



St Andrew's Academy Family Update Newsletter

Spring Term 1

31st January 2025

Headteacher's Welcome



St Andrew's has been a hive of activity with visitors this week, who have come to share best practice and meet our young people. On Wednesday we welcomed 13 student teachers from the Netherlands through a Derby Uni collaboration. The students were able to debate strong SEND practice and see our curriculum in action. The young people were able to advocate for their experiences at St Andrew's beautifully.

Today we welcomed Catherine Atkinson, our local MP who was shown around our school by our Student Voice and took part in a Q&A. It was fantastic to welcome Catherine and share our provision. Catherine was extremely complementary and our young people did us all very proud in their interaction and communication.



We welcome many visitors over the school year but also encourage our classes to learn in the community and link up with many organisations. This week, some of your people represented

the St Andrew's football team in a friendly football match hosted by our partners in the city, St Martins. It's fair to say the match was a huge success with Callum in Stronsay scoring a goal and Archie in Barra winning Player of the match.

We work hard to be as outward facing as possible whilst offering a very warm welcome to anyone who can add value to our young people's learning journey and educational experience. Do you know of an organisation or local leader who you feel could add value to our offer or know of an off-site location that could contribute to the St Andrew's experience? If so, please do contact the team in your preferred way and we look forward to your input on our provision.

David Braybrooke - Headteacher

Autism & ADHD workshops for parents Jan-April 2025



Autism and ADHD – workshops for parents
*Limited FREE creche places are available

What is Autism?
Wednesday 29 January, 1-3pm at Osmaston Allenton Family Hub*
Call 01332 956850 to book
Monday 10 February, 9:30 – 11:30am at Mackworth Morley Family Hub
Call 01332 208175 to book
Monday 31 March, 9:30-11:30am at Rosehill Family Hub
Call 01332 641315


What is ADHD?
Thursday 3 April, 6-8pm at Sinfin Family Hub
Call 01332 956967 to book

Using Visual Resources
Includes FREE sets of visual resources to support your child at home.
Tuesday 11 February, 1-3pm at Osmaston Allenton Family Hub*
Call 01332 956850 to book
Monday 3 March, 1-3pm at Becket Family Hub*
Call 01332 640250 to book


Communicative Behaviour
Wednesday 12 February, 6-8pm at Mackworth Morley Family Hub
Call 01332 208175 to book

Understanding Social Communication
Monday 3 February, 6-8pm at Becket Family Hub
Call 01332 640250 to book
Wednesday 2 April, 1-3pm at Derwent Family Hub*
Call 01332 641010 to book

Please book a place for yourself and a supportive family member or friend.



Please scan for further information



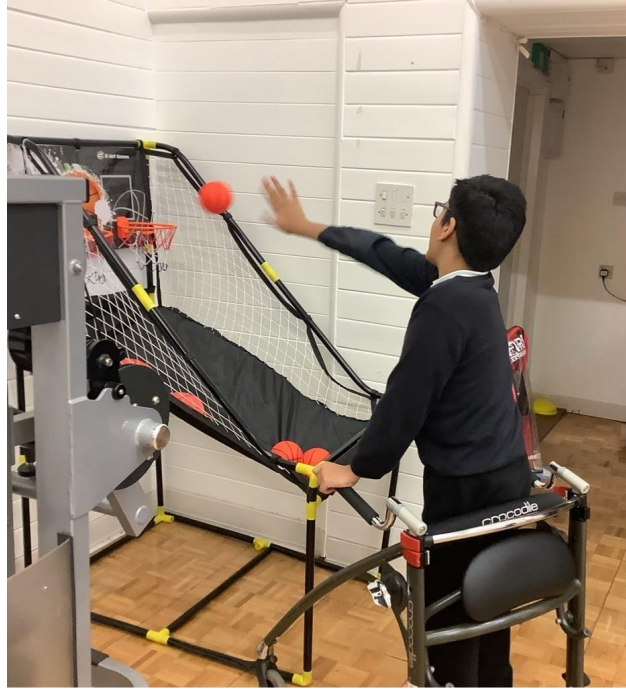
Family Hub Derby - What's on Guide - January to April 2025:

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

Key Stage 3

This week students in Hoy have been exploring how exercise makes their body feel. They have been using the gym equipment to walk, run, row and climb, developing their gross motor skills and then communicating with staff and peers how they feel physically and mentally. Students have been asking to use the equipment outside of our science lessons, promoting healthy living.





The Glens

Mull class have had another busy week, including a special performance and workshop from the Rock Steady Music School. All students accessed the hall to watch the performance and play some instruments. There is some emerging rock star talent in Mull class!



