



**ST. ANDREW'S
GRAMMAR**

Striving for Excellence

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2025 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: TERM 3 VOLUME 4

Message from our Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we reach the midpoint of the academic year, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to our students, staff, and families for your continued dedication, resilience, and support.

The first half of the year has been marked by meaningful progress, collaborative spirit, and a shared commitment to excellence. Upon reflection our outstanding NAPLAN results (recently communicated) and our tremendous successes both on the courts/sports fields and off at the recent GOAANSE festival were real highlights. This moment provides an opportunity not only to reflect on our achievements but also to reaffirm our goals for the remainder of the year. As a school, we are focused on the following key priorities:

- **Enhancing Academic Excellence**
We will continue to strengthen teaching and learning through targeted support, differentiated instruction, and high expectations for all students. Working hard in using the data generated for every student we are working to develop personal excellence with every student from pre-KG to Year 12.
- **Promoting Student Wellbeing**
Our commitment to fostering a safe, inclusive, and nurturing environment remains steadfast. We will expand initiatives that support mental health, resilience, and respectful relationships across all year levels. Striving for well rounded and polite students who love their school and

their teachers remains one of our key focus areas.

- **Investing in Professional Growth**
Staff will continue engage in ongoing professional development aligned with our strategic priorities, including curriculum innovation, data-informed practice, and leadership development. More specifically, in continuing to develop staff understanding of:
 - what are the most important and effective practices to improve students through our work with John Hattie and Visible Thinking
 - further developing our inquiry-based focus and
 - developing a consistent approach to lessons through Classroom Mastery.
- **Strengthening Community Engagement**
We aim to deepen our partnerships with families and the wider community through open communication, collaborative events, and shared decision-making. We look forward to hearing feedback from our staff, students, and parents in October so that we can take in account these perceptions when we forward plan.

We look forward to some significant events this Semester, especially the formal Opening of our Secondary Science and Technology Hub, our whole school production of Aladdin and the various camps and graduations that we have planned. Semester 2 is always an exciting term when the successes achieved during semester 1 can be celebrated and heralded.

Enjoy some great shots of the recent Secondary Athletics carnival which our senior students had a wonderful time:



Let us all approach the second half of the year with renewed energy, purpose, and a shared belief in the potential of every learner. Together, we will continue to uphold the values that define our school and strive toward outcomes that reflect our collective vision.

Thank you for your ongoing trust and partnership.



Craig Monaghan
Principal

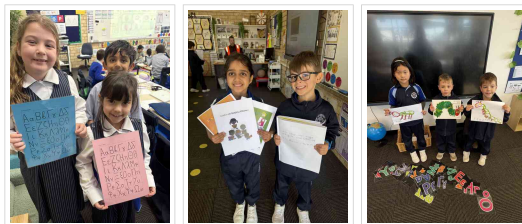
GREEK CORNER - Ελληνική Γωνιά

Term 3 has started off with excitement during Greek lessons.

Kindy students are learning about their body parts. They are singing songs about the body to reinforce the learning.

In Pre-primary, the students are learning words to coincide with the Hungry Caterpillar book. These big book experiences are a lot of fun.

Year 1s are focusing on learning the sounds, names, and words for each Greek letter and in year 2 they are reading, writing, and translating small Greek sentences.



Year 1 students are also embarking on an exciting journey to learn about weather. They'll be exploring different types of weather. So far, they have started playing games such as Memory and creating their own Bingo Boards using weather conditions.



The students are having so much fun, and their enthusiasm is a delight to see.

Stelliani Tzavellas

Kindy Greek and PMP Teacher

Greek Dance Teacher Years PP-6

K-12 Greek Curriculum Coordinator

Library Corner

Book Week is coming!

Book Week Parade:

When: Tuesday 19th August 2025

Where: Undercover area

Time: 9 – 10.20 am



What is Book Week?

Every year, the Children's Book Council of Australia holds a book week across Australia to promote the importance of reading and the joy that children can find in it. Schools, libraries, booksellers, authors, illustrators, and children come together to celebrate Australian literature in a whole host of events and parades, with the week culminating with the Book of the Year Awards.

Book Week was first introduced in 1945. At this time, there was a scarcity of children's literature in the country, with very few Australian authors writing in this genre. Thanks to the establishment of this event, children's books and authors were given a platform and word spread about these stories.

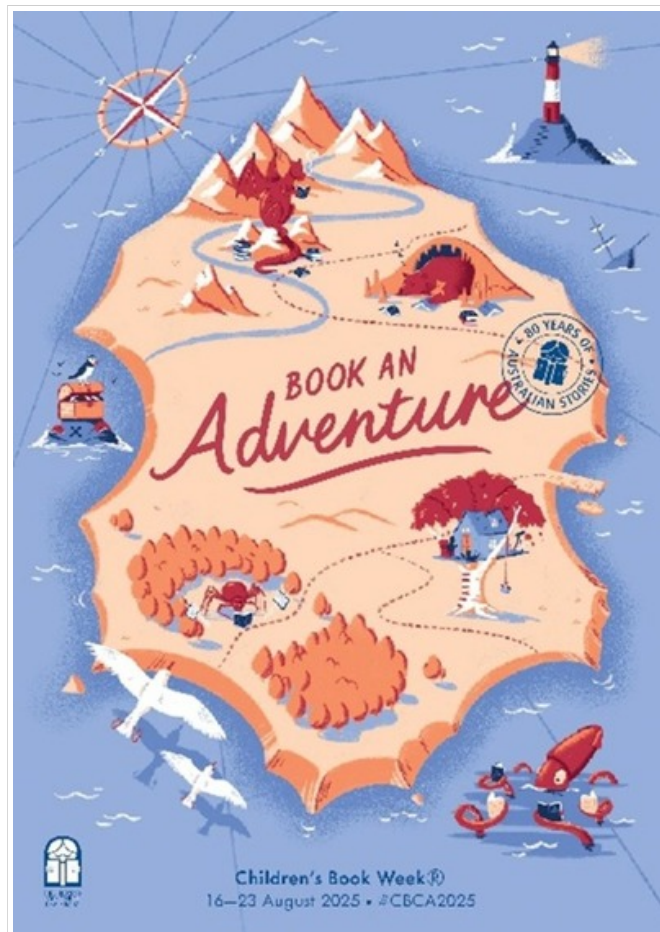
When is Book Week 2025?

