

St Andrew's Academy- **Main School** Family Update Newsletter

Autumn Term 2

14th November 2025

Please note - all information in this newsletter is in relation to Main School site. FE Campus staff will share relevant information to parents and carers.

Headteacher's Welcome



This half term is always a busy one! It's hard to believe we're at the end of the second week already, and we were incredibly proud to see so many students observing the two-minute silence on Remembrance Day, earlier this week, as well as all the other quality learning that happened throughout school on the run up to this important day.

Following on from our Parents' Evening in the first half of term, we look forward to welcoming you all back on to the school site for our Outdoor Education evening on Tuesday 25th November, between 3.30pm and 6pm. We really value outdoor learning opportunities and look forward to showcasing some of the wonderful things our students do, as well as it being a good time to bring together students, parents and staff for an evening of fun. These evenings have always been very successful and well-attended in the past.

In other news, our old Campus building has had a good clean and some essential plumbing work has been completed. The cafe has also started to operate up there, which is being run by a group of our Key Stage 4 students. They have been preparing lunches for students who benefit from the opportunity of using their communication skills and experiencing eating in a different

environment, away from our main site. Other groups are also accessing the library, which is now based in that building. Over time, a gym and performance space, as well as an area for creative arts, will be added, which the students will help to design. Exciting times ahead!

Have a great weekend.

David Braybrooke - Headteacher

Dates for your diary

- Outdoor Education Evening Main School Tuesday 25th November, 3:30-6pm
- Christmas Market Campus, Whitaker Road 11th December more info to follow
- Whole School Panto trip to Dick Whittington 17th December

Children in Need



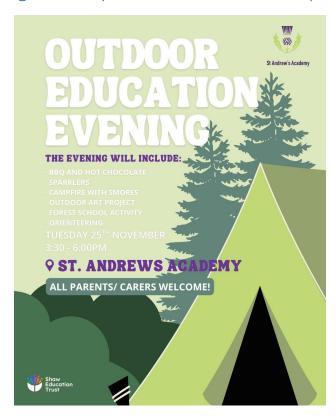
Today is Children in Need! Thank you to all the students and staff who came to school today in fancy dress or pyjamas!

As we are a cashless school, if your child brought in a cash donation we have sent this home with them. If you do wish to make a donation to Children in Need you can do so by following their link below;

Donate to BBC Children in Need



Outdoor Ed Evening- Tuesday 25th November 3:30-6pm



Christmas Fayre at The Enabled Centre



Key Stage 3

In Lewis class on Tuesday the students made poppies to remember and celebrate those who fought bravely in the war. Each student created their own poppy using red paint and a black centre, learning that the flower is a symbol of respect. The teacher explained the meaning behind Remembrance Day and why we honour the soldiers who gave their lives for peace. The staff were very proud of Lewis class for sitting in silence for the 2 minutes to show respect.









The Glens



This week Skye students paid respect for Remembrance Day. They printed poppies from apples and red paint to display in the main school reception area. They also watched an Attention Autism bucket session in class about Armistice Day Poppies.

In our Attention Autism session, we explored the exciting activity 'Coloured rain' as part of Stage 2: *Sustain Attention*. The students in Glen Nevis were amazing! Everyone focused so well on the bright, colourful rain as it fell, and it was wonderful to see them sharing resources and working together. The activity really helped build attention and encouraged social skills in a fun and joyful way. It was a fantastic session full of smiles and curiosity!







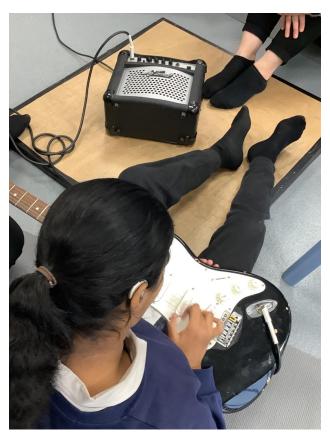


Therapy Input



A group of students with moderate to profound deafness come together each week for a communication and interaction session.

They took turns engaging with an electric guitar hooked up to an amp which was placed on a resonance board so that students could adjust the volume to suit their own individual hearing preferences and also feel the vibration.









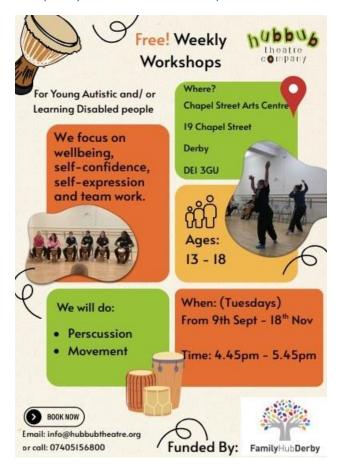
Heart of the Park cafe workshop



Makaton- Sign of the Week



Hubbub Theatre Company- Free Workshops!









We would love your feedback on our school newsletter and social media. This quick survey asks how you stay updated, what content you enjoy most, and how we can make our communication more useful for you. Your input will help us share news, celebrate students, and keep you better connected!

Parent / Carer feedback survey questions (Newsletter and social media)

Newsletter & Social Media Feedback – Help Us Improve!



School Term and Holiday Dates



St Andrew's Academy School Term and Holiday Dates 2025-2026

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March 2026 (20 days)								April 2026 (14 days)								May 2026 (15 days)							
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195 Days – including up to 5 days to be taken as professional development days for teaching staff.

Family Hub QR Code and Family Fun Sessions



Go and Follow our Social Media Pages!



Facebook - <u>St. Andrews Academy</u>

Instagram - <u>Standrews.academy</u>

LinkedIn - St. Andrews Academy, Derby

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