



Headteacher's Update

19 March 2021

Key Messages



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to finally welcome all of our students back to school. I have enjoyed going into lessons and seeing our students looking smart and getting straight on with learning. Our joyful school is once again filled with happy staff and children which acts as a reminder that we are truly blessed and that we have so much to look forward to as a school community.

From the week beginning Monday 22 March, I will be opening the Chapel for staff who wish to have a quiet space for prayer and reflection before or after school. I will supervise the Chapel so that individual students may also have access to the space during break or lunchtime. We will offer a selection of prayers for staff and students to take home if they wish and there will also be an opportunity to light an LED votive candle. We

will of course ensure that all visits to the Chapel are COVID-safe and compliant with our risk assessment.

I have written to all parents and carers to explain the procedure for home-testing using LFD test kits which we can provide for you in school. Please read the letter carefully and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us via admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk.

I have also written to all parents and carers of Year 11 and Year 13 students about the procedure for awarding grades for the summer 2021. Please do let your child's Form Tutor or the Head of Year know if you have any questions and we would be happy to help you.

We will have an INSET day on Monday 7 June. This is a change to the calendar and is necessary for all staff to take part in moderation of grades before we submit data to the exam board. There will be no students in school on that date and I would like to thank you in advance for your understanding and support.

Please keep an eye on next week's newsletter for some exciting competitions that are coming up. Competitions include: decorating an Easter candle; designing a postcard to celebrate the religious nature of Easter; poster and cookery competition to explain the different foods that may be eaten during the period of Easter in the Greek Orthodox calendar; traditional Greek Orthodox egg decorating competition. All students reading this newsletter may enter our competitions and we especially welcome entries from Year 5 and Year 6 students who are in Primary school.



Entries can be sent to us at:

admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk



With very best wishes,

Mrs I Warwick (Headteacher)



Pascha Easter – Sunday of Orthodox

Countdown to Holy 'Pascha' Easter – Sunday of Orthodoxy

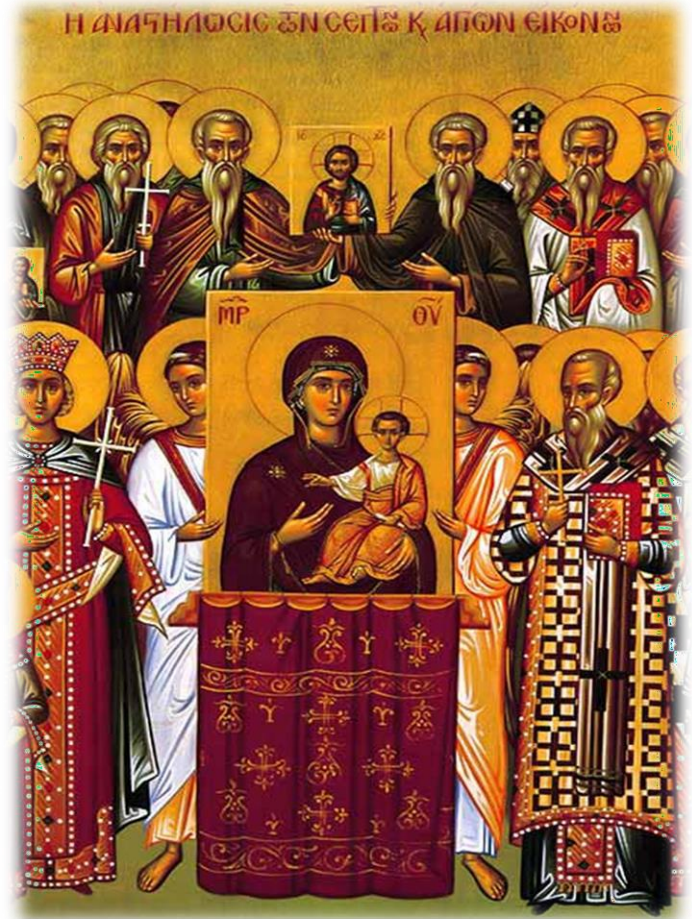
Before we begin looking at the significance of the first Sunday of Lent within the Orthodox Church, it is worth considering why it is that the Orthodox Church celebrates Easter at a later date to the Western Churches which includes our Catholic and Protestant brothers and sisters.

There are two main reasons for this. The first reason has to do with the calendar; the Christian Orthodox Church continues to follow the Julian calendar when calculating the date of Easter. The rest of Christianity uses the Gregorian calendar. There is a thirteen-day difference between the two calendars, the Julian calendar being thirteen (13) days behind the Gregorian.

The other factor at work is that the Orthodox Church requires that Easter must take place after the Jewish Passover in order to maintain the Biblical sequence of Christ's Passion. The rest of Christianity ignores this requirement, which means that on occasion Western Easter takes place either before or during the Jewish Passover.

