



Feast Day of St Matthew: 16 November Eastern Orthodox Church



Key Messages

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your generosity in sending in donations of food which we will deliver this week to our local food bank. Please have a look at the back page of this newsletter to see

a selection of the food you have sent in. We are blessed in our school community to live our values in all that we do. Giving to those in need helps us to **'foster a spirit of kindness, tolerance and responsibility.'**



Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon.
Isaiah 58:10

Please [click here](#) to read more about our vision and values.

A group of our Year 7 students approached me on Friday and asked whether we could build on the success of the food drive and ask for our parents and carers to donate a Christmas decoration to our school. Currently we have Christmas trees but we are in need of decorations. If you have any spare decorations at home, we would be delighted to receive them. Please send them in with your child via their form tutor. I hope to be able to share some pictures of beautifully adorned Christmas trees with you in our final newsletter of the year!

I have enjoyed delivering face-to-face assemblies in our chapel to each year group. We have been learning about the importance of doing the right thing when faced with difficult choices. All parents and carers will receive a letter from me today concerning our expectations about our students and their use of social media.



On Tuesday, I was thrilled to hear our very own Byzantine choir in rehearsal with Mr Lasithiotakis (Head of Performing Arts) and led by Father Joseph Paliouras from the Twelve Apostles Greek Orthodox Church in Hertfordshire. Our choir is composed of girls and boys from every year group in our school, including the sixth form. We look forward to seeing our choir performing for the first time in our Christmas show on **Friday 10 December**. Our choir will gain inspiration from our school trip to St Sophia's Greek Orthodox Cathedral on Thursday 2 December to view the 'Concert of Christmas Joy.'



Our sixth form students have taken part in debates and discussions about action that we can individually take as good citizens of our world. Please turn to the back page of this newsletter to view some of the pledges made by our students. Each individual leaf is powerful in its own right. Imagine the impact of all our leaves joining together on a tree as a part of a forest of pledges. I have every confidence that our young people at STA have the ability to make our world a better place for all of us- no matter where we live across our globe.

On Thursday we learned the importance of Remembrance Day and we all observed a 2-minute silence at 11am. The sound of silence was a powerful way for us to think about the service men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our liberty.

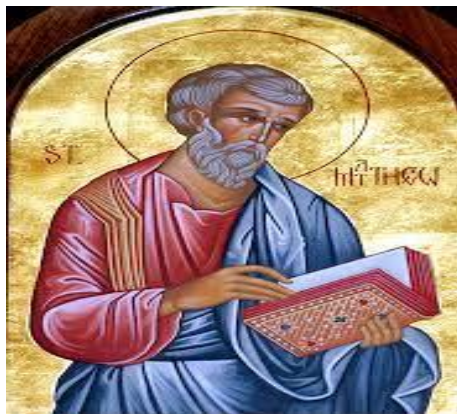
Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. John15:13

"THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD, AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD:
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM, NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN.
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM."



Mrs I Warwick (Headteacher)

Faith - πίστις



Feast Day of St Matthew: Apostle and Evangelist - His feast day is celebrated on 16 November in the East and on 21 September in the West.

St Matthew the Apostle was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. Before being called by Jesus, he was a tax collector. He is the author of The Gospel of St Matthew and initially started

by preaching the Gospel to the Jewish community in Judea before going further east to other countries.

Matthew was different from the other Apostles. He was not a popular man. Many people felt that he was unworthy to be chosen as a follower of Jesus. Matthew worked for the Romans as a tax collector. The Romans ruled Palestine and the Jewish people during the time of Jesus. They forced the Jewish people to pay taxes to them.

In Chapter 9 of his Gospel, Matthew tells the story of how Jesus called him to follow him and how the Jewish people felt about tax collectors. In this story, the Pharisees, a group of Jews who strictly followed all the laws of their religion, referred to tax collectors as "sinners." Jesus knew in his heart that Matthew was not a sinner or a cheat.

Matthew's life is changed when Jesus came upon him carrying out his tax collection duties in the custom house. Jesus called out to Matthew: "Follow me." Matthew, without hesitation, left all his interests and became a disciple of Jesus, embracing his teachings.

