



# St Andrew's Academy Family update newsletter

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*23rd May 2024*

**Summer Term**

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## Head Teacher's Welcome



As we fast approach our final half term of the academic year, I wanted to share some important information, exciting developments and changes to our End of Year reports. As some of you know, St Andrew's Academy have been making full use of an App-based system called Evidence for Learning (EFL) to capture and collate images, videos and observations of the progress pupils make across our curriculum. We first started our EFL journey in 2018 and we have spent extensive time and research in tailoring it to our needs. To fully understand the power of EFL, please visit <https://www.evidenceforlearning.net/eflinaction/>

One of the features we have now fully embedded is the The Evidence for Learning Family App. This allows families and carers the opportunity to view this evidence and to gain a greater awareness of their young person's progress. It is also a chance for you to share any learning or achievements your young person is making at home. To utilise this app you need access to a smartphone or tablet. Full support and guidance can be found on our website at <https://www.standrewsacademy.co.uk/families/evidence-for-learning-family-app>

We're just over half way to all of our parents and carers accessing the evidence submitted by class teams for you to view during the course of the week. Those parents and carers have a real window into their child's school day and can share the hard work and progress made. We'd be happy to welcome you into school at any point to help set this up, so you can access the brilliance that we share everyday. Please let your class team know if this is something that you'd be interested in.

For the first time this year, our End of Year reports will be a summary sheet of your young person's achievements for the year. Once you have accessed the App, you can see all photos of your young person's learning journey throughout the year and share their key milestones and achievements.

The Evidence for Learning Family App, weekly newsletters, and Facebook page are just some of the ways you can share the learning journey and progress of your young person. If you have any feedback on these systems or suggestions of other information exchange then please do share them with the school.

Wishing you and your loved ones an excellent May half term!

**David Braybrooke**

**Headteacher**

### Key Stage 3

On Tuesday, Bute and Lewis had the opportunity to visit some local places of worship including the Hindu Temple, Mosque and Sikh Gurdwara. During these visits the students were exceptional in showing respect by following some of the practises including removing shoes, covering their heads and keeping quiet during prayer. It was a great way to see how the local communities come together to support one another and the students were respectful when local people gave talks about their religion and beliefs. It was a great chance for our students to ask questions and engage with different activities to enhance their learning about places of worship.



1 - A student trying on the traditional clothing of a Pandit (Hindu Priest)



2 - A student labeling the features of a Mosque



<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/VYTsE8St5FEQtw6S#content=COYBno8Rr9BlfD>

3 - A student learning how to use the Gatka Chakkar in the Sikh Gurdwara

## The Glens



4 - This week in their RE lesson, Mull class have been focusing on Buddhism.

As a class, they decorated the tree of kindness to celebrate the Buddhist festival of Vesak, with colourful handprints., focusing on turn taking with their peers.





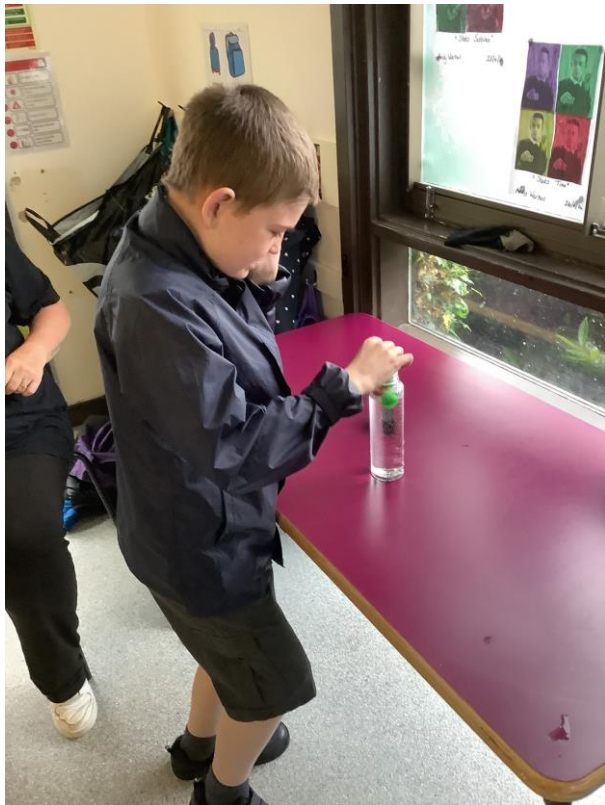
Skye Class have been learning about Forces in their Science lessons. This week the students have made their own sensory bottles. They have all worked really hard on their empathy and decision making skills when listening and following instructions and choosing different materials to go inside their bottle. Some students chose pom pom balls, sequins and glitter. They were all so pleased with the end result and enjoyed observing the different materials move through the liquid.





