

# St Andrew's Academy Family Update Newsletter

Spring Term 1

7th February 2025

#### Headteacher's Welcome



At St Andrew's we're really keen to place ourselves in the heart of the community and connect with as many organisations as possible. Part of this outward facing vision is to engage with other schools, specialist and mainstream. This week, we have seen our second football match this term, this time against Bladon House School. Whilst our young people have a contrasting need, the inclusion, collaboration and engagement were nothing short of beautiful. The mutual respect and friendship shown on the day has opened the door to many more sporting, and other collaborations and I look forward to sharing these with you as they arise.

As shared previously, our intent is to broaden life experiences and enable opportunities for our young people to be the global citizens they are. I'd like to wish the group of staff and students who are embarking on their adventure to the Bendrigg Trust in Kendal, Lake District next week a fantastic time. The programme of off-site visits, trips and residentials is not just something we're proud of- it is our young people's right. Over the course of the year, we aim to provide a

multitude of opportunities and the Bendrigg Trust is a new venture for us and one which I'm looking forward to celebrating on their return.

Wishing you a safe and restful weekend,

#### **David Braybrooke - Headteacher**

#### School Fundraiser: Emma and Sarah are running 10k!



Emma and Sarah (and hopefully more of the St Andrew's team) are bravely running the Carsington 10k on 21st June 2025 to raise money for sensory integration equipment for students at St Andrew's. We are very excited to support them and cheer them on!

If you would like to support Emma and Sarah and raise money for a great cause, their GoFundMe link is below:

https://gofund.me/db669786

We wish them both the best of luck!



#### Autism & ADHD workshops for parents Jan-April 2025



### Family Hub Derby - What's on Guide - January to April 2025:

https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/communityandliving/familyhubs/whats-on-guide-jan-april-2025.pdf

#### Key Stage 3

Barra class enjoyed playing different musical instruments with the Rocksteady band who came into school. Rocksteady helped the students understand how each instrument worked, allowing them to perform their own songs.









## The Glens

This week during outdoor learning, the FairIsle chefs turned up the heat with some sizzling delicacies. Even without the sun shining, we are able to have some fun grilling in the great outdoors.

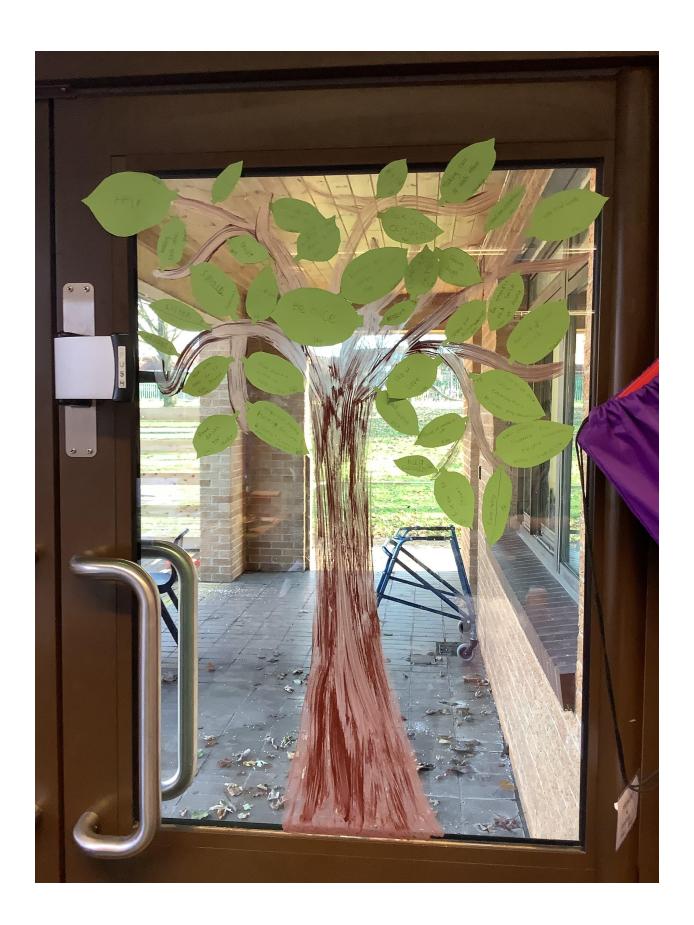




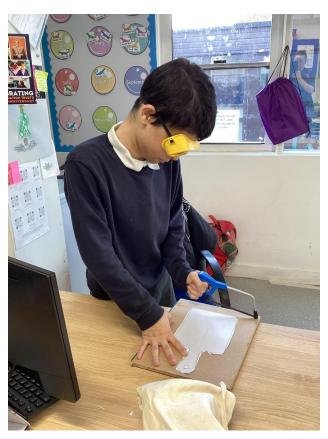




## Key Stage 4



Ks4 have been working on their Duke of Edinburgh skills. Over the last few weeks the D&T group have been working hard using lots of new equipment. Students have used a hacksaw, a drill and some sandpaper in order to make a cheese board. The Karate group have learnt some new skills, working on pad work; striking, kicking and blocking.





