It is possible that Matthew had already been aware of Jesus and his teachings, since he was probably from the same territory (Galilee) in which Jesus had been teaching. He got up and followed Jesus and invited Him to his home for a meal. When the Pharisees saw this, they acted with judgment and cruelty. They said, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus' subsequent response to them says much about the goodness of our Lord.

"Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words, I desire mercy, not sacrifice. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners." Matthew 9:11-13

When Jesus said that He "did not come to call the righteous but sinners," He was speaking of those who were "self-righteous." A self-righteous person is one who thinks highly of himself, ignoring the truth of God but choosing, instead, to elevate their own self and reputation in a way which makes them appear boastful and egotistical.

What is interesting is that Jesus approached Matthew, the sinner and tax collector, and confidently called him to be a follower. Most likely, Jesus could see into his heart. He knew Matthew was not happy with his life and was searching for more. Therefore, as soon as Jesus called him to follow Him, it is clear that something took place within Matthew's heart and soul. The fact that he got up and followed our Lord shows that the spiritual draw to Jesus was far more powerful than his desire for material wealth.

This same truth applies to each and every one of us. No matter what we find ourselves drawn to and no matter how

we seek satisfaction in life, the truth is that there is only one thing that will satisfy. We could have all the money in the world, all earthly power and prestige, and still, in the depths of our souls, we will not find peace until we turn to Jesus and follow Him.

It is worth reflecting upon how satisfied we are with our own lives. Is there something missing? If so, let us look at our goals and priorities in life. What do we spend most of our time thinking about, talking about and daydreaming about?

If it is not our Lord Who occupies our mind, it is said that we can expect to experience discontentment in life. In that case, look to the witness of Saint Matthew. He is a saint today because he responded to Jesus' invitation to abandon his life of sin and greed to follow Him in poverty. But in that worldly poverty and abandonment of earthly things, Saint Matthew became abundantly rich spiritually and will remain so forever in Heaven.

Mr M Vassiliou (STA Spiritual Advisor)

Attendance matters



If you need to report your child absent from school please use **one** of the following methods:

Email: attendance@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

Use the Studybugs App:



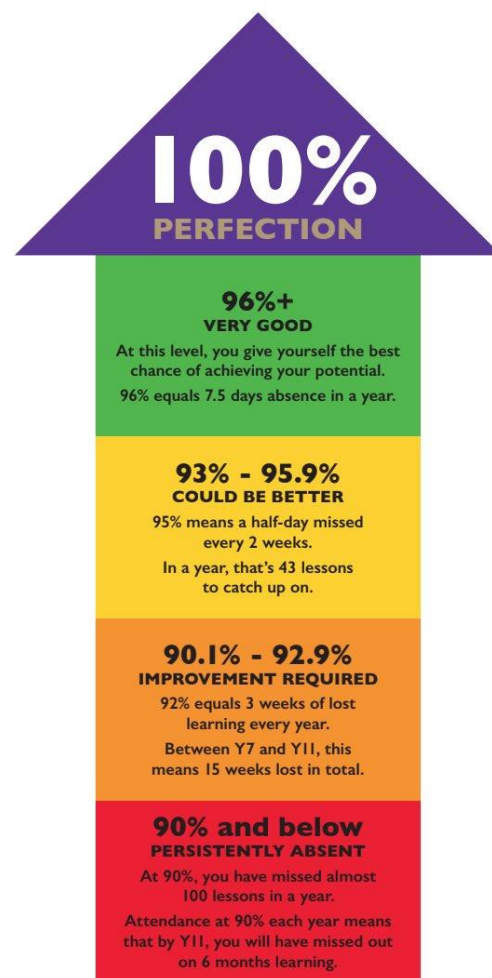
<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

Telephone: **02031955444** and select Option 1

It is a legal requirement for all students to attend school every day. Any requests for absence during term time must be made in writing by emailing attendance@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

Mrs Warwick (Headteacher) will consider the request with the Head of Year and you will be notified by the office whether the request has been approved and whether the absence will be authorised.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Absence due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) is coded separately and is not counted as either authorised or unauthorised absence. We will provide work for students who are self-isolating in the form of live lessons on MS Teams or work set on Bromcom and on MS Teams.

Mrs M Stylianou (Attendance Administrator)

Stars of the Week



Year 7: Dacie L - for her continuous studious approach to lessons and hard work across different subject areas. **Celeste F** - for bringing in food for the charity drive and for discussing key points on the importance of helping others less fortunate than ourselves.

