



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

Autumn Term 2

12th December 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



We realise that community connection and inclusion is absolutely vital for all schools to thrive and flourish. That's why we work hard to stage regular events across all of our sites and local community and adapt the delivery to ensure inclusion for all. That's exactly what we saw yesterday at our Christmas Market at our new Post 16 Provision at Whitaker Road- the new Campus! Bill Buckingham heads up the provision with a familiar face, Paul Baynes (Previous Head of Resi) to guarantee the highest quality of Post 16 opportunities underpinned by an innovative 'Futures curriculum'. We hosted the Christmas Market at the new Campus, not only to make best use of the superb facilities, but to open up the site and enable everyone to connect, in their own way, and feel fully included. The event was a huge success, raising much needed funds, enabling functional learning and communication and welcoming our alumni and wider community to socialise and reconnect.

David Braybrooke - Headteacher







Dates for your diary

- Christmas performance - **KS4 only** - Main School Hall, Tuesday 16th December at 10:30am (see poster below)
- Whole School Panto trip to Dick Whittington - 17th December
- KS4 Cinema trip - 18th December
- Oak & Acorn trip - Iona class - 19th December

SET KS3 Awards 2025



We are proud to be an Academy within Shaw Education Trust (SET). Every year, two pupils get nominated for an award for completing KS3. This years winners were Ziryan and Haseebah. Well done to both pupils, please see their achievements listed below.

Haseebah Ali- Haseebah has shown fantastic dedication in learning to access the community safely and appropriately. She can now confidently walk with a group with support and actively take part in community-based learning experiences. Haseebah's progress was celebrated during exciting day trips to Drayton Manor and Lea Green in Derbyshire, where she demonstrated independence, engagement, and a real enjoyment of new experiences.

Ziryan Aziz- Ziryan is consistently positive and gives his best 100% of the time. He approaches learning with enthusiasm and enjoys challenging himself to try new things. This determination has led to amazing progress in his reading skills, including phonics and reading a wider range of words.

KS4 Show!



Erin Madison Christmas Party Fundraiser



**ERIN MADISON
FOUNDATION
CHRISTMAS PARTY
FUNDRAISER**

Supporting the Children & Staff at Saint Andrews School

£1 = 1 ENTRY INTO THE PRIZE DRAW!

1st PRIZE:
TWO-NIGHT STAY IN BLACKPOOL
For up to 4 people, breakfast included!

◆ **MORE PRIZES TO BE SHARED SOON!** ◆

HOW TO ENTER:
Donate via the GoFundMe page linked below
Tickets close: 14th December
Live draw: 15th December

Thank you for helping us spread Erin's love and Christmas cheer
gofund.me/6be3e002f



Scan to donate to Nikki's fundraiser
"St Andrews School Christmas Party Fund"

10% off School Uniform offer

Myclothing is offering a 10% discount off St Andrew's school uniform over the festive period. Please see the link and code below