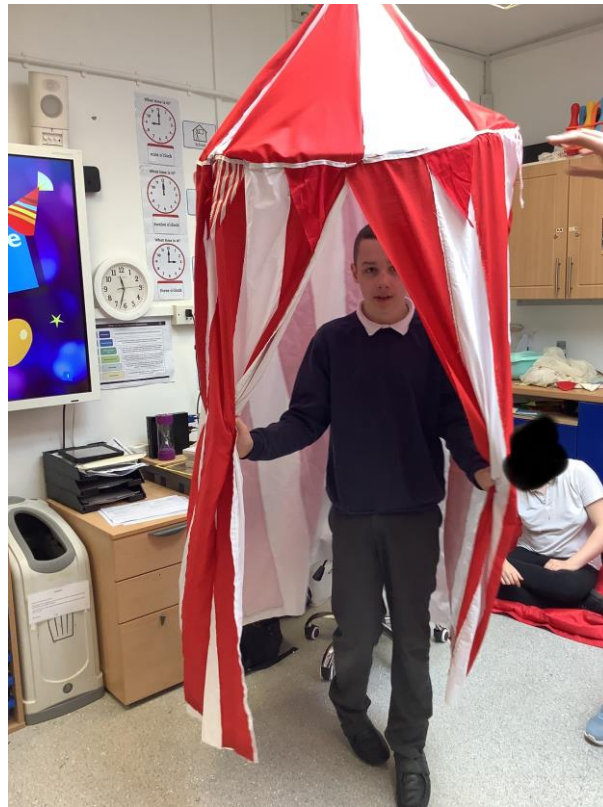






Fair Isle class have been enjoying their immersive story, about going to the circus. They have incorporated their functional maths skills so they can buy a ticket! Students have been identifying coins and practicing exchanging them for an item. They have worked on their turn taking skills playing circus and fairground games in music. Students really enjoyed spinning around in the

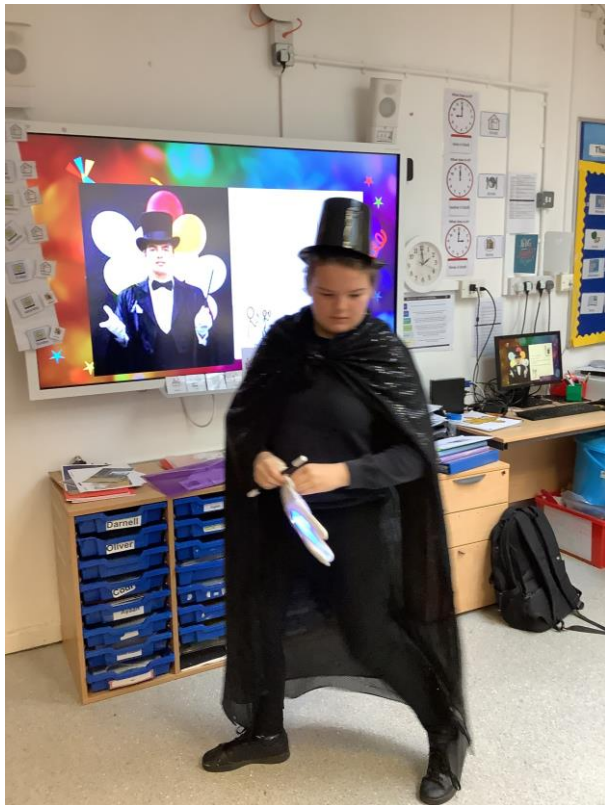
parachute and following directions to turn when the music changes tune! Have a happy half term break everyone, from Fair Isle class :)





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## Key Stage 4

KS4 have been going to visit a variety of post 19 provisions to see what is available for students to access post St Andrew's. Students have interviewed staff who work there to found out how many

days a week they could go to each provision, if transport is provided and what activities they might be able to do. So far, Students have visited Little Eaton Garden Centre, Morrisons, Beechtree Day Centre, Broomfield College.