Year 8: Christianna P – for outstanding musical performance on the violin in History performing 'Greensleeves' **Maya G** – for always being pleasant and showing perseverance this term.

Year 9: Samiksa S and Emmily H - for brilliant effort in numeracy during form time.

Year 10: Hisham K - for being Man of the Match and his performance in the Year 10 football match. **Sammy S** - for his excellent leadership as captain of the Year 10 football match

Year 11: Nicos N - for working hard toward his mocks and having 100% attendance. **Mia R** - for being well organised and working hard toward her mock exams.

Year 12: Noah Y - for a thoroughly researched presentation on role models and inspirational musicians, as part of the enrichment activities during from time. **Gia M** - for supporting debates on climate change and for volunteering to contribute to the topic as part of the inter-school debate on COP26.

Year 13: Alex M and Luigi F - for excellent participation in Economics and for demonstrating continuous improvement in lessons.

Orestes D - for great improvement in his studies and for consistency in the quality of his work.

Kapil S - for excellent progress, clearly visible in his homework tasks.

Well done!

STA Year 8/9 Football Victory ! STA v FBS: 6-1



Another victory for STA boys on **8 November!** The year 8 and 9 boys were up against Friern Barnet at our home ground. At the beginning of the game, we made a lacklustre start as Friern Barnet opened the game with the first goal. However, this fired up our side led by captain, Joe P. Phoenix D equalised in the first half of the game. Our Man of the Match, Aleks OP, scored 3 goals which gave us a commanding lead against Friern Barnet. Friern Barnet were relentlessly battling their way back into the game but Petar B and Jayden O ended

their dreams by scoring a goal each which gave us the 6-1 victory.

Great job!

Mr De Jesus

STA Christmas Show 2021

CHRISTMAS SHOW

The date for our Christmas show is on the evening of **Friday 10 December. Only 4 weeks to go!** You will be able to secure tickets on Parentpay so please look out for a letter with instructions on how to obtain tickets later on this week.

STA students, local primary school students and their teachers will be able to see segments of the live performance during the school day. The Friends of St Andrew (FOSA) made the excellent suggestion of combining attendance to our show with a coffee afternoon for parents and carers. Please look out for a message from FOSA about this. We are very grateful to FOSA for their fundraising efforts and support of our school. We look forward to being able to purchase items for our new and improved playground in Building 5 with money raised.





Christmas Raffle - message from FOSA



Friends of St Andrew



Reminder: If you (or a company you know) is able to donate a prize, we would be very grateful. Please do get in touch by emailing us at admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk with FOSA in the title and mark your email for the attention of Mr Michael.

Mr Michael (Senior Deputy Headteacher)

STA Christmas Card Competition-by popular demand

Christmas Card Competition

Design a Christmas Card for this year's **Christmas Card Competition!**

Your Christmas card needs to include:

1. A special Christmas message.
2. A religious image of some kind.
3. Lots of Christmas cheer.
4. Needs to be on a single A5 piece of paper.

If your Christmas card is chosen, it will be used as the official Christmas card of the school for 2021, and you will receive 30 copies of your Christmas card to give out for your friends and family.

You can use any materials you like as long as there are no 3D elements.

You have until the **26th of November**. Please hand your Christmas cards to **Miss Constantinides**.

Good Luck!

We have extended the deadline for this competition by popular demand! Please ensure that your final designs are handed into Miss Constantinides by 26 November.

Open events for Year 12 students or students

University of East London - Wed 17 November 2021 - 17:00 to 20:00



University of East London

- Join the welcome talk from our Vice-Chancellor & President, Professor Amanda Broderick
- Learn about our new Dual Delivery approach to teaching and learning
- Tune into our subject talks and direct your questions to our academics
- Talk to our current students and ask them about life at UEL
- Explore our waterfront student accommodation and all our campuses
- Discover the wide range of support offered to you as a UEL student
- Make an application to study at UEL.

University of Greenwich - Thu 25 November 2021 - 12:30 to 19:30



At the University of Greenwich, we believe that the best way to decide which subject you want to study is by talking to the people who teach it. Join us on Thursday 25 November to learn more about your course of interest from Greenwich academics, as well as all the career-boosting and financial support opportunities that the University offers.