Children's Book Week 2025 in Australia will be held from August 16th to August 23rd. The theme for the week is "Book an Adventure!". This year also marks the 80th anniversary of Children's Book Week.

Book an Adventure!

As with all Book Weeks, there's a specific theme that the entire week is centred around. This theme is at the core of the week and the lead up to Book Week in library classes and views a child's relationship with literature in light of that theme.

The theme for CBCA Book Week 2025 is "Book an Adventure!" This year's theme encourages children to see reading as a ticket to discovery. With each book, readers can travel to faraway places, explore new ideas, and meet unforgettable characters. The official artwork by award-winning illustrator Jess McGeachin brings this theme to life with a whimsical map filled with imaginary creatures and fantastical destinations.



St. Andrew's Grammar Book Week - visiting Authors:

James Foley: Years 3 - 6



James Foley makes children's books for children who read books. If you're a child and you're eating his books, you're doing it wrong! He is the author and illustrator of many picture books and graphic novels, including *Stellarphant*, *Happy Barry Capybara*, *Secret Agent Mole*, *Brobot* and *Gastronauts*. His latest books are *Bigfoot vs Yeti: A Love Story*, and the colour edition of *Dungzilla* and *Chickensaurus*. Legend says James can grow a beard in an afternoon. He is a massive Marvel movie nerd and comes from a long line of queuing enthusiasts. He lives near Freo/Walyalup in Western Australia with his wife Renae, their 2 kids, and a labrador called Frankie.

Wendy Binks: Years KG - 3



Wendy Binks is best known for her quirky Australian animal designs, particularly emus. She has written and illustrated multiple children's books including the *Stripey* series, and varies her work between murals, commercial products, art classes, and original paintings. She has had a stall at the famous Fremantle markets for 24 years. Wendy is an avid outdoors enthusiast and is passionate about protecting wildlife. Most of her commercial products can be seen on her website <https://wendybinks.com>

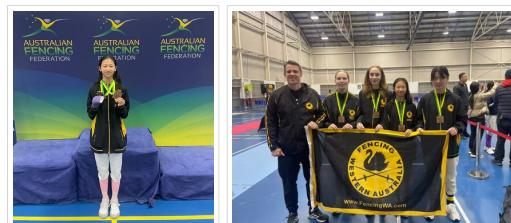
This year, let your children pack their reading bags and set off on adventures through story. Whether they're charting new lands, solving mysteries, or stepping into the shoes of a daring protagonist, every book is a journey waiting to be taken.

NB: Further information about the shortlisted titles for this year can be found at: <https://cbca.org.au/2025-shortlist/>

Happy reading!

Ms Tracey Ricchini

K-12 Teacher Librarian



Beauty and the Beast Excursion

Aladdin Jr. Cast Inspired by a Touch of Disney Magic

On Wednesday 6 August, our *Aladdin Jr.* cast had the unforgettable opportunity to attend a performance of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* at Crown Theatre. A huge thank you must go to Mr Tom Fortune for making it possible to include our cast in what has traditionally been a primary school excursion. We are so grateful!

The students were buzzing with excitement before and after the show, many of them discussing what they had learnt and how they could use new ideas to enhance their own performances. It truly was one of those "you had to be there" experiences. The kind that lingers in your memory long after the final curtain.

The cast and crew of *Beauty and the Beast* delivered a dazzling performance, full of Disney magic and Broadway-level professionalism. One particularly memorable moment came during the Beast's transformation into the Prince. He began to levitate in a truly magical moment... until something behind the scenes didn't quite go to plan. As the lights came up, the actor gestured to the wings, clearly indicating a problem. A blackout followed, then house lights came up, and an announcement was made about a technical difficulty. After a few minutes of suspense and curious guesses from the audience, the curtain rose once more to thunderous applause as the show resumed its final scenes. It was a brilliant reminder that even in professional theatre, live performance is full of surprises!

Student Achievement

Celebrating Resilience and Sporting Excellence – Alice Li

On June 26, 2025, Alice Li sustained a fractured finger while representing St Andrew's Grammar in a school netball match. Despite needing a cast, Alice's resilience and determination shone through. Just a few weeks later, in mid-July, she represented Western Australia at the National Youth Fencing Championships in Sydney—competing with courage and grit despite her injury.

Alice pushed through the pain to support her teammates on the fencing strip and delivered an outstanding performance, helping secure two bronze medals in the team events. Her strength, commitment and perseverance are a true testament to the power of her sporting spirit.

We are incredibly proud of Alice!



We were also lucky enough to take part in a Q&A session after the show with the production manager and four cast members. While they shared great insights into the world of professional theatre, they kept the secrets of their stage magic firmly under wraps, including the mystery of the earlier technical glitch!



I must also commend our St Andrew's students for their respectful behaviour and mature conduct throughout the excursion. I had warned them about the perils of rustling candy wrappers (and the steam it might cause to come out of my ears!) . I'm pleased to report that any steam was caused by others in the audience, not our students.

It was a truly special day that left our students inspired, energised, and even more excited to bring *Aladdin Jr.* to the stage in November.

Aladdin Jr. Production

Aladdin Jr. Holiday Rehearsals – A Magical Milestone!

Over the recent school holidays, our dedicated *Aladdin Jr.* cast gave up four full days to rehearse, and what an incredibly productive and energising time it was. We

are so grateful to the students and their families for their commitment, and the progress made during these extended rehearsals has been remarkable.

The holiday rehearsals marked the beginning of costume fittings and the introduction of props, and with a show as visually rich as *Aladdin Jr.*, there are a lot. The excitement in the room was clear as students began to visualise the full picture of what they have been working so hard to create.

We also saw some of our biggest musical numbers really come to life. Miss Giannakis was in top form, delivering her wonderfully creative choreography with enthusiasm and flair, and the students rose to the challenge with energy and focus.

It was also the first time the full cast had the opportunity to perform selected songs and scenes for one another. There were plenty of laughs and moments of joy, but above all, it was heartwarming to see the genuine encouragement and support they showed each other as they faced nerves and discovered the thrill of performing to an audience, even if it was just each other for now.



Thank you to Mrs Powell, Miss Giannakis and Miss Stewart for all your creative energy during these holiday rehearsals!