myclothing.com/discount/10MYC2025

Code: 10MYC2025

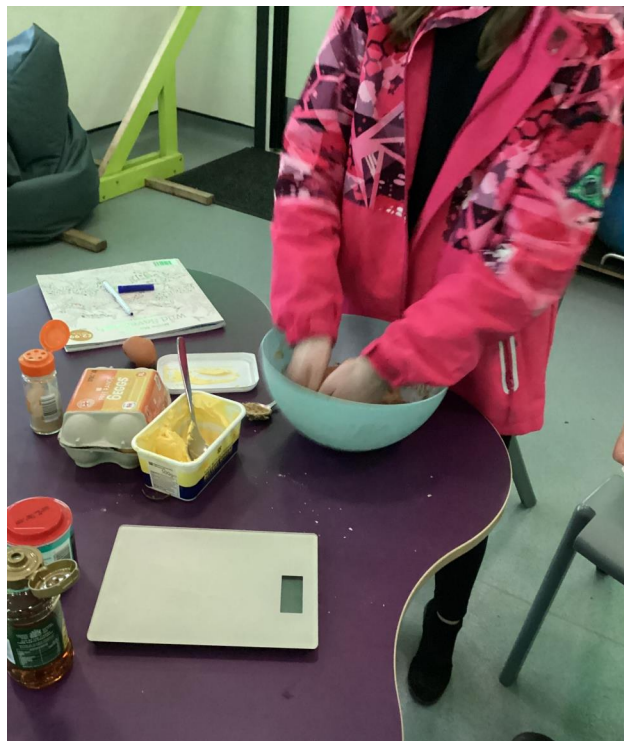
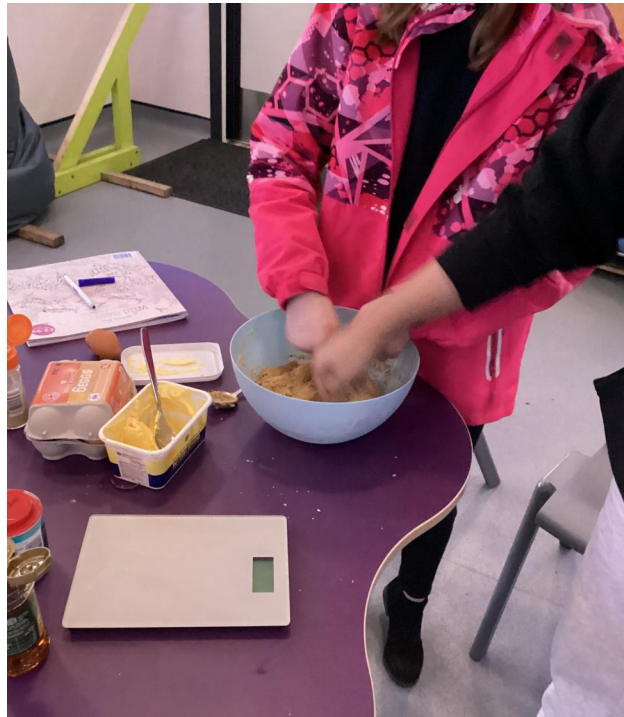
Valid until: 31.12.2025

The Glens



Glen Nevis learners have had a fantastic week! They've been putting their numeracy skills to the test by baking gingerbread men – a tasty way to learn functional skills! We also enjoyed Christmas jumper day and school Christmas dinner, which really got us into the holiday spirit. With all the gift wrap and packaging around, learners have been exploring why recycling matters

and how we can all do our bit. Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend as we count down to Christmas! 🎄



Key stage 4

This week the students in Iona have been busy making wooden snowflakes for our Christmas market stall and we can say that after all their hard work, we sold out of our snowflakes... Well done Iona team.

In maths we have been looking at 3 dimensional shapes by matching them to images and identifying their names.



1 - Preparing our wooden snowflakes



2 - Matching 3D shapes



The Highlands

Jura has had a wonderful time preparing for our Christmas celebrations. The students have shown great focus, creativity, and teamwork throughout the week. Recently, they have enjoyed; designing and decorating Christmas wreaths, creating their own mini Christmas trees and getting ready for the delicious snacks we will be making next week. We are also looking forward to our Attention Autism Christmas Special, which will include engaging activities and festive sensory experiences that the students always enjoy. Next week, we will be celebrating together with Christmas games, seasonal activities, a community meal shared with Taransay. It's shaping up to be a lovely day, and we are excited to enjoy it together.

In Taransay this week students have been looking forward to the build up to Christmas. Students had a lovely day at the Christmas fair, some students had a nice walk around school to see the school Christmas tree. It was lovely to see the effort students made coming in with their Christmas jumpers.









Therapy Input



Students from the Glens department have enjoyed accessing the therapy room this week. Lots of proprioception and vestibular input from the different swings or rolling over the peanut ball while completing an activity.