University of Kent - 20 November 2021 - 10:00 to 14:00



- Chat to current students and lecturers
- Get all the info you need on fees, funding and finance
- Explore the Templeman Library and discover how its staff and facilities will help you through your studies
- Find out about the full range of student support services available to you throughout your time here

- Check out Kent's high quality academic buildings and specialist facilities
- Take a tour around our accommodation, there's something for everyone!

University of Hertfordshire – 20 November – 10:00 to 14:00



- the day will run: 10.00 – 14.00
- welcome to Herts talks regularly running
- campus tours every 20-30 minutes, led by our current students
- accommodation show rooms – these are self-guided so you can fit this in around your day
- speak to course leaders
- immersive facilities tours – find out where you'll be studying
- talk to our Student Union about how you can get involved at Herts
- the HertSquad will be there to showcase all the sports you can be a part of, socially or competitively
- Q&A sessions with our current students, get to know what it's really like at Herts
- learn about the support we can give you throughout your time at Herts.
- After the event you will have the chance to book 1-1 zoom sessions with our finance and accommodation teams, the booking link will be sent via email.

University of Reading – 16 November – 14 December



University of Reading

Our live sessions give you a great opportunity to hear from our staff and students on different aspects of choosing and applying to university. If you cannot attend our live webinars but would still like to hear the presentation, please sign up and we will send you a recording of the session.

[Upcoming Webinars](#)

- **16 November - 16:30 - [How to write your personal statement](#)**
- **14 December- 16:30 - [The UCAS application process](#)**



Reminder-message to Y11 and Y12 from King's College

KING'S *College* LONDON

Building on the success of our Winter School in 2021, we are delighted to announce that Winter School will be returning in February 2022.

Choose one of the following courses for the duration of the programme:

- Business & Economics
- Health & Science
- Law, Politics & Social Science
- Media, Art & Culture (NEW for 2022)
- Psychology & Neuroscience (NEW for 2022)

The Winter School enables students to sample various subjects within their chosen discipline, gain insight into how it's taught at undergraduate level, start to develop skills and competencies needed for success at university, and build confidence ahead of further study.

Students who successfully complete the programme will receive a Participant Record of Achievement. Applications are open on **15 November** for both the winter and summer school programmes- so get ready to apply! Please [click here](#) to apply for the pre-university winter school. Winter school dates are **Monday 14- Friday 18 February 2022**.

Please [click here](#) to read more about the pre-university summer school. Summer school dates run from 4- 29 July depending on the course you choose.

Reminder- Y10 students from Imperial College, London



Please [click here](#) to apply for a place at the prestigious STEM potential course run by Imperial College, University of London. STEM Potential supports you through years 10 and 12 with insightful lectures, subject-specific workshops and a non-residential summer school.

Applications for Y10 students will be open between 4 November and 6 January 2022.

Applications for Y12 students are currently closed and will open again in September 2022.

Reminder: University of Cambridge: Gonville & Caius



We are looking forward to our visit by Gonville & Caius. They will 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.

Anti Bullying Week

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2021

Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. This is one of the reasons, that 'One Kind Word' has been chosen as the theme of Anti-Bullying Week, taking place from 15 to 19 of November 2021.

Norton, Chris Ramsey and Alex Scott MBE will be live from the studio in Salford to take viewers through a glittering evening of fun and fundraising. The money raised through the show will help support local charities and projects which are providing essential frontline help to children and young people in communities throughout the UK.



In a world that can sometimes feel like it's filled with negativity, one kind word can provide a moment of hope. It can be a turning point. It can change someone's perspective. It can change their day. It can change the course of a conversation and break the cycle of bullying. Best of all, one kind word leads to another. Kindness fuels kindness. So from the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, together, our actions can fire a chain reaction that powers positivity (Anti Bullying Alliance 2021).

To donate please [click here](#) or you can also call 0345 7 33 22 33 to make a donation over the phone.

Want to help decorate the BP studio for Children in Need? [Head here to print out your very own chain of Pudsey and Blush bears to colour in](#), then send them and you might see your bears hanging up the BP studio next week!

