

St Andrew's Academy Family Update Newsletter

Spring Term 1

7th March 2025

Headteacher's Welcome



You and your family are warmly invited to the St Andrew's Outdoor Ed evening on Monday 10th March from 4pm until 6pm. This is the rescheduled event that was snowed off before Christmas- and what an event we have for you! Outdoor Ed is very much a corner stone of our curriculum offer and enriches the learning journey of every pupil through their time with us. There are many exciting components to the offer which we'd like to share with you on Monday evening; everything from campfires to cooking outdoors to outdoor art and creativity plus so much more. In addition, we have excellent hot food on offer, free of charge.

Whilst the focus of the evening is experiencing our Outdoor curriculum, the deeper value lies in community, networking and collaborating on our shared goal of excellence for every young person at St Andrew's. If you would like to come along but there is a barrier such as transport, childcare or other issue, please do contact the school directly to enable us to explore what resources we have to be able to overcome that barrier. You are a valued and important member of our community, and we'd love to spend some time with you, listening to what's working well

and all feedback on what we can improve. If you wish your child to remain at school until the event starts, please let class staff know. You will then need to be here by 4pm to support them.

Please don't worry if this evening does not work for you, more events are in the pipeline!

David Braybrooke - Headteacher

Free breakfast event at Key College 19th March



keycollege.co.uk

SEN United: Upcoming football matches





Key Stage 3

This term, Bute Class has been learning all about Judaism. As part of their exploration, the students discovered the significance of the Mezuzah—a small parchment scroll inscribed with Hebrew verses from the Torah, traditionally placed in a decorative case. They learned about its purpose as a symbol of faith and protection, as well as its placement on the doorpost of Jewish homes. To bring their learning to life, the students created their own Mezuzahs, carefully considering where they would be placed and why. It has been a hands-on and engaging way to deepen their understanding of Jewish traditions!





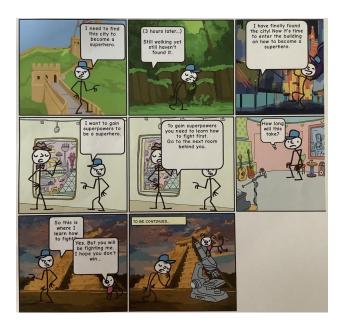




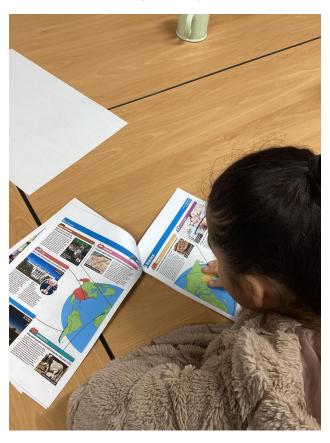


Key Stage 4

We have been busy in Canna class this week! We have ran Salt and Pepper Café and cooked pasta bake in meal preparation following our own recipe. In English we have been practising an adapted version of Romeo and Juliet, looking at relationships, feuds, and good and bad actions throughout the play. We have also had a good time doing lots of reading and writing for world book day today; we have created our own comic book story, listened to ghost stories and created our own stop motion film!



1 - A student created a fantastic superhero comic book!



2 - Finding information from the First News magazine for the quiz



3 - Finding information from the First News magazine for the quiz



4 - Horrid Henry!



5 - Romeo and Juliet Meeting for the first time

The Glens

Fairisle had a fantastic time exploring the local community this week! On a beautiful warm day, we enjoyed the fresh air and open space at the park. For World Book Day, we had the exciting opportunity to attend the Hubbub Theatre session, where we showcased some of our dance moves using props and lively music.

Back in the classroom, we wrapped up the day on a sweet note with delicious fruit kebabs, specially prepared by our very own Fairisle master chef. It was a fun-filled and memorable experience for all!









The Highlands



This week The Highlands have enjoyed celebrating pancake day! Students in Taransay and Iona classes have had a pancake flipping competition. They have used their communication skills to predict how many pancakes they will flip and enjoyed counting using a number line to see if their predictions were correct!

