



**ST. ANDREW'S
GRAMMAR**

Striving for Excellence

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2025 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: TERM 2 VOLUME 2

Message from our Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers

St Andrew's Grammar recently hosted the 2025 Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia National Schools Event (GOAANSE) from May 6–9. The school made the most of Perth's hosting turn, welcoming over 400 student athletes, coaches, and staff from the other six Greek Orthodox schools across Australia. The GOAANSE event featured competitions in Futsal, Volleyball, Netball, Football, Basketball, and Table Tennis, along with a Performing Arts Showcase and a Dinner Dance.

We should all be incredibly proud of our entire team of teachers and students in putting St Andrew's on the map about hosting this prestigious event. The staff commitment to creating a warm, inclusive, and respectful environment for our guests from across the country was extraordinary. GOAANSE 2025 showcased what St. Andrew's Grammar – and Perth – can offer on a national stage.

The tournament began with an opening ceremony at St. Nektarios Church in Dianella with every student attending in formal uniform, the students enjoyed an orthodox based blessing by our own Reverend Father Terry.





The school has made tremendous strides in the sporting arena in the last few years, moving from attending the GOANNSE games in 2023 in Melbourne where we did not win a game to two years later where we dominated many competitions. Winning the overall Champion School trophy is a historic achievement for us, and in doing so, winning five out of the eleven sporting titles on offer. This is a powerful reflection of the talent and dedication of our student athletes, the outstanding coaching our students are now receiving, and the strength of our Perth Glory Football and High-Performance Netball Academies. Victories included Girls' Netball, Boys' and Girls' Football, Girls' Futsal, and Boys' Table Tennis. The girls' Futsal win was especially exciting, coming shortly after winning the State Championship a few weeks prior



The culmination of the entire festival was the Dinner and Dance and Arts Festival on the Thursday night, and it was here that our standards and school spirit shone. With over 35 students performing Greek Dancing and singing our students performed so very well. Finishing with a Greek dance which continued for 90 minutes with over 350 students on the dance floor at once. This was a treat and something that those who witnessed it will not forget easily.



St. Euphemia College will host the GOAANSE tournament in 2026 and we look forward to competing and participating (albeit with a large target on our backs!).

St Andrew's Grammar continues to shine and strive for excellence!



Mr Craig Monaghan
Principal

School Bus Service

We are excited to announce that our trial period for St. Andrew's School bus service will commence on **Tuesday 3 June 2025**. Please find below the bus routes for the trial periods only. We are encouraging as many families as possible to use this service in order for this to continue.

Registration is required to secure your seat on the bus, and a valid SmartRider is required.

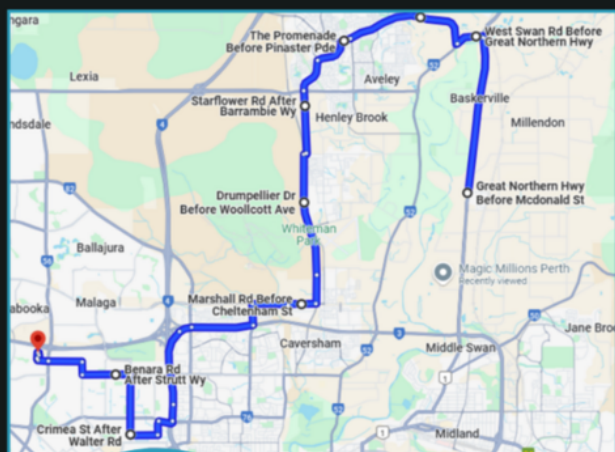
To register, please follow the link provided. Upon successful registration, you will receive additional information.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=qA73rMPjOkuYkro6gfY6h3SQYg3CoT9GrFYFJEfa8jZUMU1BM01TSjdXRvIFRUxRWE9NQVBaSO5XQi4u>

There are 2 routes:

Swan Valley Bus Service & North East Bus Service

SWAN VALLEY BUS ROUTE



SWAN VALLEY BUS STOP LOCATIONS

Stop #	Bus Stop Location
1	Great Northern Hwy (before McDonald St)
2	West Swan Rd (before Great Northern Hwy)
3	Millhouse Rd (before Chateau Pde)
4	The Promenade (before Pinaster Pde)
5	Pinaster Rd (after Ponte Vecchio Blvd)
6	Partridge St (Park St)
7	Everglades Ave (after Boomi Rd)
8	Marshall Rd (before Cheltenham St)
9	Crimea St (after Walter Rd)
10	Benara Rd (after Strutt Wy)



NORTH EAST BUS ROUTE



NORTH EAST BUS STOP LOCATIONS

Stop #	Bus Stop Location
1	Huntington Pwy (before Haga Pkwy)
2	Alhambra Pwy (before Monticello Mndr)
3	Rangeview Rd (after Hardcastle Av)
4	Mirrabooka Av (after Griffin Wy)
5	Mirrabooka Av (after Beach Rd)
6	Princess Rd (before Fletching St)
7	Princess Rd (after Steyning Wy)
8	Flinders St (after Hove Ct)
9	Mirrabooka Av (after Robertsbridge Rd)
10	St Andrews Grammar



This is an incredible result, and we will celebrate this as we should week 1 next term, but this is the school's first ever Senior State Champion winning team in its history - the girls need congratulating by their teachers tomorrow. Equally the boys achieving 5th equal in the State is an amazing achievement. The names of the two squad members are as follows:

Girls

Year	Student
11	Ava Santos
11	Tatem Spencer
11	Jemma Skinner
11	Caitlyn Freestone
10	Xuri Dalton
9	Kayla Beesley
9	Maddie Cook
9	Isla Quick
9	Lilly Mai Glover
9	Zya Ollandezos
7	Angelina K

Boys

Year	Student
12	Ben DiGregorio LaBianca
11	Novak Senic
11	Josh Canlas
11	Kelden Tshering
10	Chesyl Nyama
11	Luke Kikiros
11	Yusuf Mohideen
10	Sam Luxton
10	Nicholas Kalavrouziotis

Congratulations to our two Steve's Purton and Gleeson who were both important cogs in the teams' successes.

These are both reasonably young teams and our future in soccer looks very bright!!

GREEK CORNER - Ελληνική Γωνιά

This term in Modern Greek, the students in Kindy to year two are learning about body parts, fruit, numbers, letters and sounds of the alphabet, vocabulary, instructional and conversational language.