Excitement is definitely building as we look ahead to sharing our finished production with the St Andrew's community. There will be three performances at the Subiaco Arts Centre on **Thursday 7 November** and **Friday 8 November**. Ticket information will be available soon.



Shana O'Shea

Director

Message from our Head of Primary

WOW... What a Start to Term 3!

Dear Parents and Families,

We are just three weeks into Term 3 and what an outstanding, joy-filled, and action-packed start it has been! From the moment the bell rang on Day 1, our classrooms were buzzing with excitement. It has been heartening to see every student settled and ready to learn by 8.35 8.30am—classrooms calm, focused and full of energy as quality learning begins right on time.

We have had so much to celebrate already. The Performing Arts Assembly was a real highlight, showcasing the incredible talents of our students in both music and dance. Their confidence, creativity and enthusiasm shone brightly and it was a true celebration of the arts at St. Andrew's Grammar.

Last week, the remove 'the' Year 3.1 took us on a journey into outer space with their captivating class assembly. It was wonderful to see how engaged the students were in their learning and how confidently they shared their knowledge and skills with the school community.

We were also thrilled to welcome the fabulous James Foley, renowned children's author and illustrator, to our school. His visit had the students laughing, drawing and completely inspired by the power of storytelling.

Another unforgettable moment was our magical excursion to the Crown Theatre to see *Beauty and the Beast*. Over 200300 of us attended—and the excitement, wonder and awe on the children's faces made it a truly special day. These moments not only enrich our curriculum but bring joy and connection to our school experience.

In addition, we've warmly welcomed more than 20 new international Study Tour students and several new families to the St. Andrew's Grammar community. A huge thank you to our students and staff who have gone above and beyond to ensure our newcomers feel welcomed, safe and are a valued part of our school family.

And how could we forget our talented primary students who participated in the Speakers' Challenge? Their confidence, clarity and ability to express their ideas so articulately left us incredibly proud. These are the skills that build strong writers and courageous communicators, and our students are clearly thriving in this area.

Finally, we are thrilled to share that our NAPLAN results are in—and they are outstanding! (Yet again!) These exceptional results reflect the high-quality teaching, targeted learning programs, and the unwavering commitment of our staff in ensuring every student achieves their best. From strong foundational skills to

a rich culture of reading, writing, and hands-on maths learning—our students are not just performing - they are flourishing.

Term 3 has only just begun, yet we are already seeing the incredible impact of our collective efforts. Thank you for your continued partnership and support—together, we are building a vibrant, caring, and high-achieving learning community.

Here's to an exciting term ahead—there is so much more to look forward to! I will be commencing my long service leave at the end of Week 4, with Mr Fortune stepping in during my absence. I look forward to reconnecting with you all at the start of Term 4.

Warm regards,



Julie Wall

Head of Primary

Inquiry Learning

At St. Andrew's Grammar, Inquiry Learning is having a profound impact on our students, fostering curiosity, critical thinking and a deeper engagement with the world around them. As children from Kindergarten to Year Six explore big questions, investigate ideas, and collaborate to solve real-life problems, they are developing independence, resilience, and a love of learning that goes beyond the classroom.

Teachers are observing increased confidence as students take ownership of their learning journeys, asking thoughtful questions and making meaningful connections across subjects. Inquiry is not only shaping knowledge, but it is also nurturing skills essential for lifelong learning.



Maths Enrichment

Year 4 Maths Enrichment: Discovering 3D Shapes and Their Capacities

Year 4 Maths Enrichment students have been focused on packaging in supermarkets and 3D shapes. After looking at a Toblerone bar box and determining it was a triangular prism they quickly set to work designing their own net for a prism and pyramid that could win the capacity competition. This investigation is designed to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as help students apply their mathematical skills to real-world scenarios. Students are exploring two inquiries: "Which 3D Shape Has More Capacity? Prism vs. Pyramid" and "Who Can Design the Best Net for Each Shape That Will Hold the Most Marbles/Weight?"

The challenge has inspired impressive creativity! In the Prism category, Lucas Tram set a record with 1004g in 2024, surpassed by Jiyaan Pothiwala with 1114g in

2025. In the Pyramid category, Vivan Joshi led with 404g in 2024, followed by Diya Basnet with 360g in 2025.

We are proud of our students' creativity and enthusiasm. This experience enhances their mathematical skills and critical thinking. I encourage you to discuss with your child their learnings and creative applications.



Year 6 Maths Enrichment: The Power of Compound Interest

In an exciting mathematical investigation, Year 6 students embarked on a journey to determine who would retire with the most money using the principles of compound interest and two different savings strategies. The first scenario involved Person 1, who began working at age 15 and diligently saved \$5,000 annually, investing it in a compound interest account earning 10% per annum. This amount was saved until age 25, after which no more contributions were made, but the investment was left untouched to grow until age 65. In contrast, Person 2 started saving at age 25, after completing university, contributing the same \$5,000 annually into a similar compound interest account until retirement at 65. The results revealed were surprising to the students, mathematically disproving their initial educated guess.

This hands-on project not only honed students' mathematical skills but also introduced them to practical applications using Excel spreadsheets for financial modelling. The exercise highlighted the importance of early savings and the exponential nature of compound interest, offering valuable insights for real-life financial planning. Parents are encouraged to engage with their children about these learnings, discussing future savings strategies and the broader implications of compound interest on loans and investments.

Jodie Stevens

Maths Enrichment Teacher

Primary School Sport

This term, students are excitedly preparing for our athletics carnival in Week 7. In PE classes, we will focus on all track and field events, including sprints, relays, jumps, and javelin. Additionally, we will practice novelty games such as leader ball, pass-ball, and tug

of war to enhance teamwork and enjoyment. Through these activities, students will develop essential skills and confidence as they gear up for the interschool IPSHA athletics carnival that follows our own. It promises to be an engaging and energetic term for all!



Michael Pynes

Physical Education Teacher PP - 6

Heggerty Phonemic Awareness - Pre K- Year 2

Building strong foundational skills in literacy is crucial for long-term academic success. One of the most effective ways to do this is by developing phonemic awareness — the ability to hear, identify, and manipulate individual sounds in spoken words.

Last year, all of our Pre-K to Year 2 classes implemented the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Programme and we are thrilled with the early literacy skills we are witnessing across our early years.

