



St Andrew's Academy Family Update Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

24th October 2025

Headteacher's Welcome



A 7 week half term like no other! What a landmark half term we have just enjoyed at St Andrew's. The impact of the refurb on the Main Site and new Post 16 provision at Whitaker Rd, Littleover, has been immeasurable. Never before have we been able to provide such resources as a bespoke and high-end teaching kitchen, beautiful occupational therapy space, art room, break out space and designated outdoor areas for classes. The impact has been truly transformational. However fantastic the new space is, it's the young people who are the stars of the show! Managing the transition into the new academic year with a new learning environment, alongside additional classes and all the change that a new year brings showcases their resilience and brilliance. We had a few opportunities to invite you all in through parents' evenings or meetings. With further works penned in for next week, we're keen to increasingly open our doors in the coming weeks so you can all experience a day in the life of our young people.

Monday 3rd November the school will be closed to pupils for INSET. All staff will engage with a 3-part carousel of training including our phonics programme, Read Write Inc, our positive behaviour programme, PROACT-SCIP and the effective usage of Artificial intelligence and Technological innovation in the classroom.

We look forward to picking up where we left off on your return on Tuesday 4th November.

I hope you have a wonderful week.

David Braybrooke - Headteacher

Reminder: October Half Term and **Inset Day**

A reminder that next week is October half term.

Monday 3rd November is an INSET day and main school and campus are both closed to all students.

The Erin Madison Foundation Charity Raffle

If you've managed to catch our newsletters this half term, you'll know that we are taking this time to honour the memory of a pupil that sadly passed away 3 years ago, Erin Alger. Erin's mum Nikki has launched a Foundation in Erin's memory with a view to raise funds for a caravan to provide holidays for young people with additional needs. Nikki is also working on a range of story books in loving memory of such a special young lady.

Please see the poster for full details of The Erin Madison foundation raffle that will be drawn on her birthday, 15th November. If you would like any tickets, please direct message Nikki Marriott on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/people/Erin-Madison-Foundation/61580896418819/#>