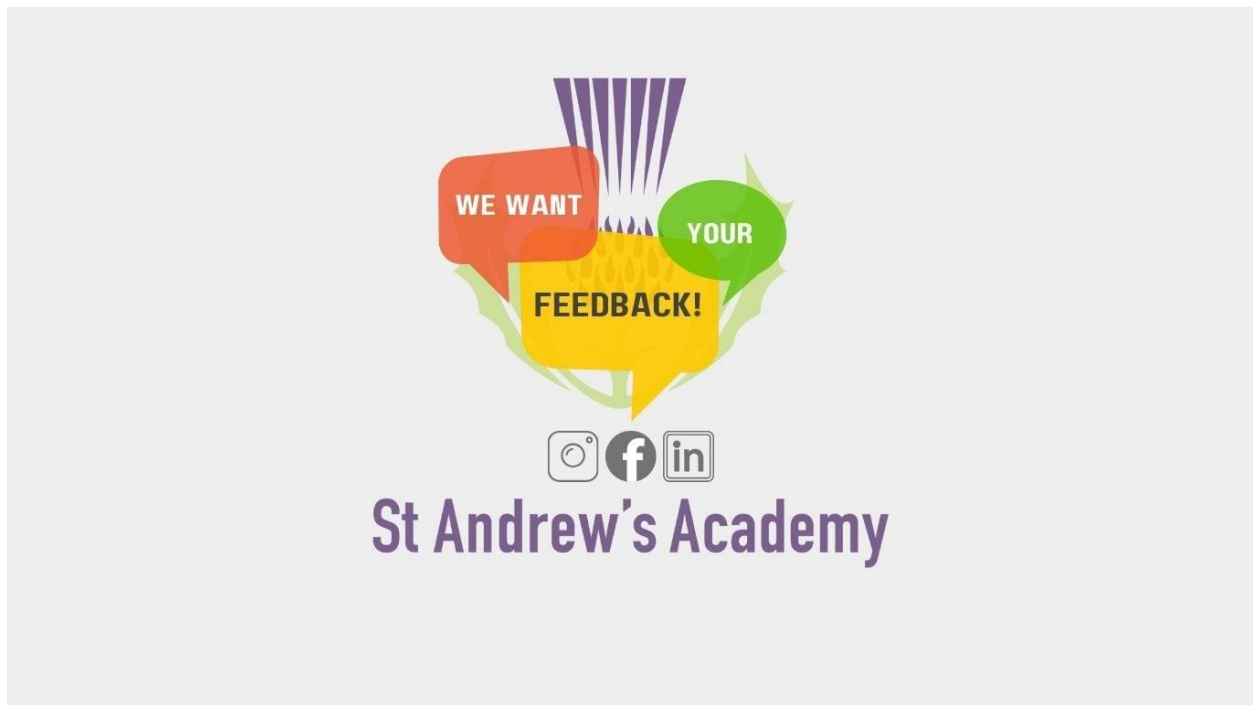
Also just enjoying the immersive room has had a big calming effect for our students.







Newsletter & Social Media Feedback – Help Us Improve!



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 \(Newsletter and social media\)](#)

Makaton Countdown to Christmas

[Countdown to Christmas daily Signs](#) - Please follow the link for the Makaton Christmas countdown.

School Term and Holiday Dates



St Andrew's Academy

School Term and Holiday Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term	Summer Term	Bank Holiday (Shut to all)
Spring Term	School Holiday	Inset Day (Shut to students)

September 2025 (19 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2025 (18 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025 (20 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025 (15 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2026 (20 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026 (15 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026 (20 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

April 2026 (14 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2026 (15 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
						2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026 (22 days)

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2026 (17 days)

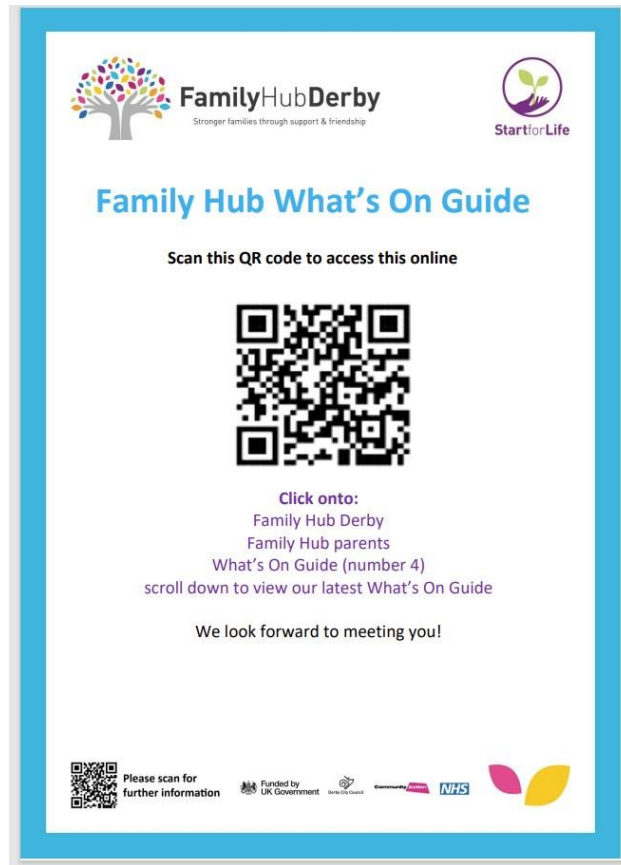
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
31						1
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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 - [St. Andrews Academy](#)

Instagram - [Standrews.academy](#)

LinkedIn - [St. Andrews Academy, Derby](#)

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