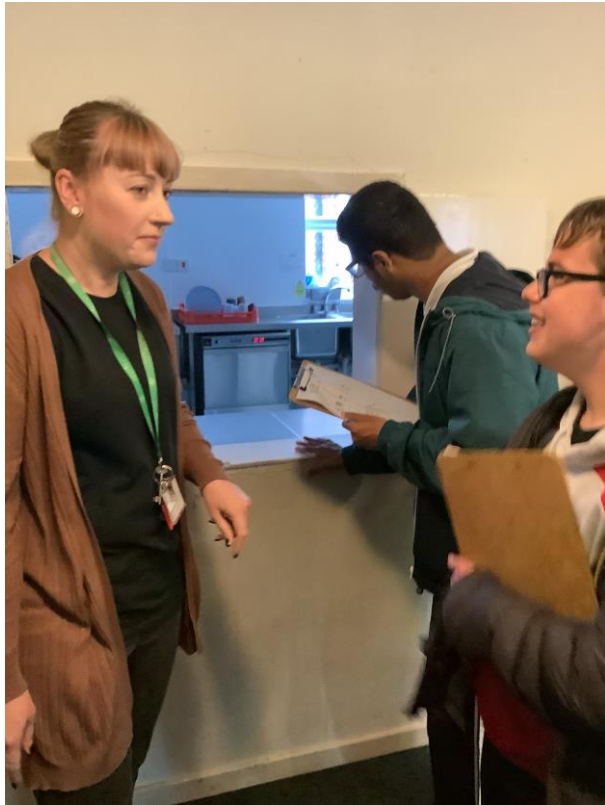












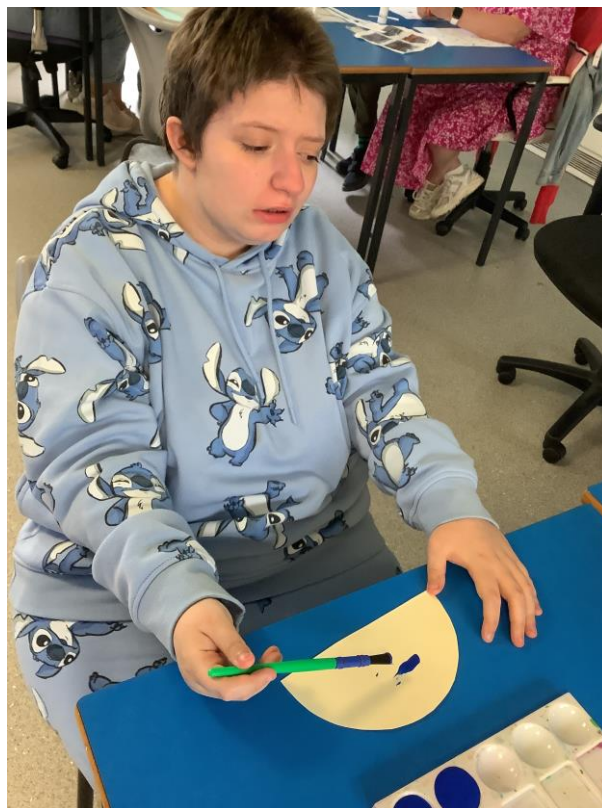


## Highlands



This week in the Highlands we have been focusing on the USA for our cultural and religious exploration. Our students have been consolidating their independent living skills by making American inspired meals such as burgers, hot dogs and sloppy joes.

We have been practicing social communication skills by following verbal and symbol instructions.