In ELC, the students are preparing for their Mother's Day performance. This is an exciting time for the students as

they get to perform and show off to their parents what they have been learning and singing. The students will also be involved in Discovery Day. This is a whole Primary School approach, and all Greek classes will be involved.

Battle Of Crete is another important occasion and in May the students will represent the school at Church and at the Wreath Laying Ceremony at Kings Park which was held on May the 18th. The students were also involved in the school assembly which was held on Thursday 22nd May.



Stelliani Tzavellas

Kindy Greek and PMP Teacher

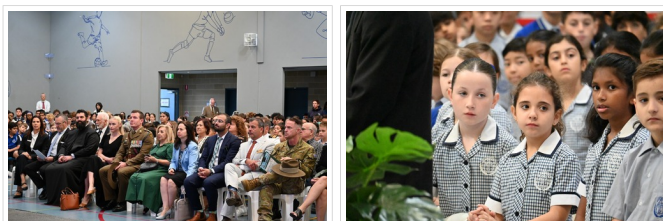
Greek Dance Teacher Years PP-6

K-12 Greek Curriculum Coordinator

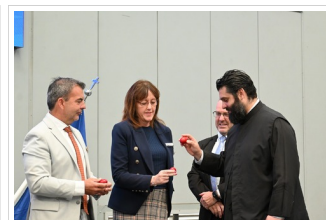
Anzac Day

This year, our school community came together to honour and remember the service and sacrifice of our ANZACs.

On Anzac Day, our dedicated staff and student leaders proudly represented the school at the Mt Lawley War Memorial ceremony, laying a wreath in a moving tribute. That week we held two special Anzac Day assemblies at school, Year 4-12 followed by Year 4 and below, attended by students, staff, families, and special guests.



As Anzac Day this year coincided closely with Orthodox Easter, our school also held a time of reflection following the assemblies to acknowledge this important occasion for many in our community.



GOANNSE

The 2025 GOAANSE Games are officially closed, it was a whirl wind 4 days of sport, culture and performing arts which included some amazing performance from our students.

As the event is one driven by the [Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia](#), we of course commenced with the Opening Ceremony in church at [St. Nektarios Church](#), Dianella with a beautiful service lead by Fr. Terry Gerovasilis, followed by a message of encouragement and unwavering support from the [Consulate of Greece in Perth](#), Ms Eleni Georgopoulou and ending with a welcome message to our guests from our Principal, Mr Craig Monaghan who declared the event officially open.



We were the Over All Champion School and won 5 out of the 11 sports on offer. It was an exceptional outcome that was driven by the staff and students who have spent the best part of 6 months preparing. Considering we have only previously won 4 sports prior to this in the last 16 years of competitions, it is an incredible effort by the school and all the staff and students involved should be congratulated

Champion Teams

Captain

Girls Futsal	Jemma Skinner
Netball	Aditi Gyanwali
Boys Football	Zac Harold
Girls Football	Ava Santos
Boys Table Tennis	Vincent Hein/Novak Senic



Congratulations to the following students who were recognized as sport MVP's for their outstanding individual performances.

SPORT	MVP
Girls Futsal	Tatem Spencer (SAG)
Girls Football	Xuri reeves-Dalton (SAG)
Boys Table Tennis	George Kalantzis (SAG)



One of the highlights of the week was the Performing Arts/Dinner Dance night, our diverse group of performers did an incredible job and to have 35 St. Andrew's students performing is a credit to our amazing performing arts team.



We had nearly 70 students and 20 staff involved in the four day event as well as the 350-travelling staff and students, it was a monumental effort by everyone involved. As Craig has already identified we will dedicate the Week 4 – Monday blitz to celebrate our success and recognise those who helped play a part.



Please ensure you take the time to acknowledge those students who participated.

GOAANSE 2025 OVERALL RESULTS



RANK	TEAM	BOYS VOLLEYBALL	GIRLS VOLLEYBALL	BOYS FUTSAL	GIRLS FUTSAL	NETBALL	BOYS FOOTBALL	GIRLS FOOTBALL	BOYS BASKETBALL	GIRLS BASKETBALL	BOYS T. TENNIS	GIRLS T. TENNIS	TOTAL
1	St. Andrew's	6	4	4	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	6	31
3	St. Spyridon	5	5	2	5	2	4	4	3	3	4	1	38
2	All Saints	2	3	1	3	5	2	3	4	6	6	4	39
4	Oakleigh	3	1	5	4	3	5	6	5	1	5	3	41
5	St. George	7	6	3	2	4	3	5	7	7	3	2	49
6	St. Euphemia	1	2	7	7	7	6	2	1	2	7	7	49
7	St. John's	4	7	6	6	6	7	7	6	5	2	5	61

Battle of Crete

The battles for the island of Crete were fought from the second week of May 1941 when the island's British, Commonwealth, and Greek garrison was attacked by German airborne troops. The defender's numerical superiority was eventually overwhelmed by the attacker's massive advantage in logistic and air support. By the end May, organised resistance had broken down. Germans hunted small groups of Allied soldiers abandoned by inadequate evacuation facilities and desperately trying to evade capture.

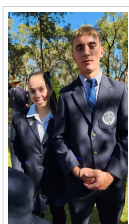
Australian troops were heavily involved in the Battle of Crete in May-June 1941, fighting alongside British, New Zealand, and Greek forces against a German airborne invasion. The battle, part of the broader Greek campaign, saw a mixed force of Allied troops try to repel the German

assault, ultimately resulting in the Allied evacuation and German occupation of the island.

The connection between the Battle of Crete and Prevelly, a suburb in Western Australia, lies in the experiences of Geoffrey Edwards, an Australian soldier who was evacuated from Crete after the battle and sheltered at the Preveli Monastery. In gratitude for the help he received from the Cretan people, particularly the monks at Preveli, Edwards built a chapel in Prevelly, Western Australia, named after the monastery, to honour their bravery and sacrifice.

The Prevelly chapel serves as a memorial to the Greek people and their actions during the Battle of Crete, and it also commemorates the Australian, British, New Zealand, and Greek soldiers who fought in the battle.

On Sunday 18th May, the students and staff represented St. Andrew's Grammar at St. Constatine and Helene Church in Northbridge and at The Battle of Crete Memorial at Kings Park. The students read poems at both events and spoke beautifully. The choir performed both the Greek and Australian National Anthem. We were honoured to be involved in such a special event to honour those who fought in the war.



evening, the Year 12 cohort attended the Year 12 Ball at Rendezvous Hotel in Scarborough. The event was truly amazing, and the students certainly set a high standard especially in their chosen attire worn that evening. A special mention to our King and Queen of the ball; Ali Hashim and Christine Wani.