This year Easter for the Western churches will be celebrated on 4 April, whilst in The Orthodox Church, Easter will take place on Sunday 2 May.

We wish all of our students and families a blessed and happy 'Sarakosti' (Greek term used to refer to the 40 days of Lent) now that we have fully entered into the Lenten period.



Icon depicting the restoration and veneration of holy icons within the Orthodox Church

After Cheese-fare or Forgiveness Sunday, last week, dairy products have also been eliminated along with all meat products. This is the beginning of the strict fast observed for Great Lent by Orthodox Christians.

Traditionally, dairy and meat products, oil, wine and fish are not consumed during Great Lent although olive oil and wine are acceptable on Saturdays and Sundays. Above all to those observing the Holy Fast in the days and weeks ahead we wish them all good strength, perseverance and courage.

This Sunday, we mark the first Sunday of Great Lent which is also the Feast of Orthodoxy, where we commemorate the restoration of the veneration of icons. The dominant theme of this Sunday since 843 has been that of the victory of the icons and how the holy

saints depicted in these icons allow believers across the world to connect ever more closely with our Lord.

O Christ our God, begging forgiveness of our sins, we venerate your pure image O Good One. Of Your own will You condescended to ascend upon the Cross in the flesh and delivered those you created from the bondage of the enemy. Wherefore, thankfully we cry out: When You came to save the world You filled all things with joy, O our Saviour.

Amen

Character Education

Each week we mark a particular value and theme. These values are taken in turn from our agreed Character Education Values, that we hold dear as a school.

These include: **Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Fairness, Forgiveness, Honesty, Trustworthiness**

Our school value and theme for the week ahead is:

SCHOOL VALUE: Trustworthiness

THEME

The value of taking on important roles.

CHRISTIAN QUOTATION

“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble.” – 2 Peter 1: 10

OTHER QUOTATION

You cannot evade the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.” – Abraham Lincoln

On Tuesday 23 March, we will commemorate the National Day of Reflection- to mark the first anniversary of lockdown.

Mr M Vassiliou (Senior Deputy Headteacher)

Student of the Week

Well done!

All students mentioned in the weekly Newsletter will receive 10 recognition points awarded by their form tutor.

Year 7: Theo C (7P) For excellent and helpful behavior during classes and school time! **Zara T (7E)** - For gaining the most recognition points in the year group this week.

Year 8: Genti S (8L) For excellent effort and work in Maths. **Kiara S (8M)** For incredible work produced in Art

Year 9: Giorgio C (9H) For producing excellent work since returning to school. **Janan R (9T)** Excellent work in French and Science.

Year 10: Miguel E (10) Outstanding effort in Art. **Olivia M (10)** Admirable effort in Geography

Year 11: Elisia P (11S) Great effort in all her lessons since her full return to school this week. **Elena I (11G)** Excellent level of achievement point this week.

Year 12: Yayha M (12A) Lia K (12O) Orestes D (12O) Hailu B (12O) and Peter T (12O) for volunteering to support school duties and demonstrating a mature positive attitude.

Year 13: Stas A for supporting the Year 6 tours and **Nico S** and **Vasilis K** for mentoring a younger student.

Please let us know of any accolades your child has achieved by emailing their Head of Year so we may celebrate them in future newsletters.

Oxbridge application webinar

applying to uni:

next event
26th
march

free webinars with oxbridge for yr 12 (or S5) state school students

- personal statement + application guidance
- academic taster sessions
- admissions tutor advice
- mental wellbeing strategies

Please register your interest by clicking [here](#).

Competitions

British Science week poster competition



Why not get creative and design a poster on this year's theme: Innovating for the future. The judges are looking for creativity of course, but they also want to see informative content communicated in an engaging and effective way – a great opportunity for students to practise scientific communication skills.

This competition welcomes students from years 7 to 9, with the competition deadline on 30th April 2021.

[Click here](#) to see details and to enter.

Faraday Challenge days



Stations like London Waterloo and London Victoria now handle more passengers than the UK's busiest airports. This growth brings with it an increase in waste and Network Rail are committed to working sustainably and minimising their impact on the environment.

The brief is very broad. Your design could be something to help manage, re-use or recycle waste from stations or something to help reduce carbon emissions. It could be something which ensures clean air for passengers and local communities or something which helps encourage and protect wildlife alongside train tracks.

You don't need to design a whole station or train route; you just need to design a single product which might only be a tiny part of a station or a small part of train track. The more innovative, the better.

Could you help support the work of Network Rail and engineer a solution to the Virtual Faraday Challenge?

[Click here](#) for more information and details of how to apply. The challenge is open to anyone in the age group 7-15.

