerate and will not disturb you e.g. with loud music.’

Hideshi Ogasawara 7CP

NEW SCHOOL PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR PARENTS

The school has changed its online payment provider to Parent Pay. Most parents have registered for this system as requested. If you have not received your registration details please can you contact Finance: (finance@standrewtheapostle.org.uk)

From September 2018 the canteen will be cashless therefore no cash will be accepted by our catering providers, please ensure you have registered for your child to be able to use the canteen facilities.

Medical Appointments during the School Day

Reminder: Please ensure you provide a letter of evidence or as permission for your child to leave during the school day.

W/C	July 2018
9 th July -13 th July	Berlin Trip
12 th July	Sports Day
15 th July	Year 7 Newquay Trip 15 th July – 19 th July
23 rd July	Awards Assemblies
24 th July	Awards Assemblies