



Headteacher's Update

18 October 2021



Feast of the Holy Apostle- St Luke the Evangelist

Key messages

Dear Parents and Carers,

The visit to our school by His Eminence the Archbishop Nikitas on Wednesday 13 October was a wonderful, blessed and memorable occasion. We were fortunate indeed that in addition to His Eminence, The Worshipful The Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet was able to attend the special occasion of an assembly and service of Blessing conducted by His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas at our school.

The order of service included an accomplished musical performance by our students followed by a speech from Mrs K Lynch (Chair of the Board of Trustees of our sponsors- The Russell Education Trust (RET)). One of the most moving moments of the service was hearing our students from various year groups reciting together the Lord's prayer in English, Greek, Albanian, Bulgarian, Romanian, Russian and Serbian.

We say our school prayer every morning in school and many of our students can recite it off by-heart. It seems only fitting that I share the school prayer here so that parents and carers may also join us in prayer if they would like to do so:

St Andrew the Apostle School Prayer

We bless you our most high God and Lord of mercy.

We pray that you would bless each one of us this day.

Give us inquiring minds and discerning hearts.

Give us courage to persevere in all we undertake.

Give us the gift of joy and wonder in all things.

Give us laughter and love to share with others.

Give us protection and safety in all that we do.

And give us sure and certain knowledge of your unfailing love.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit both now and forever and to the ages of ages.

Amen.

I would like to give our thanks to His Eminence, to The Worshipful the Mayor and our other esteemed guests for spending quality time with our students and staff. Our students were eager to ask many questions and I am delighted to say that all were answered!



A reminder that this **Friday 22 October** is an INSET day for staff so that means that school will be closed to students except for a small group of sixth formers who will be studying maths GCSE in preparation for the November series of exams. School will reopen at the normal time for all students on Monday 1 November.

For parents and carers of **Year 6 students who are applying for a place at STA for September 2022**, please do remember to submit your SIF (supplementary information form). Please [click here](#) to read about how to apply and to access information about the SIF. Please [click here](#) if you would like to hear my Open day speech and a speech from our Head Girl, our Head Boy and from a Year 7 child. Our students have eloquently and accurately described what it is like to be a student of STA in their own words.

Finally, today we remembered Sir David Amess who was tragically killed on 15 October. Sir David was the second MP in five years who has been killed doing their job. Jo Cox MP was killed in 2016 leaving behind a husband and two young children. We decided to join together as a community to pray for Sir David's family, his wife and five children and all those who are grieving. We prayed to respect Sir David's life and in respect of our democracy.

Reminder: Please [click here](#) to follow the link to the Planning consultation so that you may make a comment of support about our school's section of the application.

Mrs I Warwick (Headteacher)

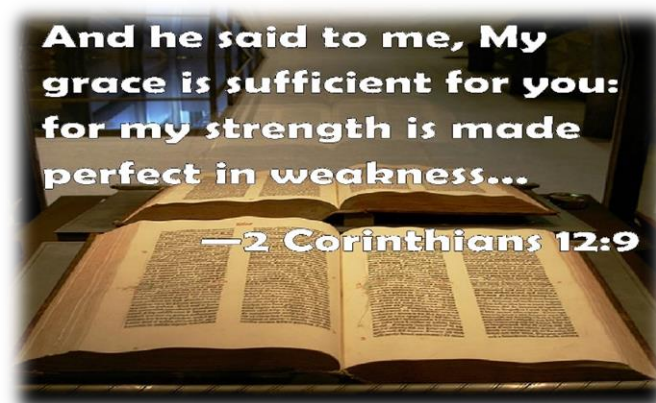
Faith - πίστις



St Luke the Evangelist is one of the Four Evangelists—the four traditionally ascribed authors of the canonical gospels. The Early Church Fathers ascribed to him authorship of both the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, which would mean Luke contributed over a quarter of the text of the New Testament, more than any other author. Prominent figures in early Christianity

St Luke is thought to have been both a physician and a disciple of Paul. Since the early years of the faith, Christians have regarded him as a saint.

The Catholic Church and other major denominations venerate him as **Saint Luke the Evangelist** and as a patron saint of artists, physicians, bachelors, surgeons, students and butchers.



How is Jesus the Strength of God?

Jesus embodies the wonderful gifts of power, leadership, accomplishment, problem solving and goal achievement. These gifts are called Gifts of Strength. Jesus is powerful. The wind, waves, animals and demons were at His command. Nothing could overpower Jesus if He didn't allow it to. Jesus is a great leader.