[Click here to watch One Kind Word Secondary School Short Film](#)

Summer work experiences 2022



Children in Need Appeal Show 2021



On **Friday 19 November** on BBC One, the big appeal show returns for a jam-packed evening of entertainment. The presenters Ade Adepitan MBE, Mel Giedroyc, Graham

[Medicine & Psychology](#) | [Engineering & Tech](#) | [Law & Politics](#) | [Business & Finance](#) | [Architecture](#) | [Culture & Media](#)

We are proud to announce the launch of the most innovative and all-encompassing set of summer career experiences we have ever created. Students will work alongside top professionals for up to 15 days in London with UCL accommodation available and 26 careers to choose from.

Immersive activities, site visits, 1:1 career coaching and networking sessions; all tailor-made for ages 12-18. Students simply cannot find this anywhere else. Highlights include:

- [Law](#): Argue a human rights case in the Supreme Court
- [Investment Banking](#): Trade the stock market in a City skyscraper
- [Engineering](#): Explore a Boeing jet with aerospace engineers
- [Medicine](#): Shadow doctors in a London teaching hospital
- [Psychology](#): Attend clinical patient consultations
- [Tech](#): Experience robotics and artificial intelligence

Places are highly limited. Please share this email with students and parents so they can register now. Students can use code **SUMMER15 for 15% off** before **31 December**. You can download a PDF of this email [here](#).

Summer Experiences in Action

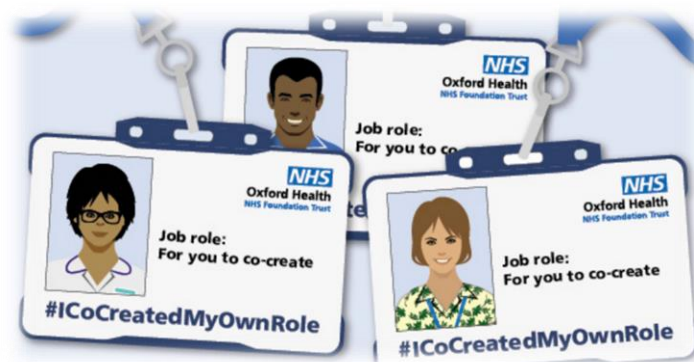
Take a look at real footage from our summer career experiences in the below video; or you can read our blog [On the Scene at InvestIN's Summer Experiences](#). Click on video image to view short video.

NHS KS3 Competition



Students are challenged to research and choose [an NHS career competition](#) that interests them. Once chosen, they create materials to promote it, starting with a job description to capture key responsibilities, along with any qualifications, skills and experience needed.

This learning is then used to create a fun and lively job advert to appeal to their peers. Students can enter individually or in teams of up to four.



Entries must be received no later than **Saturday 30 April 2022**.

- Overall national winner(s) will receive Amazon vouchers worth £50.
- Overall national winner(s) will also receive a class prize which will be discussed with the winning school.
- Regional winners will each receive an Amazon voucher worth £25. Highly commended certificates will also be awarded.



Young Writers Twisted Tales Competition



Can you flip the narrative and write from the villain's point of view?

A fantastic way to explore character perspectives and empathy through creative writing...

How much does a story change if we change the point of view? What would the villain say if they could share their story? Are the bad guys

evil? Misguided? Misunderstood? Twisted Tales is a fantastic opportunity to flip the script and explore another side of the story.

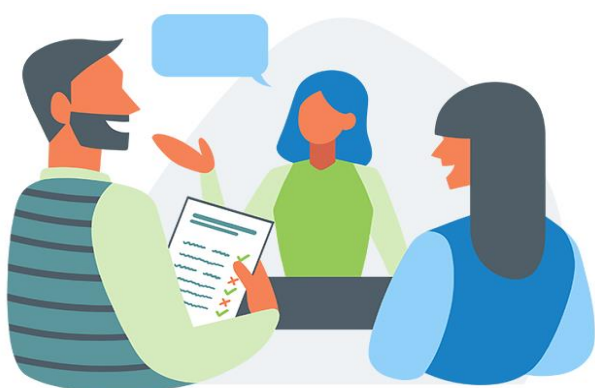
Starting with sequels and prequels, moving into redemption, and even questioning who the real villain is, Twisted Tales is accessible from Year 7 through to sixth form.

Use [the video](#) for inspiration and let your English teacher know if you would like to submit an entry.