ERIN MADISON FOUNDATION

CHARITY RAFFLE



DRAWN ON 15TH NOVEMBER @8PM

On what would have been Erin's 18th birthday

TICKETS £5 A STRIP

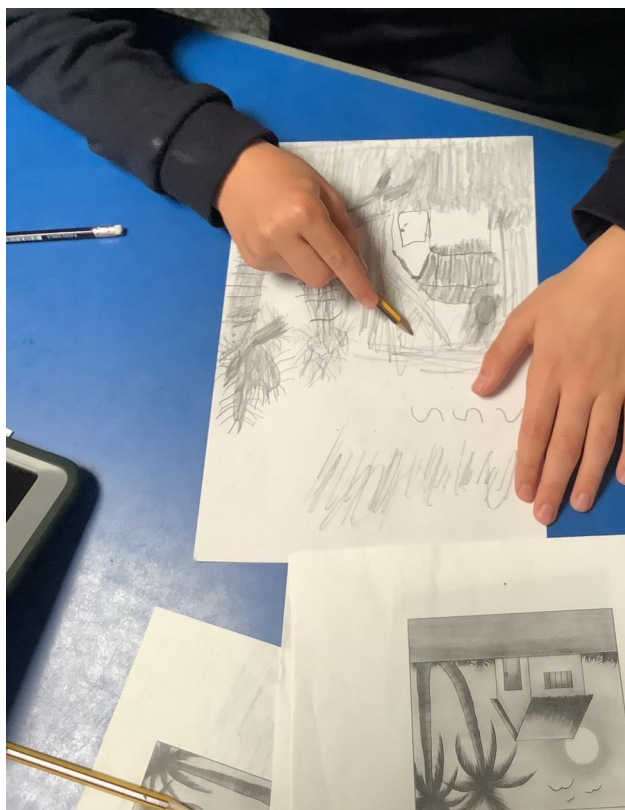
PRIZES INCLUDE

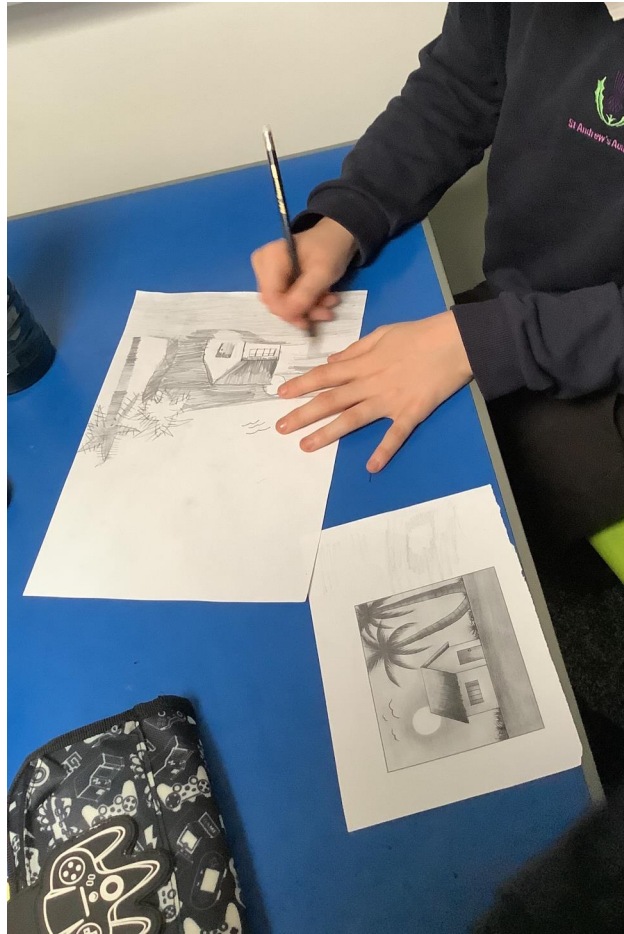
a weekend getaway for a family of 4 in Blackpool,
wine, chocolate hamper, beautiful vouchers
and much more.

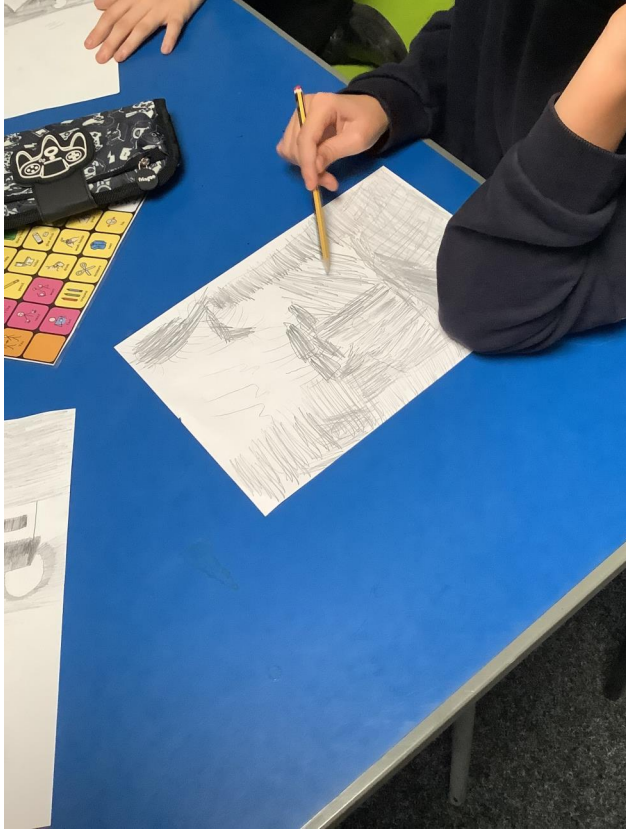
All proceeds go to the Erin Madison Foundation
& current projects

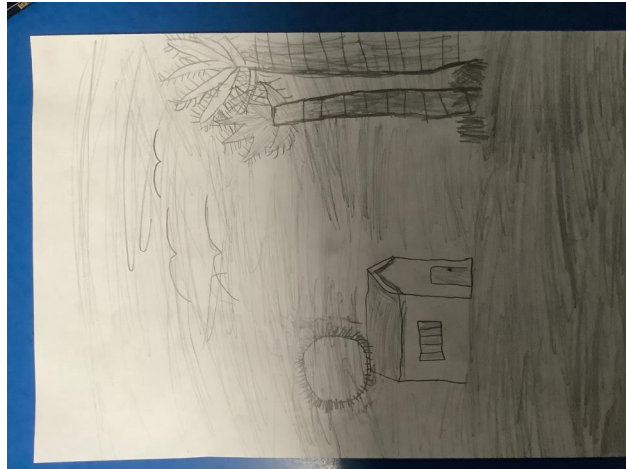
KS3

Our Year 7 students have been developing their shading in Art this term, exploring how light and shadow can bring their drawings to life. They've shown fantastic focus and creativity, producing some truly beautiful pieces of artwork that they're incredibly proud of!