In Week 2, we welcomed Oakleigh Grammar, All Saints Grammar, St. George College, St. John's College and S. Spyridon College and St. Euphemia College to join us for the GOAANSE. The event ran throughout the week with many of our students representing the school across a wide range of sports, The Arts and Cultural areas. The effort of the students was simply outstanding and a credit to all involved. As I attended various fixtures and events, I was reminded of the sense of pride I have in the students and staff who worked tirelessly to make this event a success.



The GOAANSE Arts and Cultural Evening at Crown Ballroom was certainly a highlight of the week. The event was attended by over 500 people who witness some truly stunning performances by the students of all the participating schools. Each performance was unique and provided a glimpse of the talent we have at St Andrew's Grammar and the other Greek schools from around Australia that have embraced and promoted their culture.



Head of Secondary

Welcome to Week 4!

To staff, students, parents and carers, welcome back and it is amazing to think we are already three weeks down. Term 2 certainly started with a bang, and in true St Andrew's Grammar style, the calendar does not seem to have a day not filled in. In the first week on Friday

After a hectic but highly rewarding week, I was reminded of the importance of participation and the role it plays in life not just here at St Andrew's Grammar, but the important impact it can and does have the wider community. At St Andrew's Grammar School, we believe that success is not just about winning or being the best—it's about showing up, trying your best, and being willing to have a go. The GOAANSE event was all about participation and 'Having a go'.

Over the past few weeks, we've seen many wonderful examples of students stepping outside their comfort zones and embracing new challenges with courage and enthusiasm, especially last week at GOAANSE. This was certainly the case with our Table Tennis team who through their participation and 'Having a go', though none of the students in the team were expert table tennis exponents, won their competition and as a result, provided the extra points to see St Andrew's Grammar School win the event.

From our netball and football players who gave it their all, our basketballers who dug deep, our volleyballers who did not give up, to students who volunteered to assist, to those that performed at the Arts and Cultural evening, tried new sports or filled in to make up the teams, staff who dedicated their time —every effort mattered.

Participation builds confidence, resilience, and a sense of belonging. It shows students that their contribution is valued, no matter the outcome. Whether it's putting a hand up in class, performing on stage, helping a classmate, trying something new at lunchtime, or being involved in a sporting team at a lower or high level, participating and "having a go" is how we grow. This message is relevant to all Year 11 and 12 students who will begin their exams in the coming weeks, followed by the Year 10 students.

Ensure you participate fully in your preparation and approach each exam with your best effort. This is your chance to give yourself the best opportunity to succeed—make it count.

I encourage all students to take part in the many opportunities offered at school. It's not about being perfect or a captain of a team—it's about being present, being brave, and being willing to try. Together we are strong and ensuring we all actively participate and encourage other to do so, is what contributes to making the fabric St Andrew's Grammar School strong.



Siza Macdonald
Head of Secondary

Young Women Leadership Development Program

Two of our aspiring female leaders were chosen to attend the United Nations Association of Australia WA Division (UNAAWA) Young Women's Leadership Development Program (YWLDP), a transformative two-day experience designed to equip girls with the skills, confidence and inspiration to become future leaders.

The program covered, Inspiring keynotes and panel discussions on AI, STEM, Sustainability & Net Zero, Leadership and communication workshops using innovative tools like Lego Serious Play, Hands-on sessions in advocacy, financial literacy, and career coaching Networking with community leaders, industry mentors, and alumni.

What a great leadership development and networking for our girls who were shortlisted for the event.



Year 12 School Ball

On Friday the 2nd of May, the Year 12 students gathered at the Rendezvous Hotel in Scarborough for their annual ball - the first time the event was held exclusively for the graduating class. It was amazing to see that almost every Year 12 student attended which aided in the night being such a wonderful celebration the class of 2025.



The evening was an opportunity for students to come together outside of school and enjoy a night of formal dining, dancing, and marking the final chapter of their high school experience. It was great to see so many students make the most of the occasion.

Congratulations to all the award winners on the night:

- King of the Ball (Best Male Spirit): Ali Hashim
- Queen of the Ball (Best Female Spirit): Christine Wani
- Prince & Princess (Best Couple Spirit): Kristian Vilic and Partner
- Duke & Duchess (Best Dressed Couple): Alexandra Zafiropoulos and Ben DiGregorio LaBianca
- Lords of Elegance (Best Dressed Male): Kumarran Nagalingham and Omid Hussaini
- Lady of Elegance (Best Dressed Female): Ana Susa
- Party Princesses (Best Female Dancers): Alex Phan and Winnie Nguyen Tran
- Party Prince (Best Male Dancer): Dan Pahn



A special thank you to Mr and Mrs Monaghan for attending and taking the time to personally greet each student as they arrived.

Thank you to all staff involved in planning and supporting the event. Your work behind the scenes helped make the night run smoothly.

Photo ordering instructions have been posted on Schoolbox, and we now look ahead to our next celebration event for the class of 2025 - the Year 12 Retreat.

excelled in their attitude and effort, celebrated Futsal teams and their amazing state win and wished the GOAANSE team good luck for the upcoming GOAANSE competitions held here at St. Andrew's.

We are very proud of our students.



Secondary School - House Cross Country

The 2025 House Cross Country was run and won on Friday 4th April. Runners were met by a blustery Autumn day, with strong winds and sprinkling rain making the tough run even tougher. House Spirit from all runners was high and we were very proud to see students face the challenge with their best efforts.

Poseidon overcame their swimming disappointment by winning the House Trophy on 540 points, Demeter were 2nd with 524, Artemis 3rd on 429 and Apollo 4th with 418.



Special Congratulations to Isla Quick (Year 9, Demeter) who was our Overall Female Champion and Overall Male Champion Josh Canlas (Year 11, Artemis).

Congratulations to the following students were Champion and Runners up in their Year Levels.