In just 3 short years He took 12 unlikely, untrained men; trained them and left them. Over 2000 years have passed, and their teachings and traditions are still changing people's lives. Jesus accomplished a lot with His high energy. The bible says that if they wrote down everything that Jesus did in His life, the entire world couldn't hold all the books.

Jesus was a problem solver. There was no problem that was too tough for Jesus. People would stand in line all day long just to have Jesus solve their problems. He did that through the use of miracles. Jesus was a high achiever. The oldest part of the bible, the Old Testament, contains many goals for Jesus to accomplish. We call them prophecies. Jesus accomplished every single one of those goals, down to the last detail. When He was done, He declared, "It is finished." Jesus is the Strength of God.

"My strength is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:8)

Whether it's a mean comment or act of violence, why is it so easy to hurt people? And why should we care? Yet Jesus showed us that true strength often involves being weak: this is the way of love and the cross.

Jesus Christ is a unique person. He is the only perfect human being ever born. He is the exact representation of God. He is God with skin on. He is the only Son of God, and before He was born as a man, He existed as the "Word of God". It's hard for us to picture exactly what that means. So, let's just focus on His humanity. We know humans, and we have lots of information about the human Jesus. Let's answer the question, "Who is this Jesus I am supposed to love?"

Jesus is the Heart of God

Jesus has gifts of love, acceptance, creativity, storytelling, influence, excitement, and popularity. These gifts are called the Gifts of the Heart. Jesus loves all people and sees the wonderful potential of every person. He loved all kinds of people when He lived on earth, even tax gatherers and prostitutes; the kinds of people with whom the religious rulers of the day would not want to be associated. Jesus went to their homes and had meals with them!

Jesus was a great storyteller. In fact, people are still repeating His stories. He called His stories parables. Everywhere Jesus went there was a party, and people would come from miles around just to hear His stories. It was always crowded when Jesus spoke, and they were always running out of seats. People would pack the room, hang in the windows, and even come down through the roof just to hear Him. He was very popular. Jesus was influential. In fact, we number our years based on the date of His death. No human being has ever been as influential as Jesus has. Let us continue drawing strength from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mr M Vassiliou (STA Spiritual Director)

Update- Parent Governor vacancy



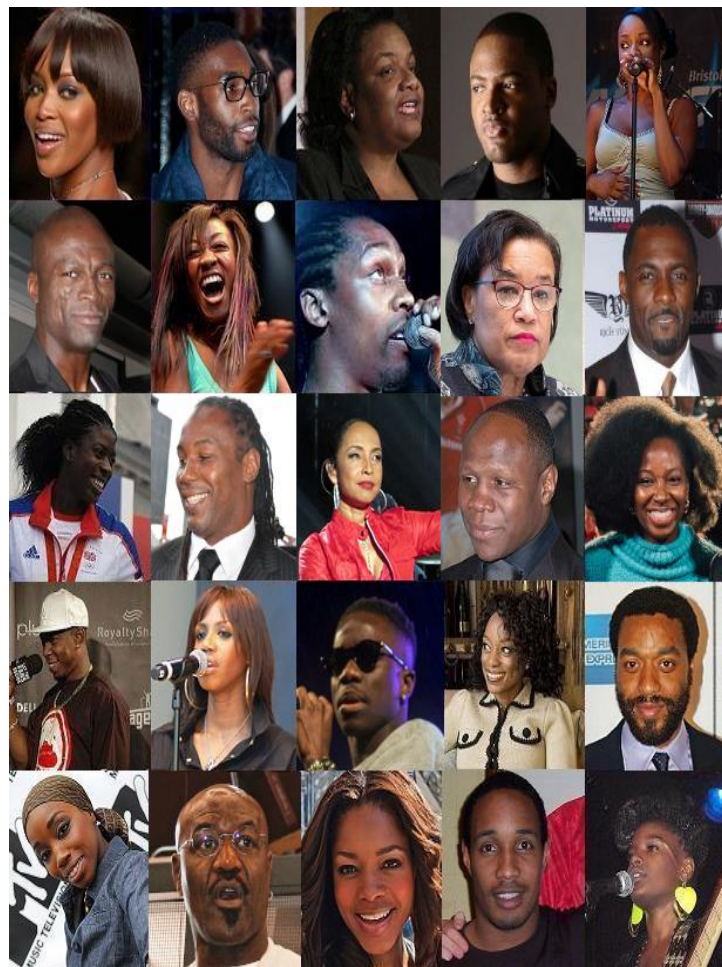
I understand that some parents and carers had an issue with inputting codes on the voting form. Thank you for letting us know about this. I am pleased to let you know that these issues have now been resolved.

