

St Andrew's Academy

Family update newsletter



Head Teacher's Welcome



Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed a restful Christmas break and wish you a very Happy New Year.

Santa also visited St Andrew's in the form of a brand new Outdoor Gym installed on the main playground, kindly funded by our friends at SEN UTD. The Outdoor gym has many benefits for our young people, becoming a focal point at break times and factored into PE sessions and OT/Physio requirements. Please refer to the article within this newsletter that shares more details on the excellent work that SEN UTD do and some images of the gym.

A genuine thanks to the parents and carers that completed the Trust survey before Christmas. We had extremely positive feedback about all aspects of the school with 100% of parents sharing that they either strongly agree or agree that their young person is happy at school and 100% of parents that know, sharing that their young person feels safe at school. It's extremely important to us as a school that you strongly agree that we are high performing in all areas of the provision and exceeding your expectations across the board. I invite you all to contact the school at your earliest convenience should you be experiencing anything other than the very best your young person deserves and we will work hard to swiftly remedy it.

Our dedicated class teams have pulled out all the stops to map out an exciting Spring offer for every learner at St Andrew's to build on the excellent progress made in the Autumn Term. I very much look forward to sharing the achievements and celebrating the successes in the newsletter across 2024.

Have a safe and restful weekend,

David Braybrooke

Headteacher

Spring Term

12th January 2024

Key Stage 3

Barra and Hoy, have started their term by preparing for an exciting enterprise project. The project involves the cooking, delivery, and order-taking of breakfast cobs specifically for the staff. In order to ensure that the project runs smoothly, the students have been practising and perfecting their kitchen safety skills. As a part of their preparation, the students got the opportunity to cook and relish a delicious cob this week. The enterprise is all set to kickstart from next week, and the students can't wait to put their skills into action.



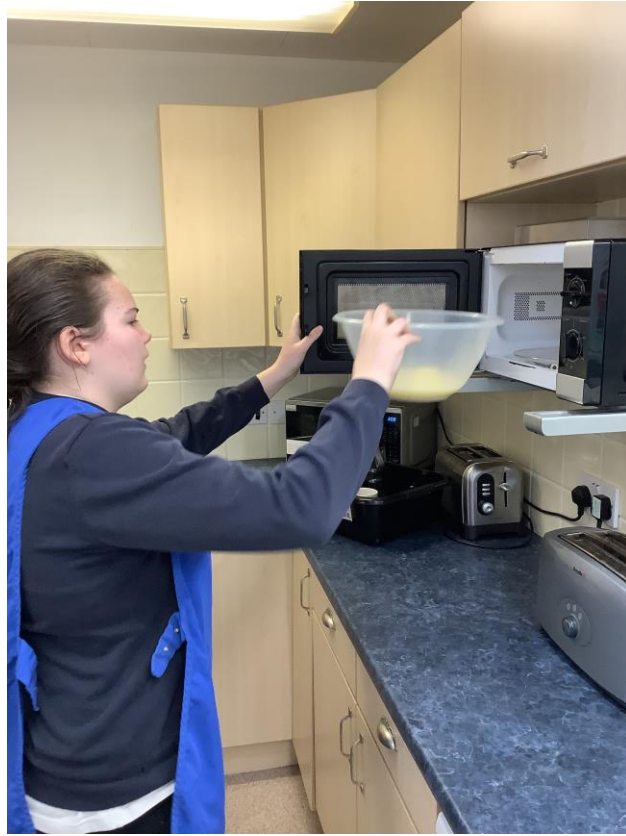


The Glens

Skye Class have had a great first week back at School. The students have enjoyed their food technology session this week where they have made biscuits. They did great listening when following the instructions, were very patient when turn taking with their friends and worked on their numeracy skills when measuring out the ingredients.



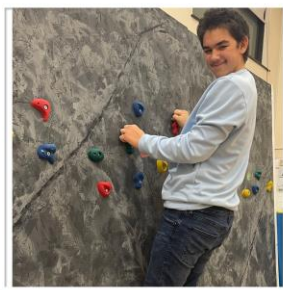
In their Food Technology lesson Fair Isle class have been using their reading skills to follow instructions and make chocolate fudge! We used symbols and took it in turns to mix, melt and pour the fudge. We enjoyed tasting the finished result!





Residential Department

A Happy New Year from everyone in the residential unit. The start of 2024 is the ideal opportunity to focus on yourself, keeping fit and healthy and also exploring new hobbies and interests.



2 - A variety of ways to keep fit indoors in the dark January nights.



3 - The new addition to the residential unit has been a big hit, and students are learning new piano notes and sounds.

Thank you SEN UTD!



SEN UTD are a Charity football founded in 2015 by a parent of a pupil at St Andrew's Academy, David Martins. Whilst football is the activity that creates the community, the vision behind SEN UTD is to bring together all members of the SEN community to raise awareness, connect and support each other in any way needed. Many projects were completed at St Giles in previous years and we're incredibly grateful to be able to be the beneficiary of the latest SEN UTD project at St Andrew's.

The outdoor gym has been exceptionally well received by staff and students and we're excited to see the positive impact on fitness levels, mobility and social skills.

A huge thank you to all at SEN UTD who helped to raise the £8500 to make this possible.

To find out more about the excellent work that SEN UTD do and see how you can get involved, please go to <https://senunitedfc.wixsite.com/website>



Parent Hub

A reminder to all families that we have also now launched our new School App and communication system – ParentHub!

We hope this will improve communication between school and families and allow us to share all relevant information effectively and efficiently. The ParentHub app is FREE to download from the App Store or Google Play. Please can we urge all parents to download this as soon as possible for those who haven't already. Once you have downloaded the app, you can create yourself an account and then click "Join a school" and search for @standrewsderby to be added to our whole school group.

You can then click "Schools" at the bottom and click "Add my children". You will have to enter your mobile number (please note this will need to be the number that school have on record for yourself) and then enter your child's Date of Birth to ensure you are allocated to the relevant groups for Class and Year group messaging.

Please allow notifications from the app so you don't miss any important messages! Please note, non urgent communication will be sent via the app and email but any urgent messages will be sent via SMS. Text messages will send from "StAndrews" so should appear as this on your phone.

Translation

An amazing new feature of this system is that it can translate any app messages into over 100 languages! If you need to use this feature, when a message comes through, please click the translate button and then select your preferred language.

If you have any questions or issues with setting up your account, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Makaton Sign of the Week



4 - This Week's sign is Cheese

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