Year	Female	Male
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Secondary school - Academic Assembly

Our Academic assembly showcased our students achievements from academic to sport and beyond. We acknowledged our top students in each year group who

7	Champion: Angelina Kalantzis	Champion: Leonidas Nestoriadis
	Runner Up: Alessandra Harold	Runner Up: Liam De Boer Djulbic
8	Champion: Savannah Topalis	Champion: Angelo Smith
	Runner Up: Neha Reddy	Runner Up: Seth Leech
9	Champion: Isla Quick	Champion: George Kalantzis
	Runner Up: Kayla Beesley	Runner Up: Luka Petrovic
10	Champion: Clara Rego Vaz	Champion: Nicholas Kalavrouziotis
	Runner Up: Angela Uyen Trieu	Runner Up: Connor Templeton
11/12	Champion: Caitlin Freestone	Champion: Josh Canlas
	Runner Up: Jemma Skinner	Runner Up: Ian Limo

The ACC Cross Country Championship will be held on Thursday 6th June. Students who finished in the top 6 in their year level will be selected to represent St Andrew's at this event with training beginning in Week 3 of Term 2. Those selected will be contacted via email.



Secondary School - HASS

The Humanities Department at St Andrew's Grammar has had a productive and engaging start to Term 2 across all year levels.

Our Year 7 students have transitioned into Economics this term, developing their fundamental understanding of

economic concepts and the role they play in everyday life. Rewinding back to the end of Term 1, we would like to extend our congratulations to Ellie Fernandes Ramos, Kimberley Papandreou, Esther Fernandes Silva de Oliveira, Tanvi Peeleti and Sydra Rasoli who were the winners of the Year 7 Geography Competition for their respective classes. Well done to all students involved for their excellent work!

In Year 8 History, students have been transported to Medieval Europe, analysing many aspects of medieval life, including the feudal system and daily life in medieval societies. They are now undertaking research inquiries on a topic of interest, and will soon present their findings to the class.

Our Year 9 students have been developing essential mapping skills, including interpreting topographic maps, understanding scale, and constructing cross-sections—key skills that provide a strong foundation for future studies in place, space, and interconnection. Additionally, students have begun investigating biomes and food production, exploring how different environments support food production and the challenges associated with sustaining the global food supply.

In Year 10 History, students have been studying World War II, analysing the interwar period and the rise of Nazism in Germany. There has been a particular focus on historical inquiry skills, with students developing their ability to analyse a range of historical sources for purpose, message, and context.



Across our Senior School, our ATAR students in Economics, Business, Modern History, and Geography are diligently preparing for their Semester 1 examinations. To complement their studies, students recently had the privilege of attending a presentation from Consulate Eleni Georgopoulou on the European Union. This provided valuable contextual insights and directly enhanced students' understanding of key syllabus topics. We wish our ATAR students the very best for their upcoming exams.

Meanwhile, our General students in Ancient History, Politics & Law, and Careers and Enterprise have been

preparing for their Externally Set Task (EST)—a crucial assessment in their Year 12 journey. They have approached this challenge with focus and commitment, and we look forward to seeing the results of their hard work.

The Humanities Department is excited for what lies ahead in the term, with students continuing to engage in rich discussions and real-world connections that make Humanities such a dynamic and relevant area of study.

Scott Dickson

Head of Learning Area - HASS

a cell model project, a hands-on task highlighting microscopic organisms (pictured).



In Year 9 Biology, students are investigating how body systems work together to maintain life. Focusing on the nervous and endocrine systems, they've explored how the body detects and responds to changes in the environment. Students recently modelled the structure of neurons using candy – delicious and educational (pictured)!



Secondary School - Science

Science Newsletter Update – Term 2 Week 4

As Term 2 progresses, our science classrooms are alive with curiosity and exploration. Here's a snapshot of what's been happening across our secondary science classes.

Year 7, 8, 9 Biological Science

Our Year 7 students have been diving into the fascinating world of biological classification. Students have been exploring how scientists organise and classify living organisms based on observable features. In one activity, students created field guides for animals of their choice, in the format of a Facebook profile (pictured).



Year 8 students have been introduced to the building blocks of life - cells! They are learning to differentiate between plant and animal cells, identify key organelles, and understand their functions. Some highlights include hands-on work with microscopes where students observed microscopic organisms, and dry ice demonstration, mostly used for adding a spooky ambiance to Halloween parties or wowing the audience when at the theatre (pictured)! Students will soon begin

Year 10: Chemical Science

Year 10 students have been investigating the factors that influence the rate of chemical reactions - temperature, concentration, surface area, and catalysts. Students conducted a range of experiments, such as observing the reaction between hydrochloric acid and magnesium strips and timed their reactions under different conditions. Soon, Year 10 students will sit the first set of exams of the year, assessing their Biology and Chemistry understanding.

Years 11 & 12: Exam Preparation Underway

With Semester 1 exams just around the corner, our senior students are hard at work revising for their ATAR courses. Year 11s are building crucial habits that will support their WACE success, while Year 12s are applying their cumulative knowledge as they approach the final stretch of their secondary education.

Pictured are the Year 12 Psychology students revising the procedure for Pavlov's classical conditioning study, a designated study in the Learning unit.

Mia Ridzuan
Head of Science

Head of Primary

Welcome Back!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to Term 2 at St. Andrew's Grammar! We hope you had a restful holiday break and enjoyed some quality time with loved ones over Easter and ANZAC Day. Thank you for helping us get off to a smooth and positive start—it's been wonderful to see our students arriving each morning with energy, motivation, and a genuine eagerness to learn.

Already, many children are in classrooms by 8:30am, preparing for lessons and finalising homework. This proactive approach sets a fantastic tone for what promises to be another exciting and enriching term of learning and growth.

This term, our focus areas include:

Fostering a Love for Reading

We continue to prioritise reading as a core skill and a lifelong habit. This term, students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 will bring home either a class reader or library book to read Monday through Thursday. We encourage all parents to spend 5–10 minutes each evening listening to their child read and asking questions about the text. This routine not only supports fluency and comprehension but also builds confidence and a love for reading.

In school, Guided Reading sessions, shared story time, and explicit reading instruction will remain central to our teaching. We're also excited to continue to develop the Heggerty phonics program in our Early Years classrooms to support foundational literacy skills.

Creative Expression through Talk for Writing

Through the 'Talk for Writing' approach, our students are learning to express their ideas imaginatively and confidently. The creativity and clarity of student writing across the school has been outstanding—we love seeing and hearing their stories whilst they proudly share them with myself and other staff.