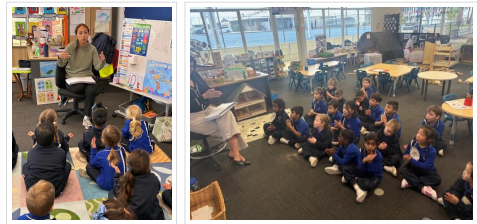
Research shows that phonemic awareness is one of the strongest predictors of reading success. Heggerty helps children tune into the sounds of language through activities like rhyming, segmenting, blending, and manipulating sounds in words. These skills lay the groundwork for decoding and spelling when formal reading instruction begins.

For Pre-K and Kindergarten students, the programme fosters listening and speaking skills, vocabulary development, and language fluency — all vital components of early literacy. These oral language skills are especially important for English language learners and children from diverse linguistic backgrounds.

As students progress into Year 1 and Year 2, Heggerty lessons continue to support their reading and spelling development. By reinforcing phoneme manipulation and sound-letter connections, students gain greater confidence in decoding unfamiliar words and constructing words accurately in writing.

Our students look forward to their daily Heggerty sessions. They thrive on structure and repetition, and

the predictable routine of Heggerty lessons keeps them engaged.



Primary School Art

Art Room Adventures.

Happy Term 3! I would like to congratulate all the students on their efforts in Semester one. Last term, the students entered an Art competition, and I wish to congratulate the following students who have won an award.

Year One: *Quintin* – First place and *Margot* – Runner Up

Year Two: *Monica* – First place and *Vanessa* – Runner Up

Year Three: *Aarav* – First place and *Kayden* – Runner Up

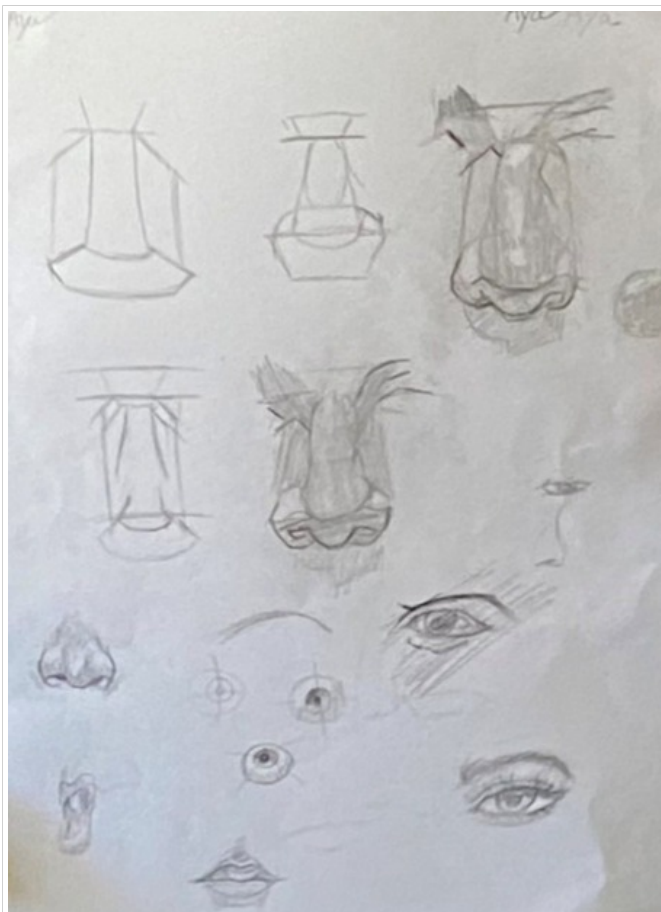
Year Four: *Amelia* – First place and *Samay* – Runner Up

Year Five: *Joey* – First place and *Sienna* – Runner Up

Year Six: *Jayden* – First Place and *Myra* – Runner Up

Also, a big congratulations to Ivy (3.3) whose Cake design has been selected to be made in our Annual Cake Collage Competition.

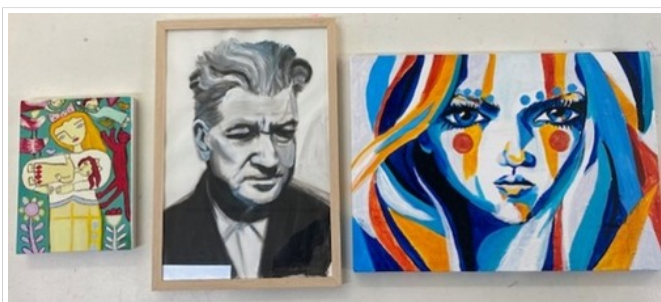
This term, Years 1-6 have been challenged to create a Portrait. We are developing our existing skills and learning new techniques, before we experiment and create our own individual ideas.



From the moment we began, the curiosity has been electric, with students already forming thoughtful inquiry questions about the mysteries of space. Our learning journey kicked off with an exploration of our own planet Earth and its special connection to the sun and moon—learning how this cosmic dance creates day and night. Through imaginative play, our little astronauts have been blasting off on pretend missions in our vibrant home corners, while hands-on arts and crafts have added a splash of creativity to our space adventures. With so much more to discover, we can't wait to see where this cosmic journey takes us next!



Miss Hasapopoulos and Miss Vanopoulos-Keene
Pre-Primary Teachers



Our upcoming projects this term will be inspired by Famous Artists. I can't wait to see what the children create.

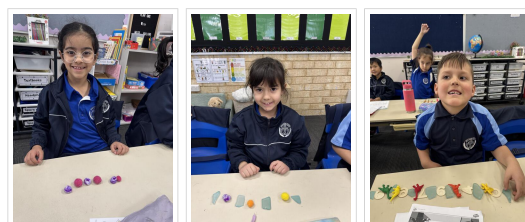
Simone Mullenger
Primary Art Specialist

Year 1

The Year 1 students have settled into Term 3 with big smiles and a wonderful eagerness to learn. It's been a joy to see their excitement each day as we dive into new topics!

In English, we are focusing on **narratives**, where students are learning how to structure a story with a beginning, middle, and end. They will enjoy using their imaginations to create characters and settings, and we're already seeing some fantastic storytelling emerging.

In Mathematics, we've been exploring **patterns and number patterns**. Students have especially enjoyed using counters, blocks, and everyday classroom items to create 2-pattern and 3-pattern sequences. It's been a hands-on, colourful, and creative way to reinforce their understanding of number relationships and sequences.