Key Stage 4



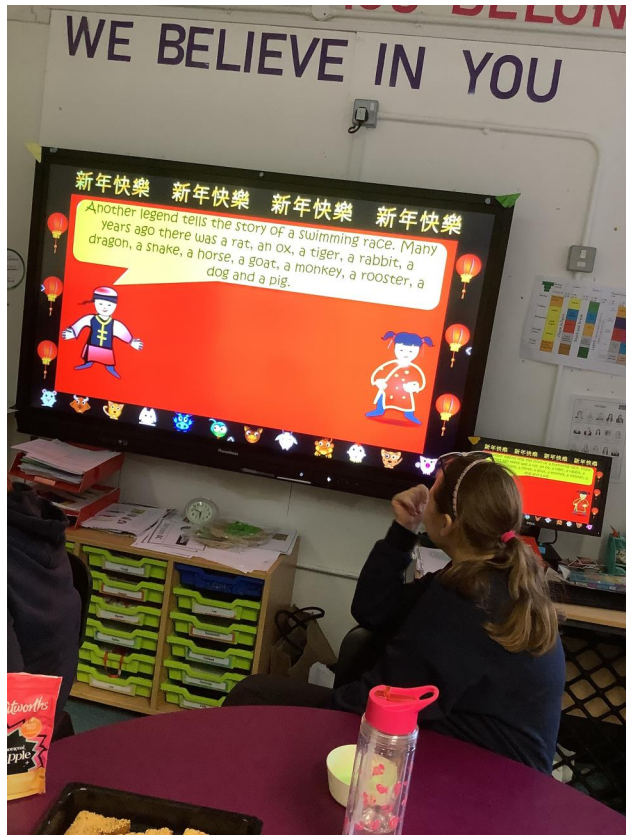
Handwritten words on the leaves of the tree:

- Help
- Share
- Be nice
- Love
- Respect
- Helping each other
- Be kind
- Be gentle
- Be friendly
- Be brave
- Be smart
- Be happy
- Be honest
- Be clean
- Be safe
- Be healthy
- Be strong
- Be confident
- Be curious
- Be creative
- Be imaginative
- Be adventurous
- Be resilient
- Be determined
- Be persistent
- Be diligent
- Be organized
- Be responsible
- Be accountable
- Be reliable
- Be trustworthy
- Be honest
- Be truthful
- Be sincere
- Be genuine
- Be authentic
- Be real
- Be natural
- Be yourself
- Be confident
- Be proud
- Be happy
- Be grateful
- Be thankful
- Be appreciative
- Be kind
- Be generous
- Be giving
- Be helpful
- Be supportive
- Be encouraging
- Be motivating
- Be inspiring
- Be uplifting
- Be positive
- Be optimistic
- Be hopeful
- Be confident
- Be brave
- Be strong
- Be resilient
- Be determined
- Be persistent
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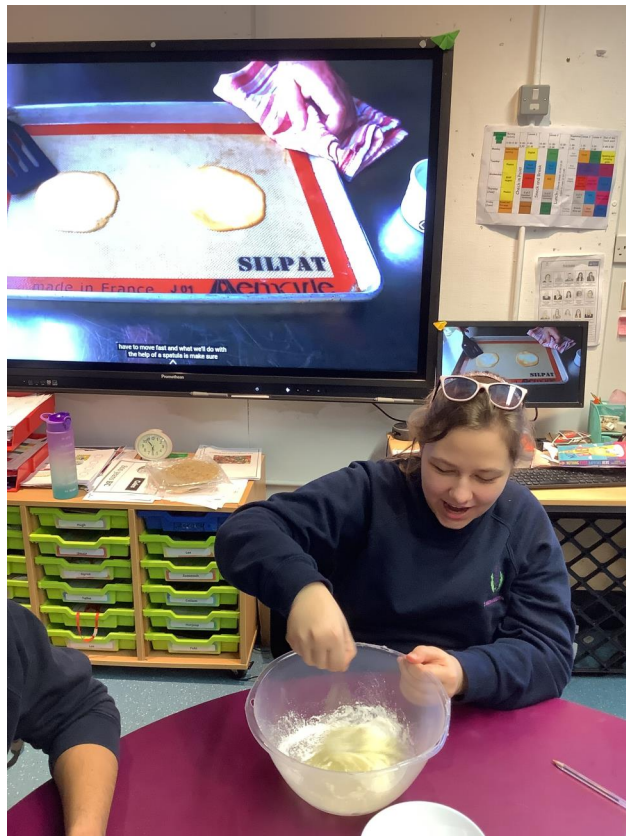
We have been celebrating Chinese New Year this week in Stronsay and have found out that this year is the year of the snake. Students in Stronsay made their own fortune cookies from scratch following both written and visual instructions and even wrote their own fortunes to place inside. We tried a variety of Chinese food and drinks, these included lychee juice, noodles, prawn toast, seaweed crackers and different sauces of varying heat. Needless to say, some dishes were more popular than others.