Inquiry Learning with Kath Murdoch

We continue to be proud to be one of only six schools in WA selected to collaborate with renowned educator Kath Murdoch on inquiry-based learning. Our team is embracing this opportunity with enthusiasm and our students are thriving as curious, self-directed learners. Don't forget to join us for Discovery Day on 25th June,



We encourage parents to support students by helping them maintain a balanced routine that includes revision, rest, and wellbeing. We wish them godspeed in their endeavours!

CCA Highlights – Titrations Club

The Year 12 students have just completed a 3-week investigation – TITRATIONS. They all worked productively displaying high level skills in the technique which they developed and perfected in Titration Club CCA (pictured). Titrations is an analytical technique which is highly accurate if the process is completed using precise instruments and if the titrator completes each step with precision and with the correct procedure.

These students will be competing in the Titration Competition later this term.



STAWA Science Talent Search 2025

We're excited to announce that several of our students are preparing submissions for the Science Teachers Association of Western Australia (STAWA) Science Talent Search. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their creativity and scientific thinking in areas such as experimental investigation, invention, and communication.

Students from Years 7–10 are encouraged to get involved and explore an area of science that interests them. More information about categories and deadlines can be found on the STAWA website or by emailing Miss Ridzuan – mridzuan@sag.wa.edu.au.

We are proud of the energy our students bring to their Science learning. As always, we thank our families for supporting Science education at home and look forward to a successful second half of the term.

where we'll showcase the incredible inquiry journeys your children have undertaken.

Mathematics

Mathematics continues to be taught through rich, hands-on experiences that make learning both fun and meaningful. Real-world problem solving and interactive tasks help develop a strong foundation in numeracy that supports every student's success.

This term, we are placing a stronger focus on using manipulatives and hands-on resources to deepen students' understanding of mathematical concepts. By exploring maths in tactile, visual, and practical ways, students are better able to make connections and build confidence in their learning.

We are also working on developing students' mental maths skills, helping them to think quickly, accurately, and flexibly with numbers—skills that are essential both in and beyond the classroom.

Advancing Digital Skills

We are thrilled to continue to work with our Digital Technology Instructional Coach Mr Michael Graffin. His work with staff and students is already having a noticeable impact as we embed digital skills across the curriculum. Please read Digital Technologies in the Primary School article.

? Student wellbeing remains at the heart of everything we do. This term includes House Lunches, Buddy Class activities, and the much-anticipated Year 6 Camp—all designed to foster friendships, belonging, and leadership. These opportunities help our students develop resilience, empathy, and confidence in themselves and others.

We are also proud of our active School Council, where student representatives regularly meet to share ideas, raise concerns, and contribute meaningfully to school life. We value student voice and ensure that our children feel heard, respected, and empowered to make a difference in their learning environment. Encouraging leadership and participation in this way helps build a strong, inclusive community where every child knows they matter.

Upcoming Events & Activities

This term is filled with exciting events and engaging activities. We encourage you to stay connected via Schoolbox.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we can make Term 2, 2025 a vibrant and fulfilling time of growth for every child. With our continued focus on inquiry-based learning, we are encouraging curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking—skills that will serve our students well throughout their lives. We look forward to sharing and celebrating their discoveries with you throughout the term.

An update on Digital Technologies in the Primary Years – Term 2, 2025

At St. Andrew's Grammar, we continue to embrace digital technologies as an essential part of our students' learning journey. This term, we're excited to share the ongoing developments and innovative practices across both the Early Years and Middle Primary–Upper Primary classes.

Early Years: Building Strong Digital Foundations

In the Early Years, we have placed a strong emphasis on embedding foundational ICT and laptop skills beginning in Year 1. Our Year 1s have enthusiastically started out with their laptops this week, and our Year 2s have been doing amazing work with Book Creator. This engaging platform allows young learners to create digital books, bringing their stories and learning to life in imaginative ways.

In Year 2, students are beginning to develop computational thinking skills through hands-on exploration of creating simple algorithms (a sequence of steps to solve a task) with our new VEX GO robots. These early experiences lay the groundwork for logical problem-solving and collaboration, skills that are crucial in today's digital world.

Meanwhile, our Year 3 students are starting out with Scratch digital storytelling, and their enthusiasm is inspiring! This creative platform empowers students to become digital storytellers, blending coding and literacy to express their ideas through animation and interactive narratives. They are about to start their first Scratch project, creating a short digital presentation about our Asian neighbours.



Year 4 to 6 : Innovation and Integration in Action

In Years 5 and 6, all students now have access to LEGO Spike Prime Robotics as part of their core curriculum. Embedding robotics into classroom learning at this level is rare, and we would like to sincerely acknowledge the dedicated staff who are helping make this possible. We are excited to continue evolving our robotics program this year by integrating it into broader STEM design projects. Later this year, we hope to run our first Mars Rover

design challenge, which will task students with designing, building, and programming robots to solve challenge missions on a simulated Mars surface.

Our Junior School Microbit program also continues to grow. In Years 4 and 6, students use these versatile microcontrollers (credit card sized computers) as part of creative design projects incorporating sensors, movement and colourful LED lights. Such activities provide our students with a hands-on introduction to the design process and basic electronics.

Looking ahead, we are both excited and a little nervous as we introduce 3D modelling and 3D printing into Year 4. We plan to explore ways to creatively integrate 3D design projects across the junior school over time.



At St. Andrew's Grammar, we are committed to providing students with authentic, future-focused experiences in digital technology. We sincerely thank Mr. Graffin for his outstanding work in coaching and supporting our teachers, and we commend our staff for embracing new tools and approaches with such enthusiasm. Most importantly, we are incredibly proud of our students, who continue to engage with these digital challenges with creativity, curiosity, and confidence. We look forward to sharing more of their exciting projects with you throughout the year.

Warm regards,



Mrs Julie Wall
Head of Primary



The Term 2 focus of Library is "Inspiring to Read". I truly believe, every child is only one book away from becoming a reader and I am on a mission to recommend that book! In library sessions, we will be reading fabulous books by some amazing authors and illustrators, getting to know our library collection and how to choose and identify 'just right reads' by exploring our library collections in more detail, studying different genres of literature, utilising our catalogue and new eBook platform and participating in the National Simultaneous Storytime on May 21st as well as signing up to this year's Premiers Reading Challenge.

So why is reading so important?

Many children struggle with learning how to read. Some kids can read well but choose not to read. For others, learning disabilities can make reading more challenging.

