



# St Andrew's Academy

## Family Update Newsletter

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*Spring Term 1*

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*16th January 2026*

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## Headteacher's Welcome



At the end of our second week back in 2026 we are looking forward to some exciting opportunities for all our young people during the Spring term. We continue to promote inclusive opportunities for all of our young people, both in the classroom and out in the wider community, as always with a focus on them making progress and gaining new experiences to help guide and prepare them for the future.

We pride ourselves on our curriculum being bespoke and person-centered and we are very proud of the holistic approach that addresses the needs of all our young people, especially the therapeutic interventions and resources that we have on site. Keep an eye out on the school website for an update on the therapeutic input we offer and how the variety of interventions support all our young people.

Have a great weekend

David Braybrooke - Headteacher

## Coffee Morning



## A message from Derbyshire Immunisation Service - Upcoming Year 9 vaccinations

Dear Parents/ Carers

Tetanus, Diphtheria & Polio (Td/IPV) & Meningitis ACWY Immunisations are due to take place at your school on **Friday 27th February 2026**. These vaccines are free of charge.

Most children have been immunised against Tetanus, Diphtheria & Polio and Meningitis C as part of the childhood UK schedule. Guidance from NHS England recommends that your child now receives a booster dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria & Polio and Meningitis ACWY.

Information regarding these vaccines is available on the website:

MenACWY vaccine - NHS ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk))

[3-in-1 teenage booster overview - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

If you have any questions, please contact us on the below contact number.

Please complete the link below to give consent for the vaccinations, this will close on **13th February 2026**. If you do not wish your child to have the immunisations, you can complete a refusal via the same link.

<https://nhsImms.azurewebsites.net/session/0e962013>

**Please be aware that if we do not receive either a completed consent form or a refusal, each young person will be individually assessed by a healthcare professional to self-consent on the day. If they are deemed Gillick competent, they may be offered the vaccination.**

If your child is outstanding their MMR vaccination and you would like for them to receive this vaccination, please contact our office on the details below.

[MMR \(measles, mumps and rubella\) vaccine - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Immunisation Team on 033 3358 3397 option 5 or [Immunisations.Derbyshire@intrahealth.co.uk](mailto:Immunisations.Derbyshire@intrahealth.co.uk)

## Campus

A group of students from campus have begun attending the Feel Alive Hub on Mondays as part of their Developing Community Independence learning. The Feel Alive Hub is a social provision that provides activities and support for young people who are no longer in full time education and is attended by a number of our Alumni. Students are utilising the public bus to travel to and

from the Feel Alive Hub and taking part in activities within the centre. They are also provided with a meal prepared by users of the hub and have been very positive with their feedback so far!





## Key Stage 3

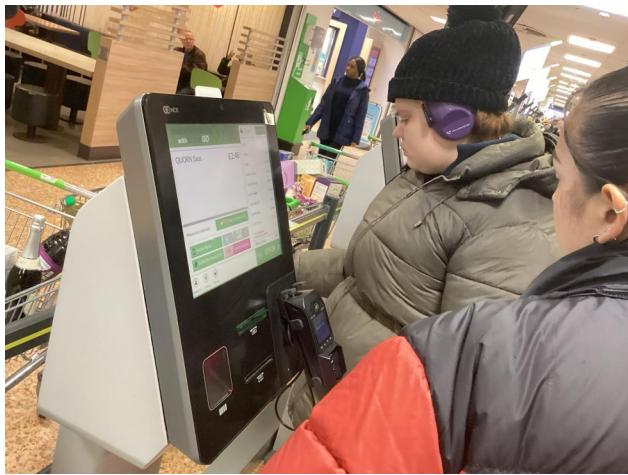
This half term in Orkney class so far, we have been learning about Nelson Mandela and the continent Africa. We have been completing our sensory story and reading about his upbringing and how he changed so many lives!