## The Highlands



Taransay class have been enjoying completing sensory circuits for their physical and sensory lessons. Students have engaged very well with all the equipment and have consolidated their gross motor skills.

Jura class went bird watching at Attenborough Nature Reserve in Toton, where they learned to use binoculars to see the birds as well as feed the birds as part of Outdoor Ed.

Iona class have been focussing on the concept of full and empty and applying this knowledge to practical situations such as pouring a drink and making a cup of tea.















#### Key Stage 5

Hello, hopefully everyone had a good week. This week we are doing a spotlight on our dance group at St Phillip's church. This term the students are doing a project on board games! They have used dance to represent games such as Frustration and Zap as well as taking turns using scarves and other objects as counters like in some of our favourite games. We are doing this in partnership with East Lab Dance Company who are inspiring everyone to dance and take part.

Our other students have also been creating some abstract art influenced by Kandinsky for valentines day wich turned out fantastically!

#### Student Question:

What is your favourite meal ever?

- Dad's chilli con carne
- · Chocolate ice cream
- Mac and Cheese

Thank you for reading and enjoy your weekend!



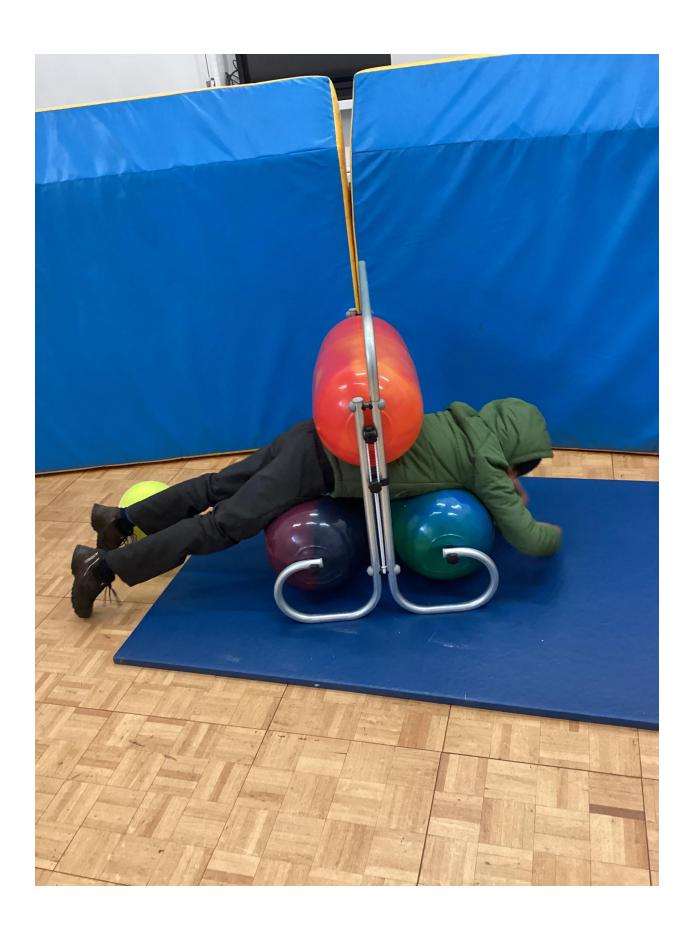








# Occupational Therapy



Some of Skye and Mull students accessed the sensory integration equipment today. It was a great way to focus on their sensory diets. Lots of core strengthening, co-regulation and proprioception input all afternoon!!











# Residential Department



Residential focus this week was **Children's Mental Health Week 2025** with many examples of how daily activities an help improve our mental health. Our aim was to explore the importance of self-awareness and expressing emotions. Supported by The Walt Disney Company, and through the characters of Pixar's *Inside Out* and *Inside Out 2*, the focus is to encourage children and young people to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop.



1 - A special breakfast this week for everyone.



#### 2 - Eating together with friends.



3 - Taking time out to enjoy rewards and get out in the local community



4 - Learning about other cultures. Our French themed breakfast.



5 - Focus, keep, keep trying to succeed.



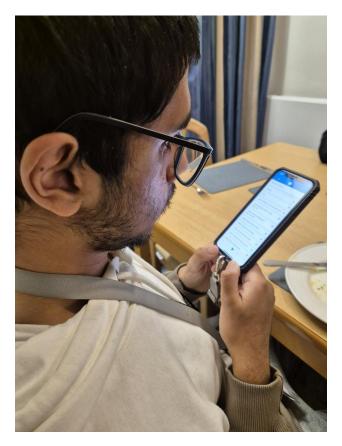
6 - Moving our bodies. Daily exercise helping to boost our mood.



7 - Getting creative, making residential Mental Health Week poster.



8 - Spending quality time together with our friends, making happy memories.



 $9 \hbox{-} Developing our communication to express emotions.}$ 

## Next Match SEN United vs Sands Notts



#### Extra Curricular

From cups to plates students have been painting pottery in Creative Arts After School Club











At Outdoor Ed Club we've been busy at the allotment and the students put out the bird feed they made last week.











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