In today's world, kids have the option of many other activities that may keep them busy and distracted from reading. From after school activities and sports to the pull of devices, TV, and video games, reading for fun is often forgotten or avoided. Older kids might think reading is boring since they associate it with technical reading, like worksheets and textbooks in school.

There are plenty of things to try that can make reading more interesting and exciting to kids. Here are ten tips to try that might help motivate your infrequent reader:

1. **Reconsider what counts as reading.**

There are lots of ways to read, including listening! Audiobooks, radio shows, podcasts, oral stories — including sharing stories of your family and family history — are all great ways to explore literacy outside of written materials.

2. **Let them choose what they want to read.**

All reading is good reading. Be open to comics, manga, blogs, graphic novels, short stories, magazines, screenplays, picture books (even for big kids), song lyrics, books of world records and fun facts, profiles of musicians, artists and sports heroes, or gross-out science books. Visit your public library in person and online for a huge selection of reading material. Our expert staff would also be happy to help make recommendations based on your child's reading preferences.

3. **Avoid banning what they love to read.**

From comic books with adult themes to serial tween romances, it's natural for caregivers to be concerned

about the content of their child's books. But banning what they love can discourage reading. Instead, talk about why you think certain books are offensive and invite them to ask questions. Let your child recommend a book to you so you can read it and discuss the book together. Everyone has different tastes, which is part of the joy of being a reader.

Concerned about age-appropriate content? Look for an online booklist curated for your child's age or interests. You can use the "advanced search" function in your library's online catalogue to search by collection (i.e. Hindi, Biography), format (i.e. Graphic Novel) and Audience (i.e. teen).

4. Let your kids see you enjoy reading.

Nearly 60% of kids who are frequent readers have parents who read five to seven days per week, compared to only 15% of kids who are infrequent readers (*Kids and Family Reading Report – Scholastic, 2017*).

5. Read together as a family.

Make reading a memorable family event. Set aside regular time for reading, whether as a family or each person reading independently near each other. Children whose parents are involved with them in family literacy activities score ten points higher on standardized reading tests.

6. Read in your home language.

Children who learn to read in their first language have an easier time learning to read in a second language because they better understand the process of reading.

7. Try reading something funny!

Read dramatically, use costumes and accents, or read joke books to each other. Have fun when reading aloud together! Try not to focus on their mistakes and simply enjoy the book.

8. Relax.

When we enjoy something, we want to keep doing it — the same applies to reading. Try to make reading as relaxing as possible at home, especially if reading at school is stressful. Have a special snack or read in a special spot. If there's a movie adaptation of the book, watch the movie together after you've finished the book and decide which you liked better.

9. Keep reading sessions short and simple.

Research shows that when students believe they can achieve a task, they are much more likely to persevere and overcome challenges. Parents can help build their child's reading confidence by praising their effort rather than their outcomes. Use affirming language throughout the process to show that you enjoy seeing their efforts. Another strategy is to break reading into smaller parts, even just one paragraph at a time, so that success comes quickly and can be celebrated.

10. Find a role model for your reader.

Research shows that older boys read less than their female peers. Men that model reading to boys can have a positive influence, especially around a shared interest. Sports statistics, LEGO instructions, musician biographies, etc., all count as reading too!

Source: <https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/10-tips-for-motivating-your-infrequent-reader>

Happy Reading

Ms. Tracey Ricchini

PK – 12 Teacher Librarian

IPSHA Performing Arts Night

Once again, St. Andrew's Grammar proudly showcased its incredible talents within the IPSHA community at the IPSHA Performing Arts Night, held on Thursday, 15th May.

Our students delivered an outstanding performance that captivated the entire audience. Each item was thoughtfully introduced in both Greek and English, reflecting our cultural pride and inclusivity. The choir then took the stage with a beautiful rendition of ABBA's "I Have a Dream" - their voices blending in perfect harmony.





This was followed by a vibrant dance performance. Our students were energetic, well-coordinated, and clearly enjoying every moment under the lights. The evening concluded with a lively Zorba, as the audience clapped along in celebration. It was a wonderful way to end a spectacular showcase.



Our students were simply superb—they performed with passion, confidence, and looked absolutely fabulous on stage.

A huge thank you goes to the amazing team behind this event: Mrs Marina Powell, Mrs Stelliani Tzavellas, Miss Lauren Giannakis, and Mr Tom Fortune. The exceptional singing, choreography, and seamless organisation were a testament to their dedication and hard work. The success of the night was a true reflection of their commitment—and it certainly showed in every moment of the performance.

Apollo House Lunch

Apollo House Lunch Fun!

On Thursday, 22nd May, all Primary students in Apollo House came together to enjoy a fantastic House Lunch filled with delicious food, laughter, and fun games!

It was wonderful to see everyone connecting, smiling, and showing true Apollo spirit. A huge thank you and well to our amazing Year 6 students who took the lead in organising a fun-filled House Lunch that was enjoyed by all.



Primary School Art

Visual Arts at St Andrews Grammar – Term 2 , 2024.

Welcome back to Term 2! The students have got straight into Artmaking.

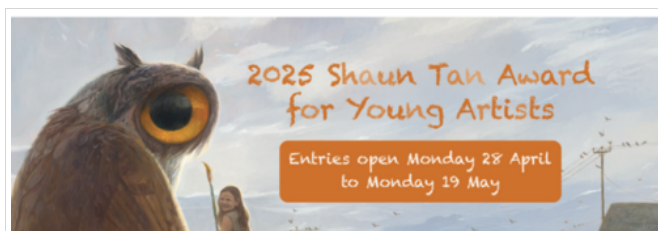
We have started the term by Responding to the Art of Shaun Tan and looking at the Shaun Tan Award for Young Artists.

After the success of last year's First St Andrew's Annual Art Competition, we will be running this again. Students are working on their individual ideas and designs to enter this year's competition. There will be an award from each year level from Years 1-6, and if students wish I will enter them in the Shaun Tan award also.

I am very excited to see their ideas come to life in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions, please get in touch via email.

smullenger@sag.wa.edu.au



Term 2 Upcoming Projects

Year One



Year Ones will be looking at Collages and creating a colourful Landscape with patterns. We will look at the work of Henri Matisse and how he “painted with scissors”.