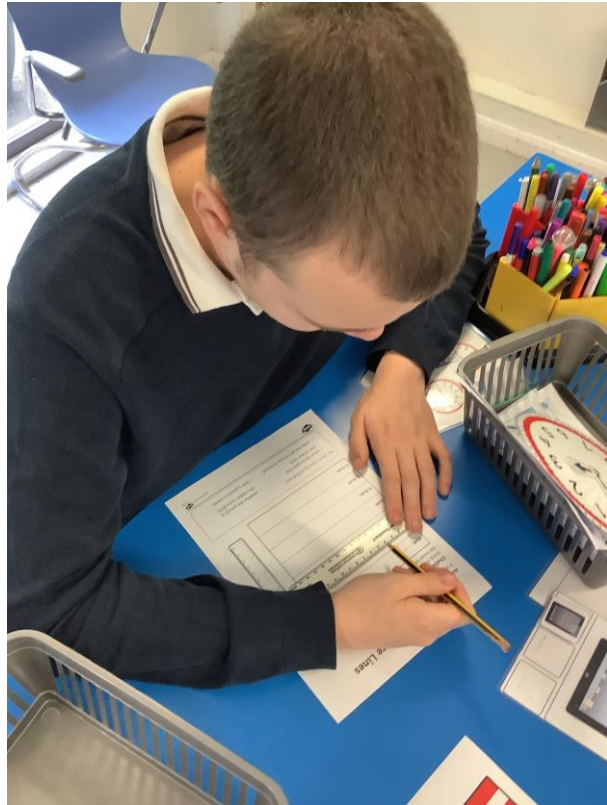




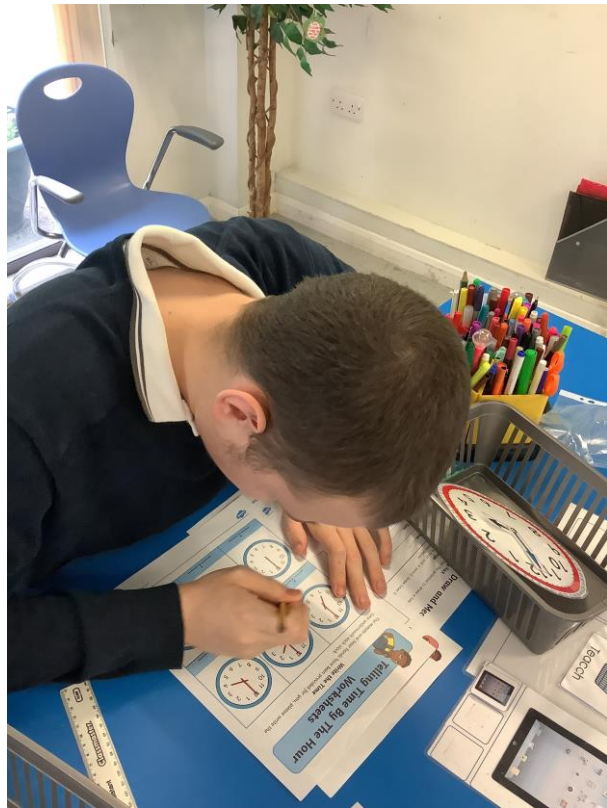




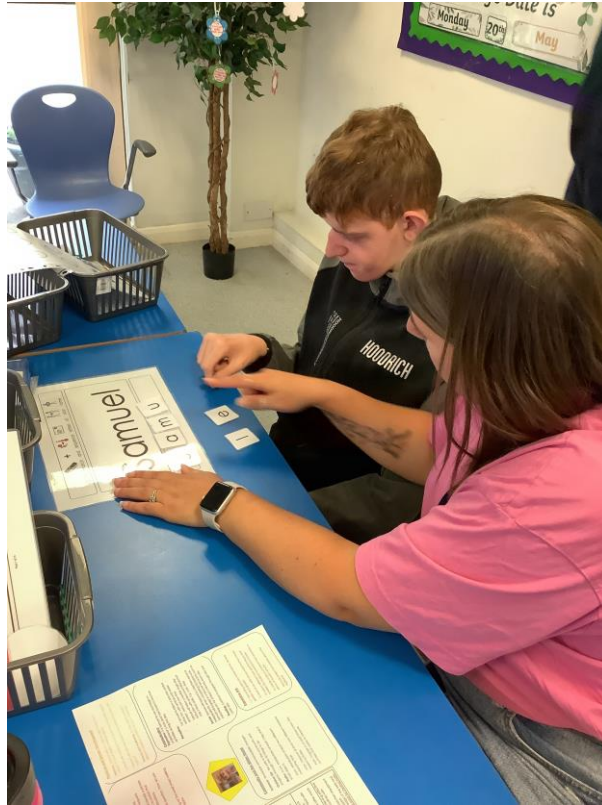
Iona class have been working towards their individual EHCP targets, focusing on our communication and our numeracy skills. Some students have been working on literacy skills by matching the letters of their first name while others have been working on measuring length, height, capacity and time.