Pre Primary

Pre-Primaries Blast Off into Term Three at St Andrews Grammar!

The Pre-Primaries at St Andrews Grammar have launched into Term Three with boundless energy and excitement as we explore our new topic: Outer Space!

We're proud of the progress Year 1 is making and look forward to the rest of the term filled with learning, laughter, and discovery!

Floriane Balino

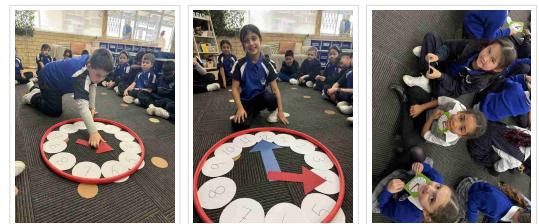
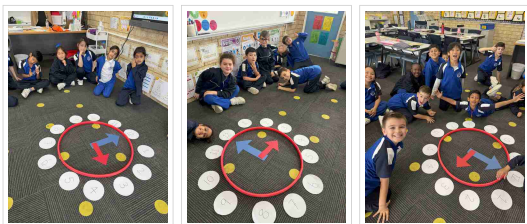
Year 1 Teacher

Year 2

Our Year 2 students have been enthusiastically diving into the wonderful world of time this term! The children have been learning how to read both analogue and digital clocks, with a focus on telling the time to the hour, half past, quarter past and quarter to.

Through a variety of hands-on activities and engaging games, students have been building their confidence and developing a strong understanding of how to read and interpret time. From using mini clocks and time-matching games to role-playing real-life scenarios, the classroom has been full of fun, laughter and lots of "What time is it now?"

A highlight for many has been practising their time-telling skills during real parts of the school day. It's been fantastic to hear students proudly announce the time—especially when it's nearly recess or lunch! Their growing awareness of how time shapes our day has sparked many great conversations and helped them connect their learning to the real world.



It's been wonderful to see their excitement grow as they apply their learning in meaningful ways. Families are encouraged to continue supporting this learning at home by inviting children to read the clock or estimate how long everyday activities take—it's a great way to build their confidence and reinforce their skills!

We're incredibly proud of how engaged and motivated the Year 2s have been throughout this unit and we look forward to seeing their time-telling abilities continue to develop in the weeks ahead.

Tasleem Edwards

Primary Teacher

Year 4

A Hopping Good Time in Year 4!

There is a new student in the Year 4 Cohort this term! He's three feet tall, white and fluffy, and wears the fanciest outfits in the entire school!

Meet Edward Tulane, our new Year 4 Mascot! We have been busy delving into our class novel, the *Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo, which is all about a rabbit doll and his adventures. The Year 4 students were very excited to see that Edward himself has joined us for our classroom reading - he has so enjoyed listening to the students telling his personal biography.

As well as our literary adventures, the Year 4 students have enjoyed revising their times tables and learning all about symmetry in Mathematics, exploring changes to the Earth's surface in Science, and beginning our continental deep dive in HASS: biomes, mapping, environments, and all about Africa and Europe!



We are looking forward to all the excitement that this term will bring - we are in for our own journeys,

Rebecca Trevisan & Deanna Papa

Year 4 Teachers

Year 5

Earth & Space Sciences

This week, the Year 5 students began their new topic: Earth and Space Sciences. To spark their curiosity, the classes explored images of planets, the International Space Station and various galaxies and nebulae. They also watched a fascinating zoom-out video that simulated pulling away from Earth, helping students visualise just how small our planet and even our solar system is in the vastness of space!

Inspired by this, students recorded the questions they had about space, setting the stage for deeper inquiry.

We then explored how the Sun, Earth, and Moon revolve and rotate within our solar system. As a hands-on demonstration, students acted out this movement one as the Sun, one as the Earth, and another as the Moon

rotating and orbiting around each other to simulate their motions in space.



What's next?

We'll be learning how our solar system was formed. Stay tuned!

Toya Muliatha

Primary Teacher

Year 6

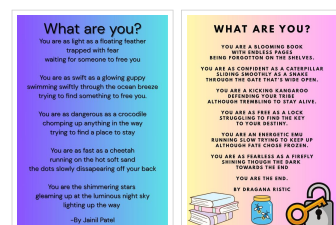
Year 6 Poets in the Making!

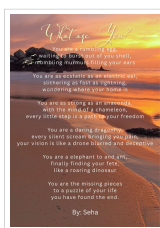
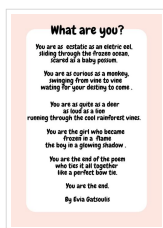
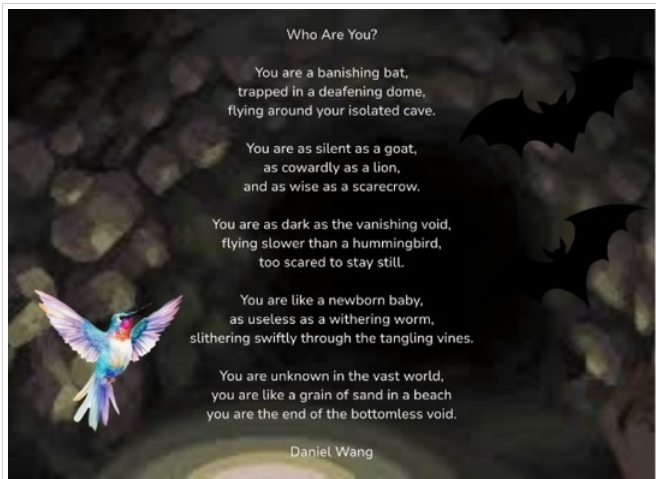
This term, the Year 6.1 students have embraced the art of poetry writing, diving into the creative world of words and rhythm.

As part of our English program, they have explored a range of figurative language techniques that help bring their writing to life. From alliteration and similes to metaphors, oxymorons and hyperbole, students have been experimenting with these devices to create vivid imagery and evoke emotion in their readers.

It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they craft powerful verses filled with imagination, humour, and thoughtful reflection.

We hope you enjoy reading some of their poetic masterpieces!





Ms Sharareh Ahmadzadeh
Year 6.1 Teacher

Message from our Head of Secondary

Firstly, welcome back to the students and staff at St Andrew's Grammar and I hope you all had a chance to recharge and reset for the second semester. It is hard to believe the first few weeks have passed and I am writing this for the Week 3 newsletter.