Year Two



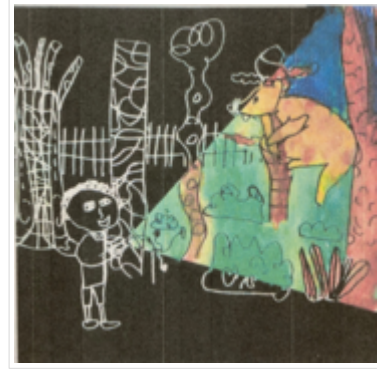
Year Two's will be looking at the work of Eric Carle and creating a Collage of a Seahorse based on the story of Mister Seahorse.

Year Three



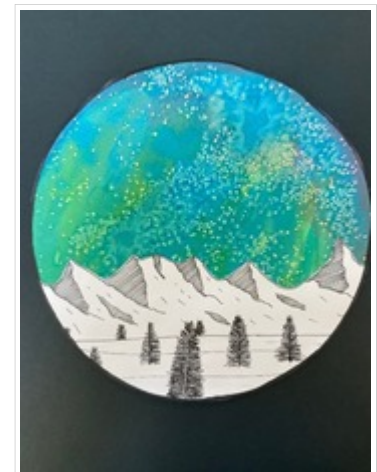
Year Three's will be looking at Cake Art and Design. Using Painted paper and Collage techniques they will design and collage a cake, bringing it to life. They might even want to eat it...

Year Four



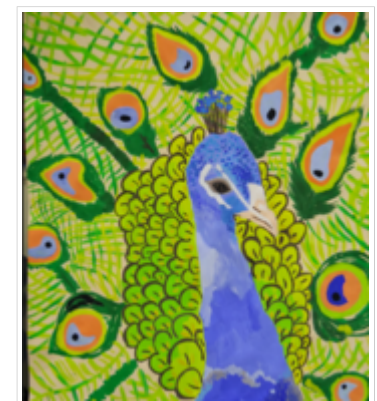
Year Four's will be looking at Illustrations and creating their own Visual story through the Art of Illustrations.

Year Five



Year Fives will be studying Landscapes, both modern and past. We will start off with a Jen Aryani Inspired Mountain scape.

Year Six



Year Sixes will be working on realistically drawing a Peacock with Pattern and Colour a focus.



Year 3 Julie Hickson Inspired Flora and Fauna

The Artroom is looking wonderful. So many clever and hard-working students have helped to create work that is proudly displayed.

As always, I am very much looking forward to seeing their creations this term.

Ms. Mullenger

Visual Arts Specialist Teacher

Mothers's Day

Mother's Day Breakfast

Wow- what a turnout we had on Thursday, May 8th for our Mother's Day Breakfast!

Thank you to everyone who attended, it was lovely to see so many of our wonderful mums and grandmothers enjoying a special breakfast together with the children.

A huge thank you to our Canteen staff for preparing all the delicious food. Thank you to our amazing Primary staff, as well as Mrs Macdonald and Mr David Russell-Smith from Secondary, for helping with the cooking and serving of the food.



From all of the staff at St Andrew's Grammar, we hope you felt celebrated and cherished, and hope you had a beautiful and relaxing Mother's Day with your children.

Mrs Julie Wall

Head of Primary

Pre-Kindy Mother's Day



ELC Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

On Wednesday, 7th May, our Early Childhood staff and students held a wonderful afternoon tea to celebrate our wonderful Mums.

Each class shared a delightful series of presentations, followed by confident oral contributions from each child and the gifting of beautiful, handmade presents to their mums.

The celebration continued with a lovely afternoon tea under the big tree in the ELC playground. The atmosphere was warm, joyful and full of appreciation—a perfect way to end a truly memorable afternoon.

Thank you to all ELC staff for your creativity, dedication, and for showcasing St. Andrew's Grammar in such a positive and professional light.

To all the Mothers and Grandmothers who were able to attend- we hope you had a wonderful afternoon.



Mother's Day in Pre-Primary

Our little Scientists and Mathematicians were hard at work creating something truly special for Mother's Day – our very own *Pink Lemonade Body Scrub!*

With measuring cups in hand, we carefully measured each ingredient and followed a step-by-step procedure to mix up our marvelous creation. We loved the clean, fresh scents of coconut and lemon oils, and the sugar reminded us of soft beach sand! Once our scrubs were ready, we gently spooned them into jars, all beautifully packaged and ready for our wonderful mums.

Toya Muliartha
Primary Teacher



To celebrate, we hosted a lovely **Mother's Day Afternoon Tea**, where we performed like true superstars! Our songs were filled with joy and enthusiasm, and we proudly shared our sentences about *What Makes My Mum Marvelous* with confidence and love.

It was a heartwarming day full of smiles, creativity, and appreciation for the amazing mums in our lives!

Sharon Voros

Pre-Primary Teacher

Year 1

This term our inquiry question is *Why do we need our five senses?*

The Year One's have been engaging in hands-on activities that help them understand how each sense helps to experience the world around them. The children loved the mystery box challenge, where they used their senses of touch, taste, smell and hearing- all while blindfolded! This encouraged the students to rely and focus on their other senses to solve the mystery of what was inside.



We also had a fun and exciting popcorn-making session, where the class engaged all five senses- seeing the popcorn pop, hearing the sounds, smelling the delicious aroma, touching the warm pieces and of course tasting popcorn!



It's been a fantastic start to the inquiry unit and we're looking forward to more sensory adventures ahead!

Egg Newsletter

Breaking News! Mysterious Eggs Found in the Primary School Garden

What's inside? Where did it come from? Should we leave it alone or show it to an expert?

These are some of the amazing questions our students asked after discovering mysterious eggs in the school garden. This surprise was a special part of our learning, meant to spark imagination, curiosity, and thinking.

The egg got the whole Primary School thinking and wondering. Students used their ideas to write creative stories about what might be inside and persuasive pieces about what we should do with it. Some wanted to protect it, while others thought it needed expert help.



This kind of learning "hook" is part of our inquiry approach, where we encourage students to ask questions, share ideas, and explore the world around them. It was a great way to get them excited about learning and working together.

Floriane Balino

Year 1 Teacher



Joey Pool

Primary Teacher

Year 2

Persuasive Writers in Action!

Year 2 have kicked off their new *Talk for Writing* unit by diving into the world of persuasive texts. To begin, students explored the topic: **Why our parents are the best in the world.**



Using **Agree/Disagree paddles**, they responded to a range of persuasive statements and practised giving clear reasons for their opinions. We then looked closely at what's needed in a strong introduction and explored the correct structure for persuasive writing. Students also began using **high modality words** to make their arguments more convincing. An excellent start to their persuasive writing journey!