The Glens



Something spooky was brewing in Fair Isle this week! After our trip to Mr Pumpkins Farm, where we met the Witch, picked the perfect pumpkin and climbed the tractor, our pumpkin came to life and started oozing its own mysterious potion! Beware of the bubbling pumpkin!















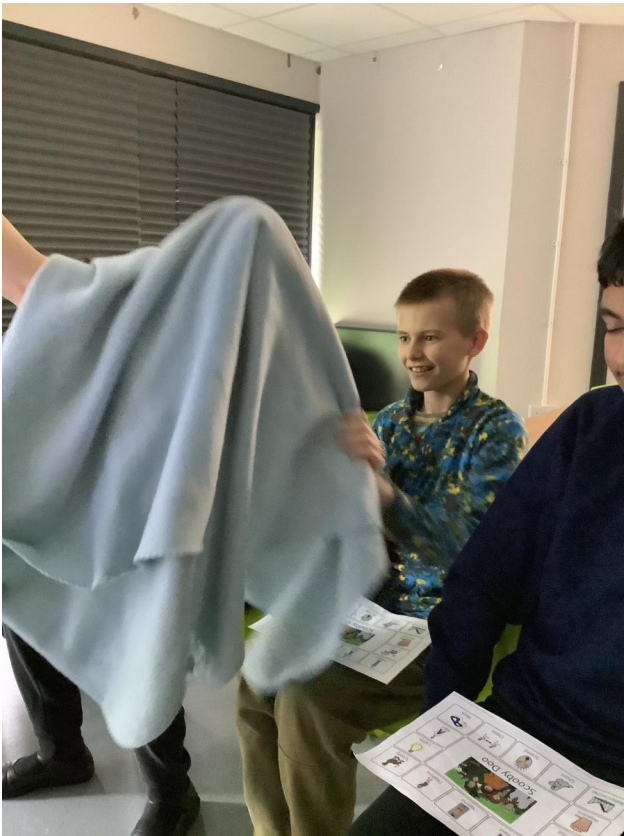
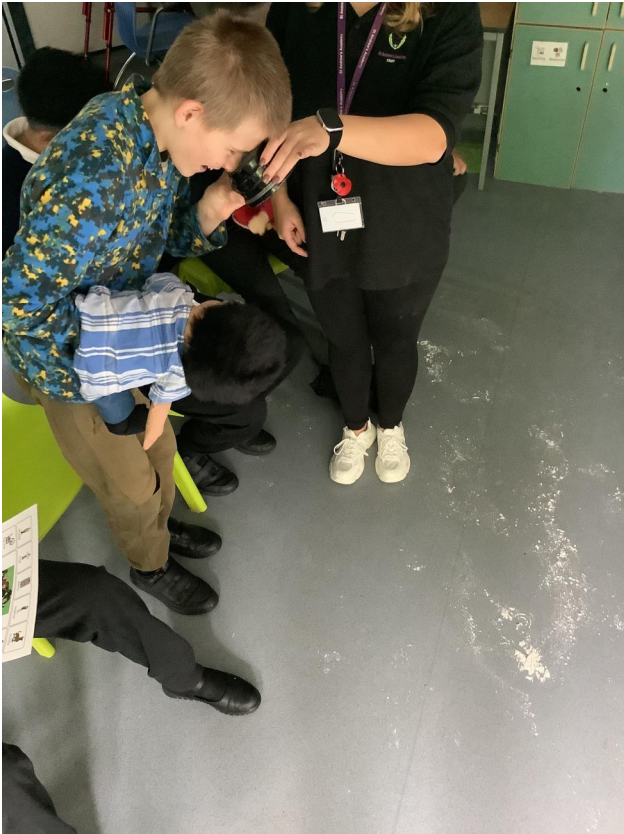


KS4

Shetland class has been exploring playscripts through a very special Scooby-Doo sensory story! The students loved taking on the roles of Scooby, Shaggy, and the gang as they solved a spooky mystery together. Using props, sound effects, and sensory materials helped everyone join in and bring the story to life and solve the mystery of the Roller Ghoster!