This Term is going to be a particular busy one, with a number of significant events taking place. These events include many national wide initiatives, such as Science Week and Book Week, promoting science and reading respectively. Both these disciplines are vital to enhancing student outcomes and understandings but more importantly promoting curiosity and the value of knowledge to our students. As a result, over the coming weeks, we will turn the spotlight these two powerful forces that drive learning every day at St Andrew's Grammar.

Curiosity is the spark that ignites a lifelong love of learning. Whether it's a student asking "why" during science class or exploring a new book in the library, curiosity is what pushes us to explore the world around us. At St Andrew's Grammar, we believe that asking questions is just as important as finding the answers. Back by the educational philosophy of Visual Thinking, we want to encourage students to be curious, seek knowledge and reflect to evolve their learning journey.

Curiosity is the first step to learning something new, solving problems, and making the world a better place.

As Albert Einstein once said, "The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing."

Knowledge is the foundation that curiosity builds upon. It's the result of discovery, reading, experimenting, and thoughtful discussion. Our students are encouraged not just to memorize facts, but to connect ideas, reflect deeply, and share what they learn with others. Through this we endeavour to ensure students are able to use what they have learnt too continually build their knowledge and understanding of the world around them.

As educators and parents, we play a vital role in nurturing curiosity and knowledge, by encouraging questions, celebrating mistakes as part of learning, and modelling our own love of discovery. The more we foster this mindset, the more our students will feel empowered to grow into thoughtful, informed, and passionate learners. We want students to become lifelong learners who continually seek knowledge and use curiosity as a driving force.

So how can you promote curiosity? Ask questions—even the "silly" ones, Try new things, even if they're hard at first, Look at problems from different angles, Keep reading, exploring, and creating.

At our school, we believe that every question is the beginning of a great adventure. Whether it's exploring how plants grow in science class, diving into a new book during reading time, or figuring out a tricky math puzzle, your curiosity leads the way to gaining knowledge. Science Week and Book Week are fundamental in promoting this concept. They can provide the environment to ask a question, even a simple one that can then drive learning.

Even famous inventors, artists, and scientists—like Leonardo da Vinci, Marie Curie, or Mae Jemison—started with a simple question. They didn't know all the answers, but they weren't afraid to ask. And that made all the difference.

Let's fill our classrooms with big ideas, exciting questions, and a love for learning that lasts a lifetime. Remember: knowledge isn't just about having the right answer. It's about being brave enough to ask the next question.

And to reiterate one of the world's greatest minds, Albert Einstein stated, "I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious."

Science Week and Book Week reminds us all—students, teachers, and families alike—that learning doesn't stop when the lesson ends. When we stay curious, every moment becomes an opportunity to discover something new, and gasp hold of knowledge.

Keep wondering, keep learning, and stay curious!

Secondary School - HASS



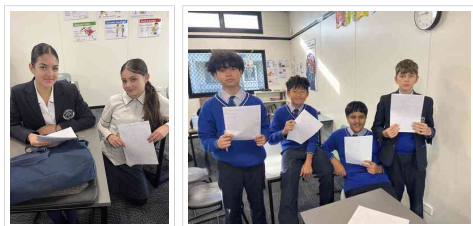
Siza Macdonald
Head of Secondary

Secondary School - English

Year 7 students have begun reading "*Holes*" as part of their upcoming novel study unit. Over the coming weeks, students will participate in reading sessions, group discussions, and a range of written and creative activities designed to deepen their understanding of the text.



Year 8 students have finished writing their own poetry and are about to begin a novel study of "*Chinese Cinderella*".



Year 10 students will be delivering informal speech presentations. These speeches are designed to help students build confidence, develop persuasive and expressive communication skills, and engage an audience in a relaxed but purposeful way



Pauline Crisp
Head of Learning Area - English

Year 7 HASS: Ancient History

This term in Year 7 HASS, students have been travelling through history—from early humans to the rise of ancient civilisations! We began by exploring key historical concepts and launched into an inquiry task that challenges students to solve historical mysteries using real archaeological sources. It's been a hands-on and engaging way to think like historians.

Soon, we'll journey to Ancient Egypt, uncovering the secrets of pyramids, pharaohs, and the fascinating beliefs of one of the world's most iconic civilisations. In an exciting shift this term, we've moved away from screen time and brought learning back to pen and paper. Students are working in custom-designed booklets, building their vocabulary through personal glossaries, and refining their writing with a focus on structured TEEL paragraphs. The goal is to develop strong historical thinking and communication skills.

Year 8 HASS: Engaging and Competitive Learning

In Year 8 HASS, students are enjoying a mix of friendly competition and creative learning. Each term, a class competition rewards top achievers: the highest scorer receives a box of chocolates and a gold merit, while the top ten students receive lollies and a bronze merit.

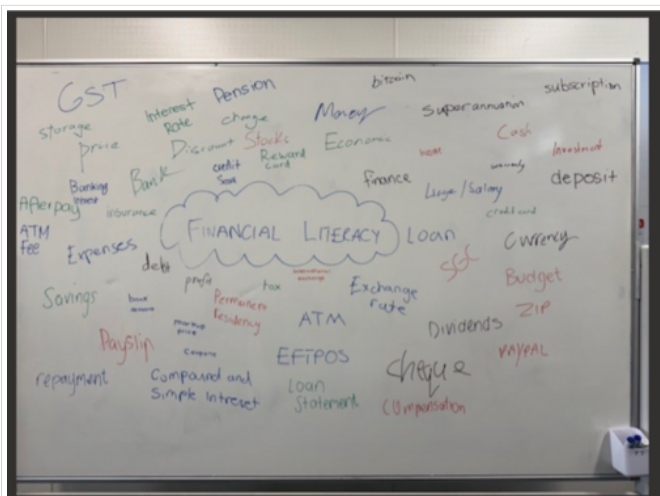
To encourage responsibility and progress, we've introduced "Friday Funday," which takes place when students are up to date with the programme and have completed their homework. On these days, we run one content quiz and two fun quizzes chosen by the students. The top three winners get to select from the class lolly jar.

Last term, students showcased their creativity by writing and performing scripts in which they role-played various medieval figures. Their performances were highly imaginative and entertaining. This term, students will step into the role of news reporters or journalists to investigate and report on geomorphic hazards. It promises to be another exciting and enriching activity.