Deadline: **Friday 17 December 2021**



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.

Mental health support for students



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

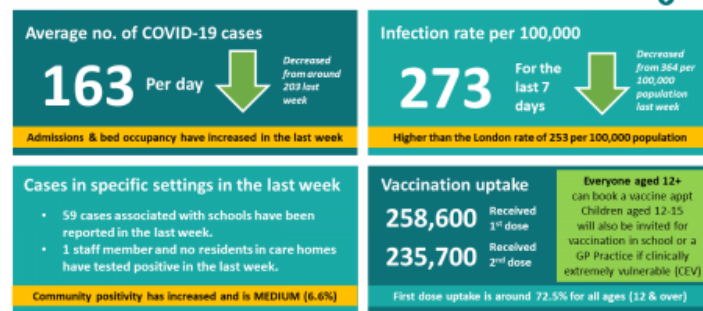
Please [click here](#) to access support and advice from Kooth

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

BARNET COVID-19 WEEKLY ROUND-UP

31 October – 6 November 2021



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.

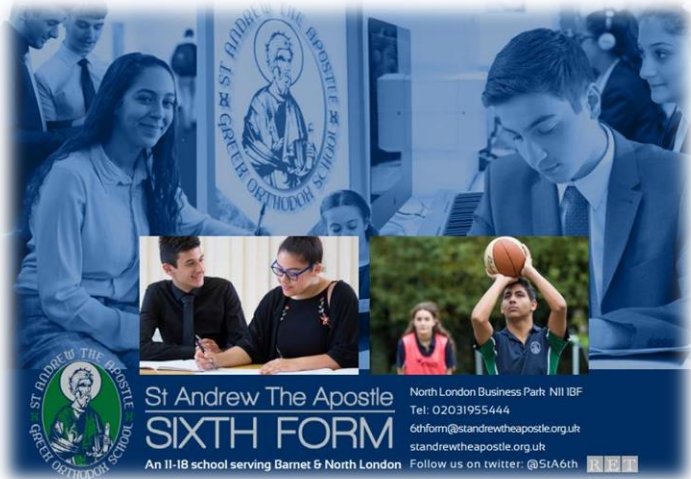
Please [click here](#) if you would like to view the Barnet COVID-19 weekly update.