Jura class have been exploring new foods and communicating their likes and dislikes. This has been linked to physical changes in science where students have been trying foods in different states e.g. sweetcorn to popcorn! We were very impressed with our students excitement to try new things.

Students in the Highlands also enjoyed making a fire in our outdoor ed session and especially enjoyed making hot chocolate and noodles on a trangia!















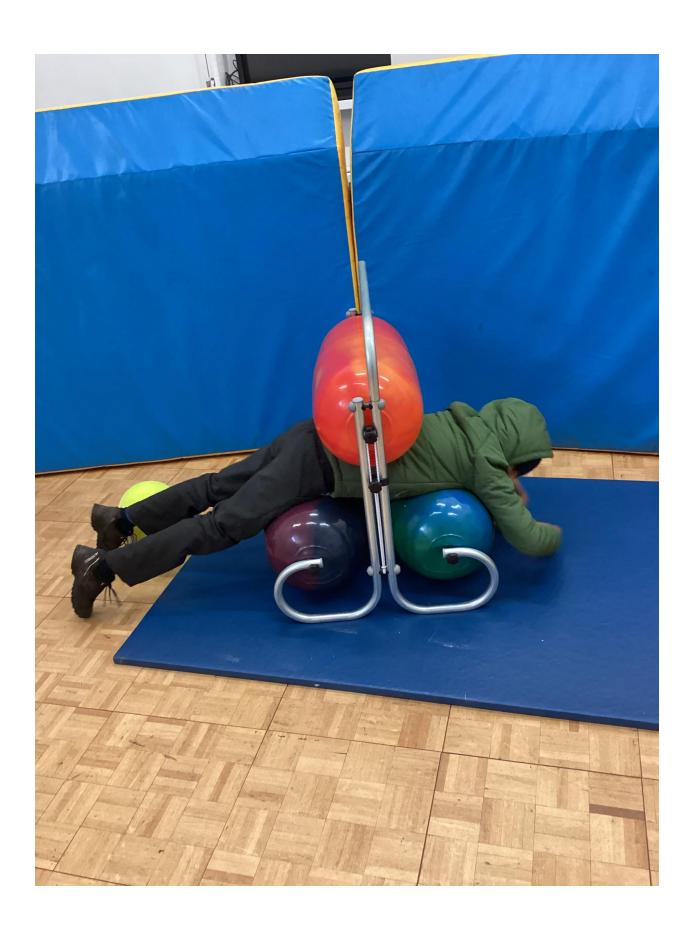








Therapy Input



This week we wanted to do a big shout out to a student who has been accessing our oral motor sessions. Due to complications when he was younger, he finds chewing food quite challenging. With family mirroring the same exercises and approach at home, we hoped for a big impact.

We started the sessions with oral motor exercises, blowing bubbles, smiling, licking chocolate off the corners of our mouths, even roaring like a lion. Anything to get our mouths moving.

The next step was practicing chewing, so with the help of a net feeder, he was able to chew, and bite down on his favourite foods. Even the staff had a go :)

With lots of cheering and a big helping of jam, he managed to chew a small amount of food this week. We couldn't be prouder and we're looking forward to continuing these sessions with him.











Residential Department



Spring has finally arrived in Residential. This week for the first time this year, the weather and dryer conditions meant we were able to use the fantastic school grounds after school for outside sports. Students used the open space to warm up and practice their cricket skills.

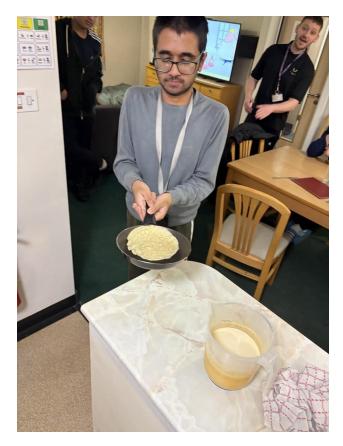
Residential students celebrated Shrove Tuesday by flipping their own pancake, then choosing their favourite toppings.



6 - Great flipping skills.



7 - The one hand flip technique.



8 - The double handed flip.



9 - A great save, nearly a lost pancake.



10 - Fielders and batsman ready for the first ball of the over.

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

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!

School Term and Holiday Dates



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