Year 3

This term, our Year 3 students have been diving into the world of Biological Sciences. As part of our learning, we recently embarked on a nature walk around the school grounds to explore the environment firsthand. Equipped with natural curiosity and excitement, the students eagerly set out to observe and record both living and non-living things.

They discovered a variety of native plants, flowers, trees, grasses, and even spotted some local wildlife. Due to the warm weather, insects were harder to find, but that didn't stop our curious learners from making keen observations.



Pirate Hunt

A Swashbuckling Start to Term 2!

In Year 4.1, we started the term with a bang - from a cannon, that is! As part of our persuasive writing hook, students were treated to an adventure on the high seas: St Andrew's Grammar was overrun by PIRATES, who had buried their treasure somewhere in the school. It was up to the students to follow a series of clues, use their very best persuasive abilities, and work together to find the treasure. Unfortunately, they ran into a few obstacles along the way - some pirate captains around the school, who needed to be persuaded to help before they were willing to send the students in the right direction!

Here's what some of the students had to say about this exciting day:

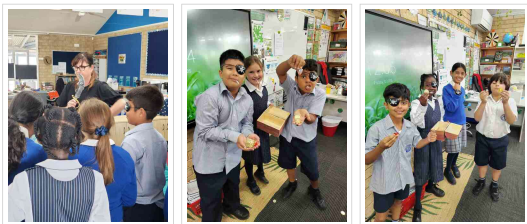
Pirate Takeover - by Vrinda Viknesh

On Friday, we had a pirate hunt. We came into our classroom and realised that eye patches were on our desk. In a flash we all put our eye patches on and pretended we were all pirates.

Firstly, we split into groups and each group had one teacher with us. We had Mr Purton with us and he gave us our first clue, which led us to the reading corner where we found another clue, it said: 'Seek the lair of Captain Wall - aye, the admiral of the school seas. Knock if ye dare and speak polite-like.'

So we went to Mrs Wall's office and waited for her to come. She didn't want to give us the clue at first, and we had to convince her we deserved it. Then her hat fell off and a clue was inside! It said go to the shed that supplies swords and shields.

We all decided that it was the sport shed. When we reached the sport shed we saw another clue, which directed us to the playground. When we reached the sand pit we saw a bunch of shovels so we grabbed them and dug. Then we saw the one and only treasure: lollipops!



The Treasure Hunt - Aria Govender

Ahoy there, landlubbers! Last week, on the 2nd of May some vicious pirates sent us on a wild escapade to find the most beautiful, the most shiny gold in the world!

As I gathered the crew together, we set sail. First stop was the majestic maths island. We found our next clue and set sail to find the hook handed pirate Captain Ricchini. She held a fight; we won and took a gold coin each. We suddenly felt hungry and took off to Canteen Island. We finished our meals and headed towards the main deck. There we found the most beautiful, the most shiny gold coins.

We sailed home and split the treasure between us. We got a lolly, a gem and a coin. We can't wait to do it all again.

A huge thank you to Mrs Wall, Mrs Simpson and Ms Ricchini for participating in this activity with us! It certainly got us thinking about the art of persuasion and how we can use language to convince others!

Rebecca Trevisan

Year 4 Teacher

Year 5. Zoo Excursion

On Friday the 16th of May, our Year 5 students went on an exciting adventure to the zoo and it was an excellent day from start to finish. The excursion was a fantastic opportunity to connect what we have been learning in Biological Sciences to the real world, as students observed the incredible adaptations of animals in a variety of habitats.

Each class took part in a focused learning experience, where students completed an activity exploring the difference between structural and behavioural adaptations. They also worked through a labelling task, applying their knowledge to specific animals and identifying how these adaptations help animals survive in their environments.

Throughout the day, students explored several habitats, including the African Savannah, Asian Rainforest, Australian Wetlands and the Nocturnal House. In small groups, they observed animals up close, identifying adaptations that help them find food, stay safe, or cope with extreme conditions.



It was wonderful to see our students making strong connections between their classroom learning and the real world. Their curiosity, teamwork and insightful observations made it a truly memorable day of hands-on science learning.

Well done to all of our Year 5 learners and a big thank you to the staff and zoo educators who supported the day.

Year 5 Teachers

5.1 Toya Muliatha

5.2 Lauren Giannakis

5.3 Jarred Rees

Year 5.2 Assembly - Getaway: Exploring North & South America

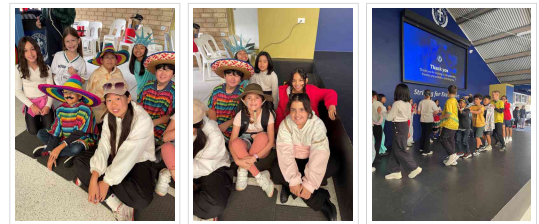
Year 5.2 Assembly – Getaway: Exploring North and South America

On Friday the 23rd of May, Year 5.2 took the audience on an exciting Getaway episode style adventure through North and South America! Our assembly was a fun and creative way to showcase everything we've been learning in class.

We made clear links to three of our main learning areas this term. In HASS, we explored the geography of different places, including landforms, climate, vegetation and built features. In Science, we introduced incredible native animals and explained how their unique adaptations help them survive in their environments. In English, we used our persuasive writing skills to try and convince the audience to pack their bags and book a trip to the Americas!



Each destination came to life through facts, speaking roles and high energy dancing. Our first stop was the Grand Canyon, where we shared its dramatic desert landscape and wildlife, dancing to 'Party in the USA'. From there, we hit New York City, shared iconic sights like Times Square and Central Park and danced to 'Empire State of Mind'. Next, we travelled to vibrant Mexico, full of deserts, jungles and delicious food, dancing to 'La Bamba'. Then it was off to Brazil, home of the Amazon Rainforest and football legends. We danced to 'La La La World Cup 2014'. In Argentina, we performed to 'Don't Cry for Me Argentina' and shared everything from tango dancing to the pink fairy armadillo. Finally, we landed in Peru, where we danced to 'Peru by Fireboy DML' and talked about Machu Picchu, llamas and Peru's many ecosystems.



Every student had a role to play and did an amazing job bringing their learning to life. I'm so proud of the way they performed with confidence, energy and teamwork. A big thank you to Kiria Eleni and Kiria Vivi for supporting our Greek item.

I couldn't be prouder of my 5.2 superstars!

Lauren Giannakis

Primary Teacher