Year 9 Financial Literacy

Term 3 in our Financial Literacy class started with a brainstorm of key concepts that students associated with Financial Literacy. A Year 9 elective unit. It was a slow start but the excitement in the room to fill the board made for a fun ice breaker and before we knew it we filled the board! Students in this elective unit will complete

many engaging activities. From spending, saving and budgeting, understanding the Australian Stock Exchange, buying and selling shares and how to get a loan to buy their first car.



Year 9 HASS

In Term 3 students have been studying the Modern world, specifically the agricultural revolution and the industrial revolution. We then applied our knowledge to various skills including mapping where we mapped the territories that the British empire took over. We have also been working analysing various primary and secondary sources to determine their historical context.

Year 11 Ancient History – Exploring Egypt's New Kingdom

This week in Year 11 Ancient History, students have been investigating the key characteristics of Egypt's New Kingdom, with a focus on the reign of Hatshepsut. Today, they completed an in-class quiz to assess their understanding of this period and achieved an average score of 80%. This strong result reflects their growing knowledge and consistent effort throughout the term.

Year 12 Modern History - Peace in the Middle East

This term Modern History students have been studying the origins and causes of the Arab-Israeli conflict in Palestine and the Middle East. Given the constant presence of this issue in the news, this study has been extremely useful and student knowledge and insight has matured extensively already. Many of the key causes of the conflict have been understood from a balanced perspective, allowing students to develop their own views which are able to be explained and justified, rather than simply reacting without understanding to news or social media. Students in this class are able to fully represent

the values of the school in their learning: excellence, curiosity, engaging thoughtfulness and true collaboration in the search for answers and wisdom.

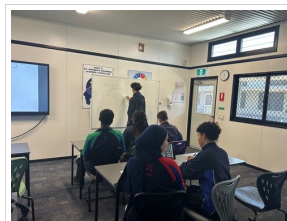
Asher Fryer

Head of Learning Area (HASS)

Secondary School - Maths

Mathematics Years 9 and 10.

This term, our Year 10 students have been learning about parabolas and quadratic equations. They've worked on solving quadratics by factorising and using the quadratic formula. They've also practised graphing parabolas and understanding their key features like turning points, roots and the line of symmetry. It's been great to see their confidence grow as they build strong foundations for senior maths.



Chris Zander

Head of Learning Area - Mathematics

Secondary School - Science

National Science Week

National Science Week is coming to St. Andrew's Grammar from 11–15 August (Week 4), and this year we're on a mission to decode the universe! The 2025 theme, "Exploring the unknown with nature's hidden language," invites students to uncover the patterns, codes, and mysteries that shape everything from galaxies to genetics. There are lots of activities to get involved in:

- Early Learning - Giant bubbles
- Primary - Fingerprint analysis, strawberry DNA extraction
- Secondary - Murder mystery, lunch activities
- For all - Photography competition

Get ready to crack nature's code, ask big questions, and see the world in a whole new way!

https://standrewsgs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/10134/science_week_2025_poster_photo_comp.pdf

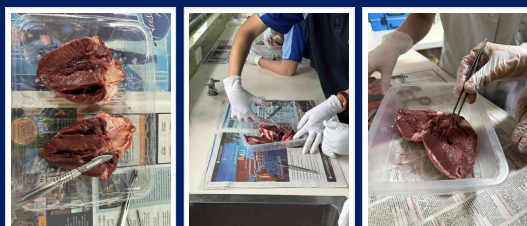
https://standrewsgs.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/10135/science_week_2025_poster_events.pdf

Mia Ridzuan

Head of Learning Area - Science

Year 8 Heart Dissection

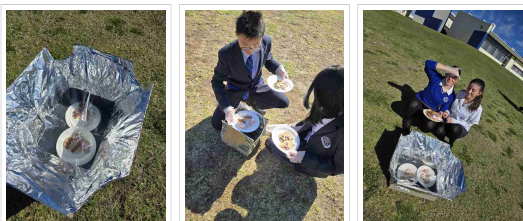
Last Term our Year 8 students have been learning about bodily systems including the circulatory system. Students had the opportunity to dissect a heart and explore the internal structures of a sheep's heart.



Luke Basson

Year 9 STEM

Last term, our Year 9 STEM students took on the challenge of designing and building their own solar ovens as part of their engineering and sustainability studies. Using recycled materials and principles of solar energy, they constructed ovens capable of capturing and retaining heat from the sun. After testing and refining their designs, the students successfully used their ovens to make delicious s'mores, demonstrating both creativity and practical problem-solving. The activity was a fun and hands-on way to explore renewable energy and thermal engineering in action!



Saskia Mahabeer

Titration

On the 12th of June, 18 of our Year 12 Chemistry students attended took part in the prestigious RACI Titration competition. This is the second time St Andrew's have entered teams into this competition. Teams across many schools battle it out for two

hours in the lab, titrating to work out the moles of their unknown substance.

Last year, we entered 7 students and this year we had a total of 18 students.

The teams were:

- Ian Limo, Yoni Haile, Yafet Fitsumbrhane
- Stavros Maounis, Kevin Chan, Thao Ngo
- Alex Phan, Suzy Phan, Annie Tran
- Bryan Nguyen, Kelvin Truong, Dan Phan
- Trevon Vo, Richard Xu, Kenny Duong
- Winnie Nguyen, Marjana Qambary, Zahraa Ramozi



These teams have been working hard during their CCA of Titration Club each Thursday afternoon to perfect their analytical technique and develop their titration skills. On the night they demonstrated excellent values, and the I as the laboratory supervisor commended them on their thorough work and professionalism in the laboratory.

We are now awaiting the results as to what margin of error each student has made and what placing the teams ended up with.



They made me and St Andrew's proud with their perseverance, hard work and outstanding skills and techniques.

A big thank you to Mr Todd and Mrs Maounis for their help on the night.

Siza Macdonald

Secondary School Health & Physical Education

Welcome Back – Term 3 in Physical Education

Welcome back to Term 3! This term, our Year 7 and 8 students are diving into the exciting world of invasion games as part of their Physical Education Syllabus. Invasion games are an excellent way for students to develop their tactical understanding of sport, focusing on their ability to maintain possession, create space in attack to score as well as denying space in defence.