We will now count the ballot papers on Friday 22 October as I have extended the deadline by a day and we will announce the result of the election after half-term.

Please let the office know if you prefer to vote using a paper form by emailing admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk and marking your email for the attention of my PA, Mrs H. Marcou.

Mrs Warwick (Headteacher)

BHM competition- October 2021



Can you name the above 25 people and list the contribution they have made to our country? There is half a mark for the name and half a mark for their contribution- so total marks are out of 25.

You will gain an extra 5 marks for every additional person you would like to nominate to join the list of notable British people as part of our Black History Month 2021- Proud to Be- celebration. Please remember to give the reason for your nomination.

Please submit your answers by 3pm on Monday 1 November to admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk and mark for the attention of **Mrs Warwick (Headteacher)**.

Oxbridge opportunities at STA- reminder



Gonville & Caius will visit us and deliver personalised workshops for our most able students in Year 13, Year 12 and Year 11 on **Thursday 18 November**. We will end the day with a special workshop delivered by the team from Gonville & Caius to Year 5 and Year 6 students from our local primary schools.



We enjoyed a wonderful day on Thursday 14 October organised by **Dr Ana Hastoy** from Christ Church College, University of Oxford. Dr Hastoy delivered personalised workshops to our 7 Early Bird students in Year 13, followed by an informative workshop to Year 12 followed by Year 11. Our students were very engaged and asked a variety of questions relating to Oxbridge and also about application to university in general. We are very grateful for the excellent support from Dr Hastoy and the great care and attention paid to our students. We look forward to seeing Dr Hastoy again soon when she will deliver a workshop to Year 5 and Year 6 students from our local Primary schools.



Here is some very useful information from the Dr Hastoy from the University of Oxford.

Students- please sign up to these events. There is nothing to lose and so much to gain!

Year 13:**Oxford interview workshops**

- Online workshops after school, week of 8 November and week of 15 November from 4.30-5.15 and 5.15-6pm

- Practise thinking about interview-like questions in subject groups and ask any questions you have about Oxford interviews!
- Book a place [here](#) by noon on **Monday 1 November**; for any questions please contact ana.hastoy@chch.ox.ac.uk

History Admissions Test workshop

- This workshop aims to demystify the History Aptitude Test (HAT) and build students' confidence and ability to analyse primary sources in depth. Students will explore the different kinds of sources that Historians use in their research and have a chance to put their analysis skills into practice as we work through a past HAT paper.
- Online workshops on 21, 26, 27 October, and 2 November
- Book a place on the HAT workshop or on other History skills workshops here: [Online History Skills Workshops | Faculty of History \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Oxford MAT Livestream

- Weekly on Thursdays at 17:00 UK time: <https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/r/matlive>
- Are you thinking of applying to study Mathematics at university? We're running a weekly livestream this summer, talking about maths problems and discussing problem-solving strategies, with a particular focus on Oxford's Mathematics Admissions Test (MAT). The sessions are free and available for everyone; anyone is welcome to join us live at 17:00 on Thursdays, and the sessions will be recorded and available to watch back at any time afterwards.

Year 12: Christ Church Horizons Programme

- The programme aims to support students in exploring beyond the curriculum and in developing key skills required to make competitive applications to university and to Oxford.
- 6 after-school workshops running from January to May in host schools in Barnet. In every session you'll be able to engage in discussions with Oxford academics and also develop your skills and find out more about university. At the end of the programme the students will be invited to a graduation day in Christ Church. Find out more here: [Christ Church Horizons | Christ Church, Oxford University](#)
- Apply [here](#) by noon on Friday 19 November; for any questions please contact ana.hastoy@chch.ox.ac.uk

Oxford Women in Computer Science (OxWoCS) Challenge Club

For female students at STA in Year 12 (16-17). Dates: Nov 2021 - May 2022.

- The Oxford Women in Computer Science (OxWoCS) Challenge club is a new initiative created by the Oxford Women in Computer Science society alongside the Oxford Department of Computer Science. It aims to create a community of young women with a passion for mathematics and its applications. The club consists of monthly mathematical and Computer Science related problem sheets which will be sent out for students to solve. These problems are designed to stretch and challenge students. At the end of each month, students will take part in an online discussion lead by an Oxford Computer Science student, to discuss the problems including solutions and techniques. Students who are successful in gaining a place on the programme commit to attending each of the six live sessions. We anticipate that the problem sheet to take about 6-8 hours of work, each month, in your free time, before the live session. Sessions designed to support you in applying to your chosen universities will also form part of the programme.
- Applications are open and close on 29 October 2021.