STA Student Work

Year 10 Media studies work – Students were asked to create a storyboard for a new crime drama series for prime-time UK television. These students did exceptionally well. Well done to all Year 10 Media students and especially to Max S; Emily G; Nia G and Scarlett E!



PROJECT NAME: Death in Dorney
NAME(S) OF THE PRODUCERS: Nia George



SHOT: Eagle eye
ACTION: Gives a full view of the scenery/narration and open up the scene
CAMERA MOVEMENT: Pedestal Up
LOCATION/SCENE: Country Side

SHOT: Close up
ACTION: Idria Elba a detective from the Caribbean shows up to close the case on a death (strong accent)
CAMERA MOVEMENT: Zoom out
LOCATION/SCENE: Airport (just landed)

SHOT: Medium long shot
ACTION: Benedict Cumberbatch with Conrad's at the scene of the crime but struggling therefore needs help
CAMERA MOVEMENT: Roll
LOCATION/SCENE: inside dorney court



SHOT: Big close up
ACTION: Viewers see dead body (graphic) a young girl who works there strangled
CAMERA MOVEMENT: Dolly
LOCATION/SCENE: in the main room of dorney court

SHOT: Medium long shot
ACTION: Interrogation or family and friends getting evidence to find the actual killer
CAMERA MOVEMENT: Pan into shot then for each interrogation dolly
LOCATION/SCENE: Their job/ where they are

SHOT: Over the shoulder shot
ACTION: has the suspect or suspects been found? Do they escape? Cliff hanger
CAMERA MOVEMENT: Dolly then finish with tilt up to the sky
LOCATON: In the main halls of the house with everyone



Ms Beddoes (Head of Year 10)

Last week's newsletters

Please click [here](#) to access last week's newsletters to see the exciting competitions we have on offer. There is still plenty of time to enter so be creative and send us your entry!

Please remember to include your full name, year group, form, school and contact details for your Parents or Carers.

Year 5 and Year 6 winners will be entered into a prize-draw competition and winning students will receive a certificate and a great prize!

Help and advice for Parents and Carers

Free holiday club

If you would like your child to access a free holiday club over the Easter holiday, please have a look at the poster below for details of how to sign up. This holiday club is an inclusive programme for children and young people in receipt of free school meals.

BACE HOLIDAYS

Barnet Active Creative Engaging holidays - BACE is an inclusive programme for children and young people who are in receipt of free school meals. Designed to experience active and healthy activities with an emphasis on physical, emotional, and nutritional wellbeing during the school holidays.

REGISTER NOW

Sign up at:
barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays

Dates: Easter Holidays
Ages: 5-16 years
Location: Online and venues across the Borough of Barnet

FREE

To find out about other projects that all children and young people in Barnet can access visit:
www.barnetyouth.uk

FAMILY FRIENDLY | Department of Education | YOUNG BARNET | BARNET

Supporting mental health and wellbeing

[Good Thinking](#) is a new enhanced online platform for young people who are having problems with sleep, stress, anxiety, or depression.

London's unique digital wellbeing service is supported by London's NHS, London boroughs, Public Health England, and the Mayor of London.

So far almost half a million Londoners have used Good Thinking to tackle sleep, anxiety, stress, and low mood. The digital platform hosts over 120 online resources including wellbeing information sources; guides to

improving mental health; courses on and offline; mobile apps and other therapy approaches suitable for London's modern, highly mobile population. New resources are also regularly being added in relation to the [Coronavirus and Mental Health](#).

Information from the DfE

Please [click here](#) for information from the Department of Education on Covid testing for secondary school students and their families.



Fundraising

Many of our families have been affected by COVID during the period of the pandemic and some by other illnesses as well, which are just as devastating; one of our families has set up a Just Giving page to support the charity 'Grief Encounters.' If you would like to donate, please [click here](#).

Free Thank you cards for school staff

Please click [here](#) to send a free 'Thank you' to a member of staff postcard. Anyone can send a card all year round. The *Thank a Teacher* campaign recognises ALL staff working in UK schools and colleges; school leaders, teachers, teaching assistants, and all support staff such as office staff, technicians, lunchtime supervisors and caretakers.



Headteacher's Update

19 March 2021

Headteacher Parent Surgery

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

Friends of STA (FOSA)

COMING SOON: Our first meeting of FOSA. If you would like to join our small group of parents and carers, please can you email admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk and mark your email for the attention of Mr M Vassiliou.

Mr M Vassiliou (Senior Deputy Headteacher)

Important dates for the calendar

Please [click here](#) to access dates for the calendar. Please note that these dates are subject to change, so please do keep checking in on a regular basis. If you have any queries about a specific date, please email us at admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk



Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be Ready