Important dates for the calendar



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

Applications for our Sixth Form

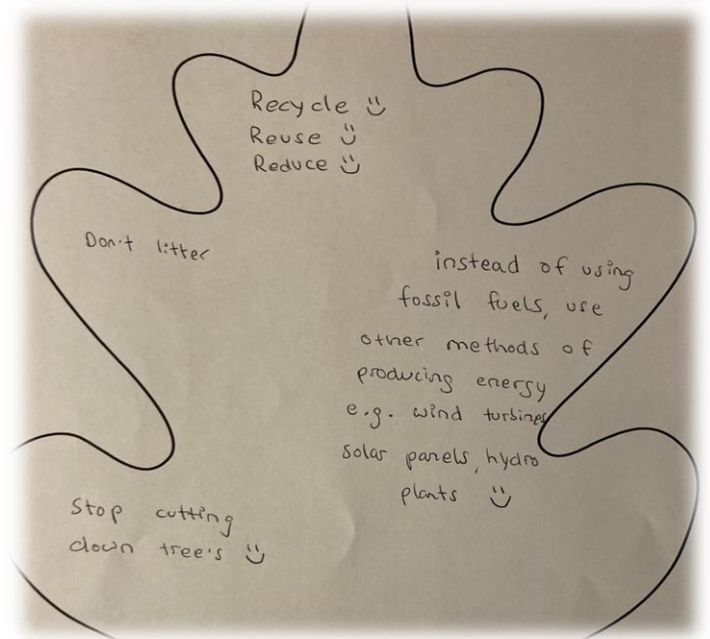
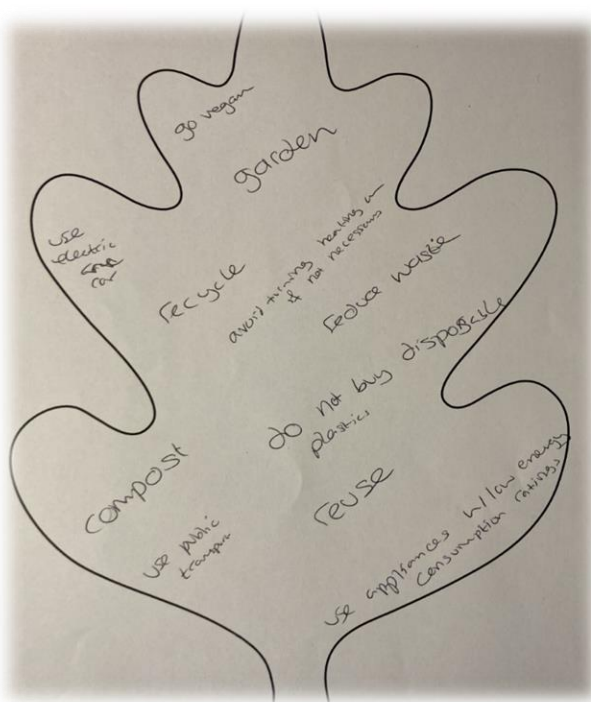
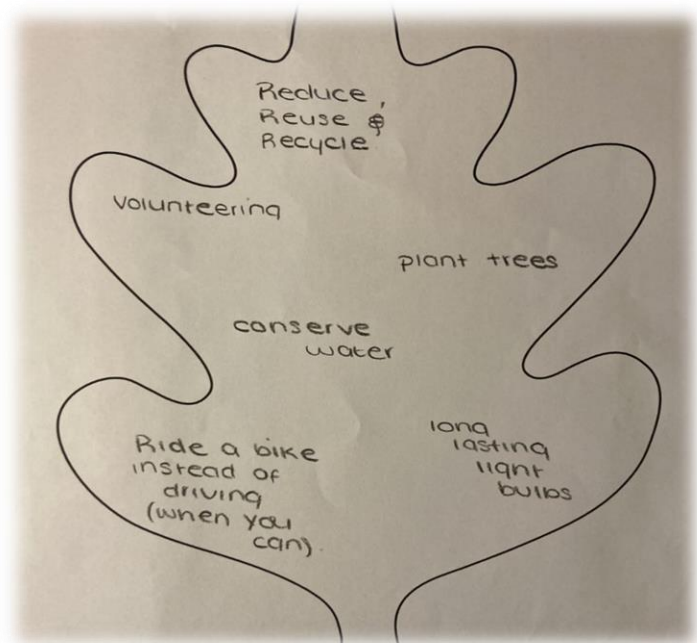
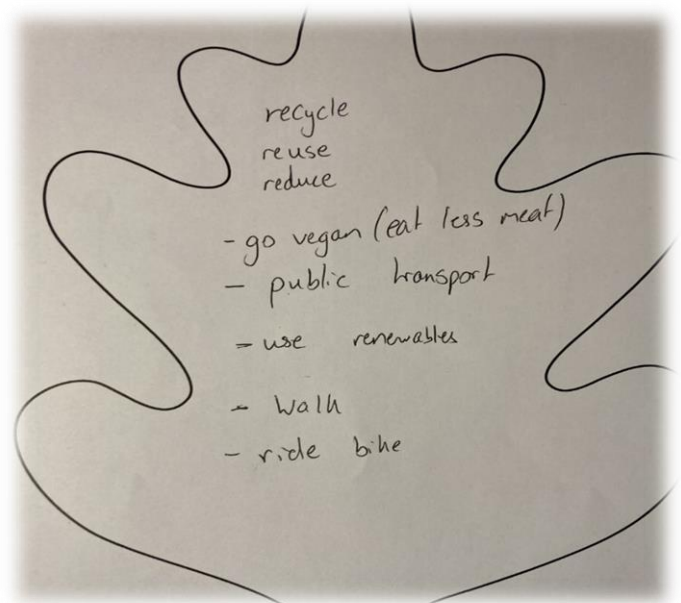


Please [click here](#) to apply for our sixth form. Early applications stand a better chance of being successful in obtaining a place to study the course of choice in our sixth form.

Ofsted 2018 "The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is **outstanding**. Leaders in the sixth form set **high expectations** for their students. Students really enjoy their learning in the sixth form."

Personal attention + Positive relationships = Excellent Progress

Gallery of pledges to protect our environment



Some of the donations of food for our local food bank