Further information: www.cs.ox.ac.uk/ChallengeClub Please get in touch via challengeclub@cs.ox.ac.uk if you have any questions.

History Skills Workshops

A series of workshops run by Oxford's History Faculty in October and November with three aims:

- To inspire curiosity about the past and enthusiasm for studying history.
- To help students to develop the analytical, critical, and imaginative skills that Russell Group universities look for in applicants for humanities degrees.
- To inform and encourage students to consider applying to read history at university, including at the University of Oxford.

Book a place here: <https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/online-history-skills-workshops>

All Year groups

Classics podcasts

- The Outreach team at Oxford University's Faculty of Classics is delighted to share a new podcast series – Regional Classics – which highlights the voices and perspectives of Classicists from different regions of the UK and explores their experiences of studying the ancient world. The podcast aims to create thought-provoking conversations, engage new audiences, and highlight initiatives which widen access to the study of Classics.
- The first three episodes of the series, bringing together Oxford students and staff from Northern Ireland, Scotland and South West England, are now live and available to listen to at Oxford Podcasts (<http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/series/regional-classics>), Apple Podcasts (<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/id1584329875>) and our Faculty Website (<https://clasoutreach.web.ox.ac.uk/regional-classics-podcast-northern-ireland>). Follow the podcast to be notified of new releases. We hope you enjoy listening!

Christ Church student chat platform

- Do you have questions about student life at Oxford? Chat to our students here: www.chch.ox.ac.uk/admissions/chat



Mrs Warwick (Headteacher)

Christmas card competition



STA competition to design a Christmas card to celebrate Christmas 2021.

The winner will have their design printed and sent out to hundreds of people from the STA community! The winner will also receive a complimentary pack of Christmas cards featuring their very own design for their family and friends.

Competition rules

- Artwork must have a religious theme.
- Artwork must use colour and must be done on a single side of plain A4 paper.
- Artwork must be original and must not have any pop-up parts.
- Any materials and techniques using colour are permissible e.g. use of colouring pencils, pastels, oil or water colour paint, collage etc. You can be as creative as you wish.

Please hand in your design, clearly labelled on the back with your full name, year group and form group to **Ms Constantinides** by 3pm on **Friday 5 November**.



FOSA

FOSA

A productive meeting was held with parents and carers keen to relaunch FOSA (Friends of St Andrew) on Wednesday 13 October. As parents and carers of students of St Andrew the Apostle School, you are automatically a member. However, we are keen to establish a committee group to help drive forward events for our school community, along with a sub-group of parent volunteers to help support these events. We are keen to develop a large database of parents who would be able to contribute to ideas and help support the events.

We intend to arrange a Christmas raffle with all proceeds going to the school. Heads of department have created a wish list of resources ranging from more footballs for break and lunchtime to purchasing form-time reading books for every child in year 7. If you (or a business you know) are able to donate a prize, do get in touch with us as soon as possible via admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

Our next meeting will be held via Teams on **Thursday 4 November 2021 at 6.30pm**. We be hosting a coffee afternoon on **Thursday 11 November 2021 from 3.30pm-**

5.00pm which will give a chance for parents and carers from all year groups to come and meet each other.

We are also happy to take groups of parents from Year 7 and Year 8 on a guided tour of the school during the working day so that you may see and experience our wonderful ethos for yourself. We are offering this to these year groups in the first instance as we know that the induction events we usually hold for parents and carers were disrupted due to COVID restrictions. I will send a letter with a link so that you are able to let us know if this is something you would like to do.

If you would like to attend any of the above events, please do get in touch via admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk and mark your email for the attention of **Mr Michael (Senior Deputy Headteacher)**

Headteacher Parent Surgery

If you would like to meet with the Headteacher or a Senior Deputy Headteacher at our 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.

**Mrs Warwick (Headteacher)****Mental Health**

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

Please [click here](#) to access support and advice from Kooth

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 Martin (DSL*)**; **Mrs C Hammond (DDSL*)**; **Mrs I Warwick (DDSL*)**; **Ms M Henshaw-Devall**; **Mr N Anemori** and **Ms M Hirli**.