The Highlands



This week in the Highlands we have been continuing our topic on the modern world by visiting the 1950's! Students in Iona and Taransay class have particularly enjoyed making milkshakes for our 50's style diner. Students have been consolidating their independent living skills by following the recipe for milkshakes while incorporating their functional Maths and English skills. Some of our students enjoyed being waiters and waitresses using fantastic communication!

Students in Jura class have enjoyed celebrating Chinese new year. They have been consolidating their self awareness skills by trying new foods and discussing if they like or do not like them. Furthermore they have been learning all about Chinese dragons and enjoyed Chinese new year sensory play.

Students also very much enjoyed the visit from Rocksteady band on Wednesday. Students enjoyed listening to the musicians perform and were fantastic while exploring the different instruments!

















Key Stage 5



Hello all, hopefully everyone has had a good week! Some students went to Morley care farm and fed the goats, helping the farmers Karen and Kirsty. Our favourite part was seeing the animals. One of our students also went to Heart of the Park Cafe, where they baked plain and chocolate cookies. We hope they taste delicious because we didn't get to try any, but we still enjoyed helping Julie. We also celebrated Chinese new year in food tech by tasting and making some Chinese food, as well as making dragons in art.

Student questions:

If we could travel anywhere, where would we go?

- Turkey to spend quality family time in the sun.
- Paris to go to Disneyland to go on the rides and try on Cinderella's glass shoe.
- Tokyo, Japan to see the culture, cuisine and aesthetic.

If I won 1 million pounds, I would buy...

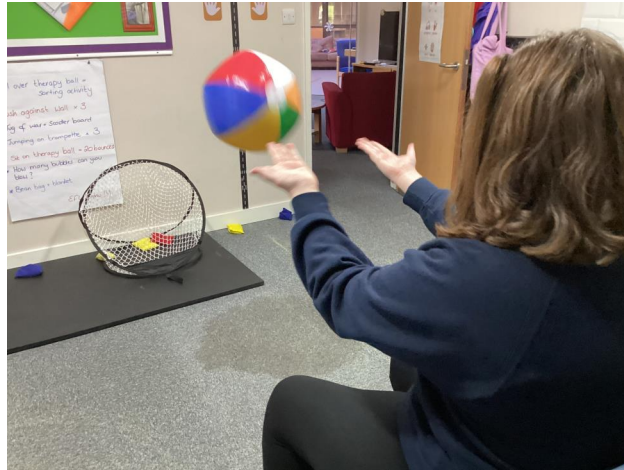
- A mansion with a pool so that I can have a massive mansion pool party with all my friends.
- Kylie Jenner makeup, a brand new iPhone 15 and some new clothes because these things make me happy.
- Hobbycraft gift card (£1000) and a huge, massive, gigantic pink and purple sparkly castle because I love Hobbycraft and castles.

Occupational Therapy



Students who have been accessing the gross motor programme have been engaging well and pushing themselves through the whole sessions.

This week we have been focusing on aiming and throwing different sized balls to a target and through a hoop. This exercise engages the core muscles and promotes hand eye coordination.



Residential Department



A very busy week in residential. All students took to the polls to cast their votes for two new residential student representatives. After the ballot box was emptied the two successful candidates from the four were Daniel and Grace. They will now take up the role for the rest of the academic year, and attend all school meetings to talk about all things residential. A big thankyou to Daniel F and Ella who were residential's previous representatives.

Residential also celebrated Chinese New Year (The Year of the Snake 🐍) enjoying a Chinese banquet, sampling a selection of delicious oriental foods, and completing a range of associated crafts.

Residential have entered the RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch 2025, so have been keeping a tally of each species they spot 🦜🦉🦋🦊🦅

Finally a big well done to Grace, who completed her first overnight stay in residential.



1 - Delicious 😊 Happy Chinese New Year.



2 - A tough decision voting for the right candidate.



3 - Vote cast in the ballot box.



4 - The final voter.



5 - On the lookout for any garden birds in the residential grounds. So far pigeons, blackbirds and magpies are leading the survey.



6 - One of our newly elected residential representatives who wants to help make all students feel safe and happy.

Extra Curricular

This week some of our After School Club sports students went to the driving range at Morley Hayes







After weeks of hard work at the Forest school site this week, we stayed inside and thought about nature. Students made fat balls, hoping to attract some new birds around our school allotment.







In this week's Art Club the students let loose with their creative thoughts to paint mugs





Student Voice



We had a very exciting visitor in school this week, Catherine Atkinson, our local MP. Talha gave the grand tour of the school and Residential. He was excited to show Catherine all the classes and introduce her to his friends. The Student Voice team met with Catherine to ask a few questions. They asked "what is it like to be an MP?". Catherine said it is very exciting and this week she had been to meet King Charles at Buckingham Palace. It had been great to have Catherine in school and we look forward to Catherine coming back.



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