5 - Working on measure



6 - Working on time



*7 - Identifying and matching letters of my name*



*8 - Measuring milk to make angel delight.*

## Key Stage 5



9 - We have seen this young man, Nahid progress and he is really using his Skillsbuilder skill of listening to follow instruction and work on his own.



10 - Nahid has learnt to wrap the cutlery professionally.



11 - The food at our cafe is delicious, come down on a Friday or Monday and give us a try. We are open every week day at the Arboretum park.



12 - Here is Oliver using the till which is programmed with symbols so we can use it independently.

## Student Voice



At St Andrew's, it's important to us that all of our pupils are able to have their voice heard and contribute their thoughts, wishes and feelings to the effective running of our school. In order to be fully inclusive, pupil input through Pupil Voice activities are presented in many ways.

Student Voice members have been looking at what a healthy selfie is. We discussed what is appropriate to share online and what is not. We made a poster on what a healthy selfie is to inform other students.

The students gave their feedback on what their peers had said in class. They said they are enjoying their time at school and are looking forward to the holidays.

Student Voice members attended SEND Ambassadors this week to discuss the Derby Promise at the Museum of Making.

Derby Promise is to support children and young people to live their best lives, achieve their potential through education, up-skilling, and personal development. To connect children and young people with Derby's key industries, through engaging events, educational experiences, skill development programmes, career guidance alongside industry leaders, to inspire the next generation.

Arshad from Derby Promise wanted the views from the students on-

1. What job would you like in the future?
2. What help do you think they might need to know what different types of jobs are available?
3. What would stop young people with SEND from getting a job in the future?
4. What would help children and young people with SEND to get a job?

The discussion was lovely between the students on what jobs they would like in the future, and what support they would need.

This information will help Arshad improve the service to make it more inclusive for students with SEND needs.



13 - Making a poster on what a healthy selfie is to inform other students.



14 - Discussion on what a healthy selfie is. We spoke about consent, you can say no to pictures.



15 - SEND Ambassadors meeting at the Museum of Making.





16 - Ismael said he would like to be a post man in the future.



17 - Discussing what would stop young people from getting a job here, they said it would be people not understanding there needs.



18 - After the meeting they had the chance to look round the museum.



19 - A very enjoyable day.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

Last weekend we had some staff and some of our wider St Andrews Community at the SEN United in house football match. The game raised an incredible £644.55 for another SEN School in the trust, Ivy House. There is no argument this charity football team are doing an amazing job. The next match is set to take place on 23rd June, Kick off 2:00pm at Rushcliffe Spencer Academy. The team will be back on the pitch to raise money for St Andrews.



## Fine and Gross Motor Groups



Over the term we have been working with a small group of students, developing gross motor skills, then leading onto them developing their fine motor skills. In this session, we focused on finger manipulation, palmer grasp and pincer movement, all around fruit and the best way we could squash them!!

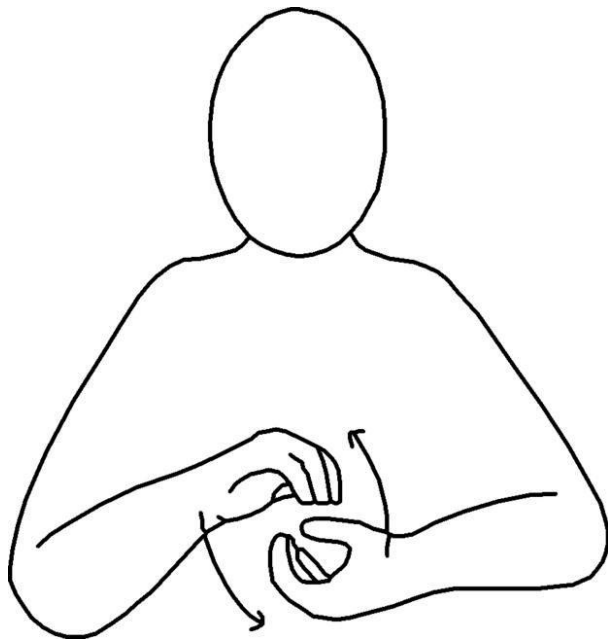


20 - Violet experiencing different textures using her hands and fingers, and being very brave!



21 - Erin enjoyed practicing her pincer movement, plucking the grapes off and putting them into bowls.

## Makaton Sign of the Week



22 - This weeks' sign of the week is '**Burger**'

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