***DDSL is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead *DSL is the Designated Safeguarding lead.**

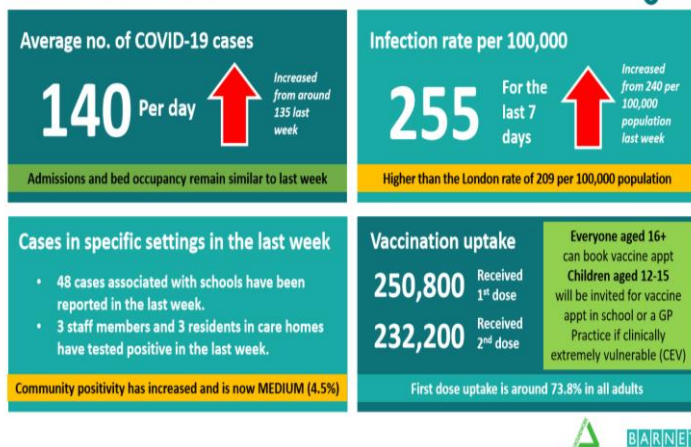
Reminder COVID safety

Please [click here](#) if you would like to view the Barnet COVID-19 weekly update.

Students should be testing themselves at home twice weekly (Wednesdays and Sundays) using lateral flow tests and results should be reported to the school using our online reporting system. **Please note:** Students experiencing any symptoms of COVID must not come into school and must go immediately for a PCR test.

BARNET COVID-19 WEEKLY ROUND-UP

3 October – 9 October 2021



Careers opportunity in Law- Message to students

Legal career insights for school and university students hosted by **Browne Jacobson** and Young Professionals UK. Held on Zoom on Wednesday 27 October from 9.00am until 4.00pm

Browne Jacobson are passionate about finding innovative ways to help attract talent into the industry. People from lower socio-economic and minority backgrounds are still hugely underrepresented in the legal profession. We want to change this. We want to break down barriers to accessing a legal career and help everyone - whatever their background - get a foot in the door.

We've set up FAIRE (Fairer Access into Real Experience) to revolutionise the way law firms engage with talent and grow an industry-wide culture of inclusivity.

FAIRE aims to support social mobility, offering students equal access to work experience that can pave the way for a career in the legal sector. FAIRE is part of our firm-wide commitment to fair working practises, inclusivity, collaboration and making sure we're at the forefront of conversations about how we can all tackle society's biggest issues. Following on from the incredible success of the April FAIRE virtual legal careers event, we are proud to be partnering with Young Professionals again for our second virtual FAIRE event on **27 October 2021**. The event will again provide students with the opportunity to learn about legal career pathways, learn invaluable skills to support their future careers in the law and make connections with some of the legal sectors highest profile individuals.

A truly fantastic set of speakers have been lined up to present including: Chris Daw QC (Barrister, BBC TV presenter), **Damian Whitlam** (Partner at Browne Jacobson), Nathan Miebai (Senior District Prosecutor at the Crown Prosecution Service), Peter Watson (CEO of Watson's Daily, the leading trainer of commercial awareness skills), Shaun Wallace (Barrister and TV quizzer), Chrissie Wolfe (CEO of Law & Broader), Dr Paul McConnell (Head of Employability at University of Birmingham Law School), Mary Bonsor (CEO – F-Lex legal), Sally Penni MBE (Barrister, Author and leading legal Podcast presenter) and Lubna Shuja (Deputy President of The Law Society).

All attendees will receive an e-certificate to add to their CV to help boost future career prospects. This virtual event is open to all students interested in a career within the law. Please sign up to be part of this fantastic event now by registering using the link below: **[Student registration link](#)** Registrations are open now and places are limited, so don't delay in signing up!

Term dates

Please [click here](#) to access term dates. Please note, these dates may be subject to change.

Ofsted: "The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is outstanding. Pupils are self-confident and very articulate. They like their school and they want to do well. Pupils said that there is a 'family atmosphere' in the school and there is a warmth in the relationships between pupils." (2018)



Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs at grade 4+ with specific requirements for each course. Some courses and combinations of courses will require a minimum grade 5 in English and mathematics.

Ofsted "Leaders in the sixth form set high expectations for their students. They know their students well and track their progress carefully. Students really enjoy their learning in the sixth form." (2018)

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Tel: 0203 195 5444



St Andrew The Apostle
SIXTH FORM
Ever to Excel

Find us online:
www.standrewtheapostle.org.uk
admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

Sixth form Open Evening for September 2022 application is on **Wednesday 17 November 2021**. Please check our website <https://www.standrewtheapostle.org.uk/> for further details.