We have also been going out on the mini bus to the supermarket. We have been to Aldi, Asda and B&M. The children have been learning about cleaning products and finding the right products in the shop to buy when cleaning. When in Aldi and Asda we have also bought meal prep ingredients, giving each individual the opportunity to explore the supermarket with staff supervision, picking out the correct ingredients from the shopping list. They then take it in turns to scan and shop or give their shopping to the supermarket staff and practise their life skills!









## The Glens



This week Glen Nevis students had fantastic fun exploring the gym equipment in the hall. They used the chest press, bicep curl machine, and treadmill. Students were able to take part in gross motor exploration, experimenting with whole-body movements at their own pace. We also saw lovely moments of motor initiation, with several students beginning movements independently, especially when motivated by music. It has been wonderful to see growing confidence, strength, and joyful engagement throughout the sessions!



## Therapy Input



The students take part in a wide variety of hand-strengthening activities that go beyond fine motor work at a table, ensuring they develop strength in a functional and engaging way. Alongside targeted fine motor tasks, students practise weight-bearing activities that encourage them to support their body weight through their hands and wrists, which is essential for building stability and endurance. This includes exercises using therapy balls and bean bags, where students push, reach, balance, and hold positions that strengthen the hands, wrists, arms, and shoulders. Activities are often play-based and movement-focused, allowing students to develop hand strength through whole-body involvement while also improving coordination, core strength, and body awareness. All exercises are carefully adapted to meet individual needs and are embedded into meaningful, motivating activities.

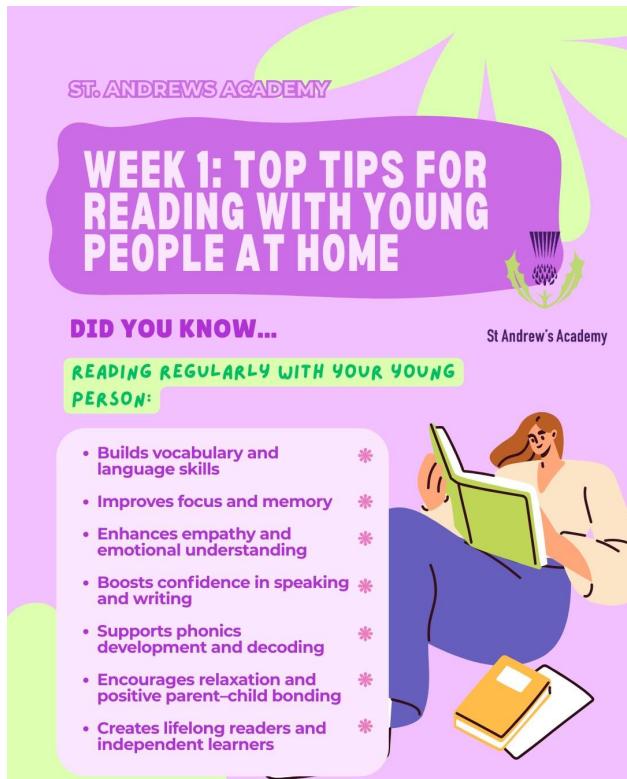








## Tips for Reading with your Young People at home



ST. ANDREWS ACADEMY

### WEEK 1: TOP TIPS FOR READING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AT HOME

**DID YOU KNOW...**

St Andrew's Academy

**READING REGULARLY WITH YOUR YOUNG PERSON:**

- Builds vocabulary and language skills
- Improves focus and memory
- Enhances empathy and emotional understanding
- Boosts confidence in speaking and writing
- Supports phonics development and decoding
- Encourages relaxation and positive parent-child bonding
- Creates lifelong readers and independent learners



## Makaton- Sign of the week



## 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) Inset Day (Shut to students)						
Spring Term					School Holiday															
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	6	7	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30	31																		
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	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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
30																				
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	6	7	31						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	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.

## Family Hub QR Code and Family Fun Sessions



Go and Follow our Social Media Pages!



Facebook - [St. Andrews Academy](#)

Instagram - [Standrews.academy](#)

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

## Contact Us

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