

03/07/2020

Student Newsletter No 14

St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School



Ever to Excel



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely this week seeing so many of our students in Years 8 and 9 coming into school for their academic review meetings and I look forward to seeing our Year 7 students in on Monday and Tuesday of next week.

Elsewhere in school as you know, Year 10 and 12 who are back have continued to impress me with their commitment, maturity and enthusiasm for the lessons that have been arranged for them. Teaching staff have said how good it has been to see them. The planned programme will be repeated for the final two weeks as the official guidance currently in place

allows us to bring in 25% of year 10 and 12 on any day without mixing students between classes.

In terms of next academic year and the changes announced by the Prime Minister this week, our best guess is that we need to plan for two scenarios – we will be fully open for all year groups with no social distancing measures in place or we will be closed due to a spike in the spread of the virus. I am aware that it can feel slightly confusing and disconcerting to hear and read so many conflicting reports in the media regarding what a return to school in September may look like. It is my hope and we are planning and working on the basis that we are fully open albeit with sensible precautions in place to mitigate the likelihood of the virus taking hold. These include:

- Regular handwashing – several washing stations have been installed outside
- Sanitisers are in each classroom
- There is a glass screen at Reception
- One-way systems will operate where possible

As the academic year draws to a close I will be sending out a separate letter to all parents informing them of our end of term arrangements as well as our plans for reopening to all students on the 3rd September. In the meantime the priorities between now and September will be to ensure that:

- Students in Years 11 & 13 receive their GCSE, A-level results and are supported with gaining entry to their chosen path at education, employment or training.
- The site is prepared and ready for September in accordance with guidance received.
- Revised programmes of learning are in place for September to ensure that students are able to return to school in a way which supports continued good progress and achievement.

Catch-up plans are developed for implementation in the autumn term, for all students as well as additional help for small groups and individuals who require this. We will utilise additional funding issued by the government and all catch up activities will be additional to their normal scheduled time in school.

We are not planning to run any provision in the summer holidays. Although the idea of summer camps have been reported in the media we do not believe this would be the most effective way of using additional funding to ensure that schools catch up with work missed.

We believe that planned organised learning which is integrated with lesson provision for September will be the most effective approach.

Thank you for your on-going support, particularly at this difficult time. It is clear that kindness positivity and purpose are values which are flourishing through our school community and we will ensure that these endure as we plan for St Andrew the Apostle School coming back stronger than ever in September and God Bless.

Michael Vassiliou

(Headteacher – Acting)

St Andrew the Apostle – Thoughts for the Week



Bible Readings and Prayers for this time:

Psalm 16

Keep me safe, my God,
for in you I take refuge.
I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;
apart from you I have no good thing."

LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure.
The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance.
I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
I keep my eyes always on the LORD.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

A prayer

O Lord,

You who steadied the hand of Peter as he began to sink on the stormy sea,
if you are with me, no one is against me.

Grant to me the shield of faith and the mighty armour of the Holy Spirit to protect me and guide me to do Your will.

The future I put into Your hands, O Lord, and I follow You to a life in Christ.


Amen

Theme for the Week – Week beginning 29th June

Theme of the week	Key Dates/Events	Bible Quotation	Inspirational Quotation	Questions to consider
Fairness: Giving everyone the opportunity to succeed.	2 nd July – Year 6 transition day	"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up." – 1 Thessalonians 5:11	"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." – Muhammad Ali	When has someone helped you succeed? When have you helped others? What else can you do?

Free Audio Books

For as long as schools audible closed, are open. Right now, kids everywhere can instantly stream an incredible collection of stories, including titles across eight different languages, that will help them continue dreaming, learning, and just being kids.

All stories are free to stream on your desktop, laptop, phone or tablet 

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>



Music of the Week

Between Us is the debut studio album by Australian songwriter and record producer Hayden James. The album represents 'the journey through different stages of relationships; love, separation and ultimately hope.'

With the genre of smooth techno, house and great beats, listen to his album and brighten up your day.