We also worked on sentence writing using Colourful Semantics, helping us to build full sentences about what the characters said and did — for example, *"Scooby ran away!"* or *"Velma found a clue!"* Everyone showed brilliant teamwork, communication, and creativity.







The Highlands

This week in Jura class, we had an amazing time celebrating our **STEM Theme Day!** We took part in lots of **spooky science experiments**, including creating a **witch's potion explosion** and making **zombie slime!** It was such great fun, and everyone loved exploring **chemical reactions** and **materials** in a hands-on, sensory way. Learning has never been so exciting (or so spooky)!

This week in Taransay, we have been looking at Halloween, picking pumpkin designs and carving pumpkins. We have also made a pumpkin cake and decorated Halloween biscuits. The students really enjoyed looking into Halloween and enjoyed the sensory side of carving the pumpkins.









Therapy Input



Students from Barra have been working on co-regulation in the therapy room this term. We have now moved on to some fine motor activities, as some students have EHCP targets specific in this area.





Heart of the Park cafe workshop



Makaton- Sign of the Week



Hubbub Theatre Company- Free Workshops!



Free! Weekly Workshops

For Young Autistic and/ or Learning Disabled people

We focus on wellbeing, self-confidence, self-expression and team work.



Where?
Chapel Street Arts Centre
19 Chapel Street
Derby
DE1 3GU



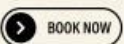
Ages:
13 - 18

We will do:

- Percussion
- Movement



When: (Tuesdays)
From 9th Sept - 18th Nov
Time: 4.45pm - 5.45pm

 **BOOK NOW**

Email: info@hubbubtheatre.org
or call: 07405156800

Funded By:  FamilyHubDerby

SEND Dance

Who?

People who want to dance aged 11-18 (who are Learning Disabled and/ or Autistic)

Where?

19 Chapel Street- Studio 2

When?

4.45pm - 5.45pm
Wednesday term times

How much?

Free

hubbub
theatre
company

Co-led by:



Rosie
(she/her)



Emily
(she/her)



To book by phone
07405 156800



To book by email
info@hubbubtheatre.org



Visit our website
www.hubbubtheatre.org



SEND Dance is a dance session for young people with learning disabilities and/ or Autism.

The group provides a safe environment to be creative and learn new dance skills.

We explore lots of different dance styles and create dances together using everyone's ideas.

CANVAS
Inspiring the next generation of creatives

Free! Weekly Workshops

hubbub
theatre
company

For Young Autistic and/ or
Learning Disabled people



We focus on
wellbeing,
self-confidence,
self-expression
and team work.

Where?

Chapel Street Arts Centre
Derby



Ages:
13 - 18



We will do:

- Movement
- Music
- Drama

When:

From 11th Sept - 20th Nov
(Thursdays)
Time: 4.30pm - 6.30pm

 **BOOK NOW**

Email: info@hubbubtheatre.org
or call: 07405156800



In partnership with
sinfonia
VIVA



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Transport Support!

To And From...

Chapel Street Arts Centre
Derby.





Is cost of transport preventing you from getting to our sessions?

CANVAS can support transport costs to and from our weekly sessions for our participants.

If you need this, please contact us:

Email:
info@hubbubtheatre.org

call:
07405156800

In partnership with



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

Family Hub QR Code and Family Fun Sessions

**FamilyHubDerby**
Stronger families through support & friendship


StartforLife

Family Hub What's On Guide

Scan this QR code to access this online



Click onto:
Family Hub Derby
Family Hub parents
What's On Guide (number 4)
scroll down to view our latest What's On Guide

We look forward to meeting you!

**Please scan for further information**

Funded by UK Government

Derby City Council

Derbyshire County Council

**NHS**



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)							October 2025 (18 days)							November 2025 (20 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025 (15 days)							January 2026 (20 days)							February 2026 (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026 (20 days)							April 2026 (14 days)							May 2026 (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
30	31					1			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026 (22 days)							July 2026 (17 days)							August 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5	31					1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

195 Days – including up to 5 days to be taken as professional development days for teaching staff.

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Instagram - [Standrews.academy](#)

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

Contact Us

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