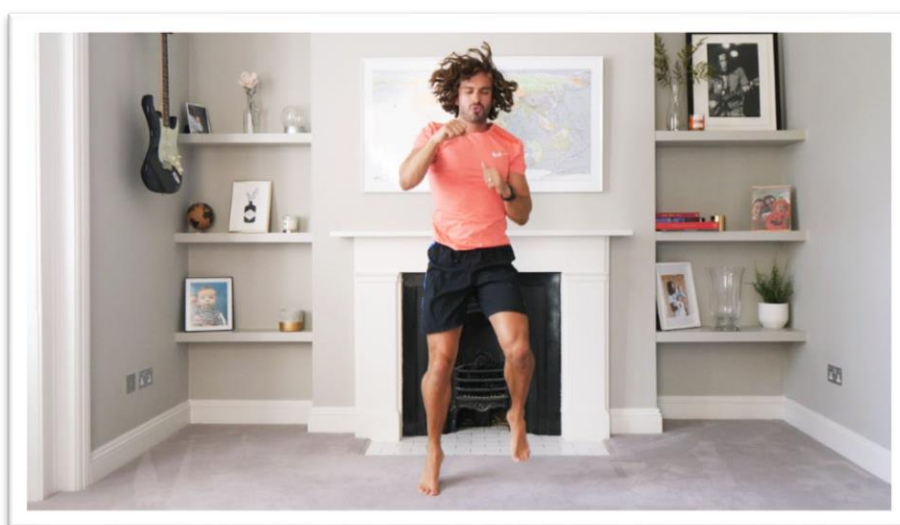
<https://open.spotify.com/album/3BFi0MO4iiDBggZXcJ5k4D>



Joe Wicks Fitness

Joe Wicks had a goal to offer free home workouts to everyone, no matter what their fitness levels. It took Joe a long time to grow this workout base, but it now has over 250+ workouts and reaches millions of people all over the world 😊

Have you tried any of the workouts yet?



Click the link below to watch the kids workout fitness video!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3LPrhI0v-w>

Offer to Cook Something for your Parents

It's going to be a difficult and stressful time for families over the next few months - aim to do something nice around the house once a day. Maybe offer to cook a meal once a week to reduce the stress on your family. Record this in your daily planner.

St Andrews will provide an easy to follow recipe with each newsletter. Take a photo of what you've created and email it to admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk and we will share what you've made.

If you're looking for quick, easy and healthy family meal inspiration, check out this healthy kid's healthy Brain Booster Pancake Recipe.



You can always change it the way you like and make it your own!

<https://www.superhealthykids.com/recipes/brain-booster-pancake-recipe/>

Safeguarding

If you have are worried about your safety or wellbeing during the school closure, please ask your parents to email inclusion@standrewtheapostle.org.uk to see if the school can help. They should also contact the local authority (council) who will often be more able to help when school is closed.

We all have a role to play in keeping children and young people safe from abuse.

If you have concerns, or need advice during this difficult time, please call the NSPCC's helpline on 0808 800 5000 or email help@nspcc.org.uk

Your Mental Health is Important

It can be really difficult being isolated from friends, if you need someone to speak to for good advice, try our friends at www.kooth.com for someone to talk to in these anxious times.



BookTrust Bookfinder

Parents, looking for ideas for your child's next #book?

Our Bookfinder will help you discover the very best kids' books: magical mysteries, astonishing adventures and fantastic non-fiction. Simply choose an age range, pick as many themes as you want to search through thousands of book reviews, and get reading with two easy steps. Enjoy!

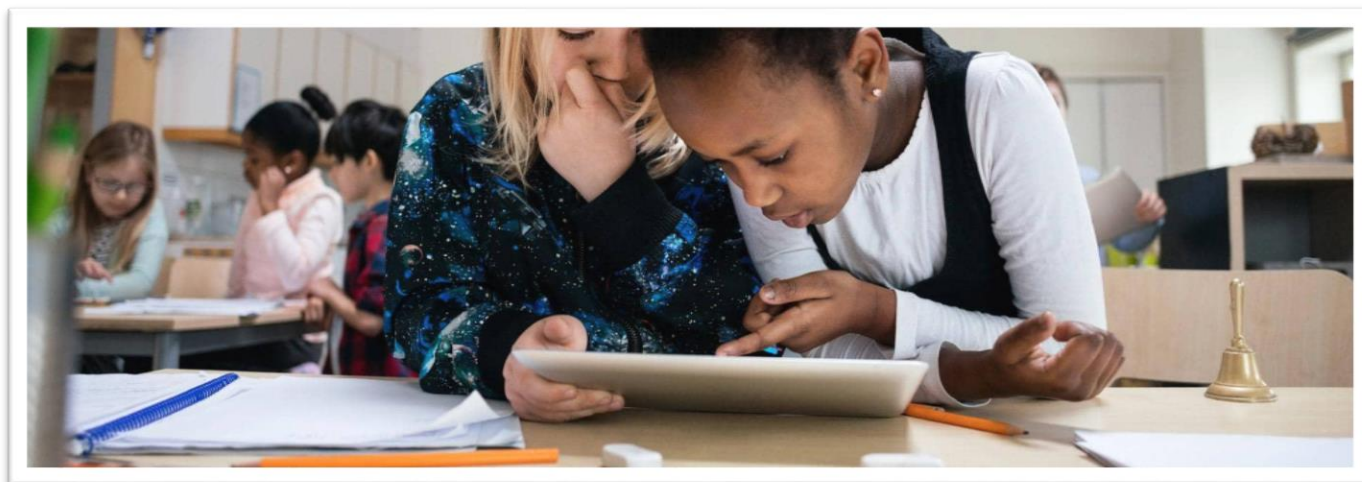
Check out the BookTrust's #BookfinderBooks 📖👉

You can search by age and genre 📖👉

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/bookfinder/>



Barclays Digital Eagles



[Digital Eagles](#) Code Playground sessions are a really fun way to learn the basics and develop digital skills for the future and they provide free digital education across a range of topics 📖🌐👉

With code playground and free digital education across a range of topics, from AI to Zettabytes. Learn to adapt in the ever-changing digital world.

<https://www.barclays.co.uk/digital-confidence/eagles/>

Anti Bullying Week



Anti-Bullying Week 2020 is taking place from Monday 16th to Friday 20th November this year. It has the theme United Against Bullying.

This year, more than ever, we've witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge.

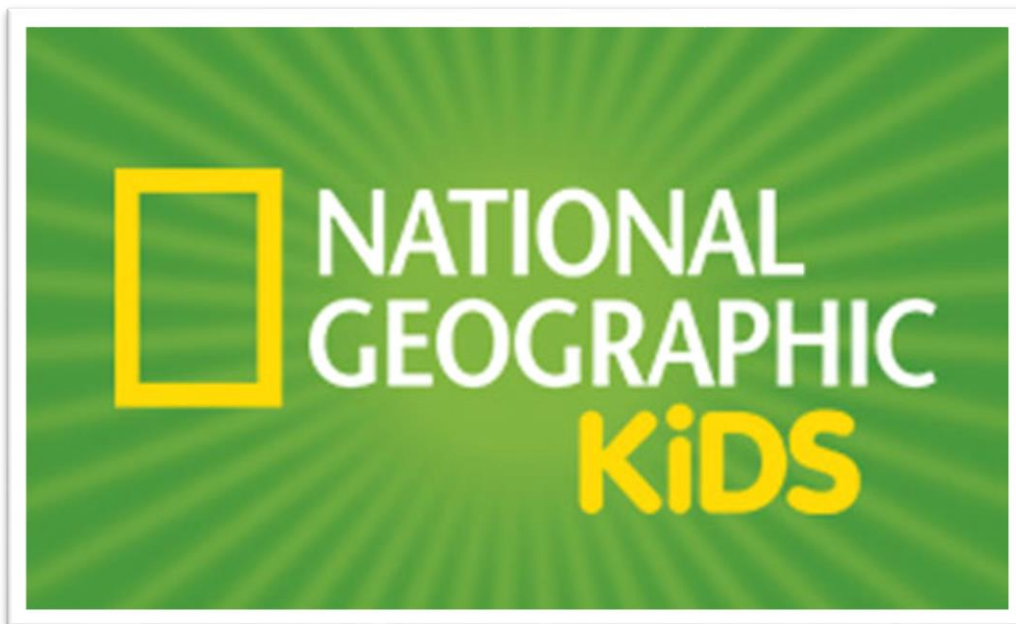
Anti-Bullying Week is no different. Bullying has a long lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. But by channelling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together. From parents and carers, to teachers and politicians, to children and young people, we all have a part to play in coming together to make a difference.

We're all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we're united against bullying 

<https://bit.ly/3dNboKv>

#STOPCYBERBULLYINGDAY Anti-Bullying Alliance

National Geographic Kids Origami



Put your paper folding skills to the test with these six types of animal origami for kids! You'll be a master of origami in no time... With origami animals such as fish, butterfly, crane, flowers and many more try these easy step by step guide!

Psst! Don't worry if you don't have a origami pad, you can still have a go at our origami for kids! You'll simply need a small, square piece of paper to get started.

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/kids-club/entertainment/general-entertainment/origami-for-kids/>