Students will explore a variety of invasion games, including Roll Ball, European Handball, Futsal, End Zone, Football, and Australian Rules Football. Each game provides a unique platform for skill development and strategic thinking in a fun and engaging environment.

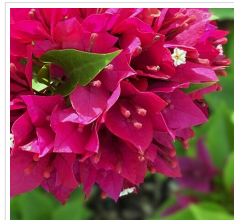
The students are encouraged to focus on their positioning and movement when they do not have possession of the ball to maximise their active participation during modified game play. Developing understanding of these key concepts allows as transfer of learning to occur across all invasion games.

We are looking forward to a fun filled term ahead in PE.

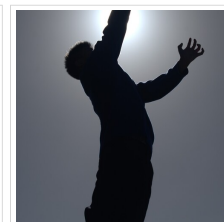
Patrick Squire

Head of Health & Physical Education (GOAANSE)

Head of Apollo House



It was fantastic to see students put this knowledge into practice in their own photography. During our practical sessions, many demonstrated a strong understanding of the techniques we covered. They took creative risks, experimented with perspective and camera angles, and thoughtfully planned their shots. The resulting photographs clearly reflected the concepts they had learned, showing well-composed scenes that effectively used space, symmetry, and focus. Overall, students should be very proud of the quality of their practical work, as it showed both technical growth and artistic insight.



Secondary School - Arts and Technology

ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY YEAR 9 PHOTOGRAPHY

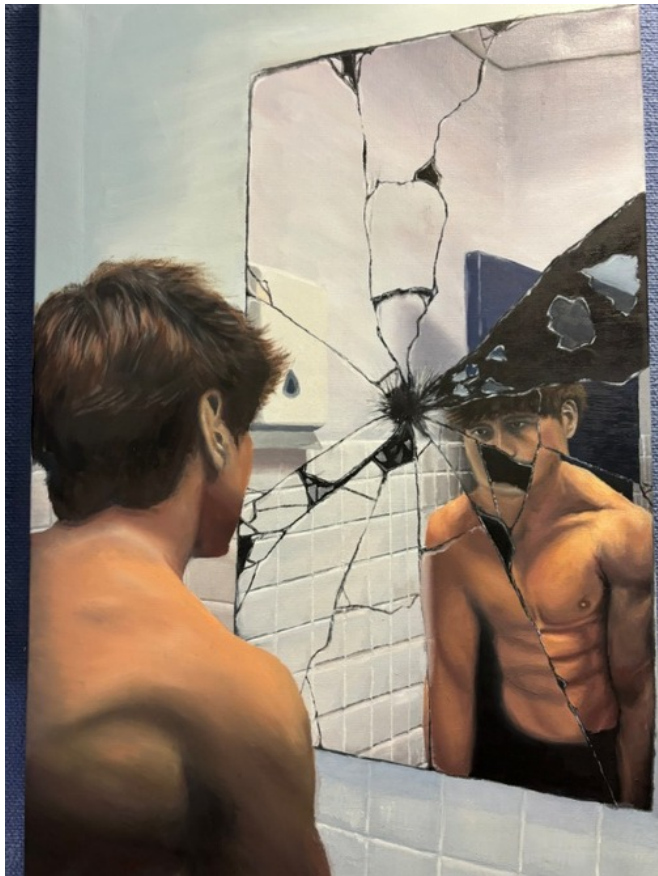
Last semester, students learned about the importance of composition in photography, with a strong focus on how the Elements and Principles of Art could be applied to create visually compelling and meaningful images. Through both theory and practical lessons, students explored key compositional techniques such as the Rule of Thirds, leading lines, framing, balance, and contrast. They were encouraged to think critically about foreground, middle ground, and background, and how each contributed to depth and storytelling within an image. Students also examined how photographers used composition to guide the viewer's eye and convey emotion or atmosphere.

Secondary School Art

A heartfelt congratulations to Nya and Ewan for their stunning contributions to the St. George's Cathedral Art Exhibition. Their pieces were not only visually captivating but also a testament to the depth of their talent, creativity, and dedication. Each artwork told a story—rich with emotion, skill, and personal expression.

A special thank you to Miss McAdam for her unwavering support and inspiring guidance throughout their artistic journey.

Beautifully done—well deserved!



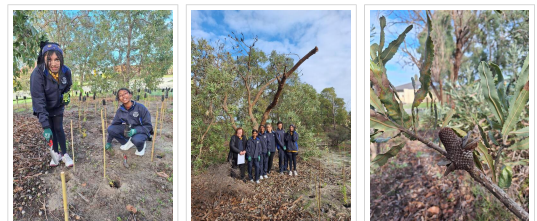
H.O.P.E Tree Planting

HOPE Club Tree Planting Day

The HOPE club has had an exciting year so far! Apart from raising money to adopt beautiful animals from Perth Zoo, we are also looking after the environment and currently working on our new project, St. Andrews' Mission to Africa, where we will raise funds for sporting equipment for schools in Africa. The event that stood out for us so far was from our bush care program, where we had the opportunity to plant new trees and bushes.



There are few better ways to start the day than with the crisp breath of morning air and bare hands touching the soil. In this quiet connection with Country, we found a sense of belonging, not just with the land beneath us, but with each other and something greater. Guided gently through the art of planting native saplings, we learned not only technique but also care. Then, side by side, hearts and hands aligned, we planted over 100 native plants, each one a quiet promise to the future, each one a gift to the bushland we are helping to restore. What might have felt like hard work soon became a meditation. As the black cockatoos called above us and lorikeets danced in the trees, time seemed to slow down. The rhythm of digging, planting, and watering took on a sacred feel. We were not just planting trees; we were nurturing a home. Mrs. Coetzee and Mrs. Holmes worked alongside us, sharing in the laughter and stillness, as we all breathed a little deeper and stood a little taller. By the end, the land looked different, but so did we. Returning to the classroom felt like waking from a dream. Yet we carry that morning with us, a memory rooted in purpose, a reminder that hope grows best when planted with care.



ACC Championship

The ACC Championship is the pinnacle of competition within the ACC Association, with schools from across WA competing to become Champions of the ACC.

Our Girls Football team has been putting on a strong showing. Starting with an unbeaten run in the One Day Carnival group stage, where they played five games in the day and didn't concede a goal.

The Quarter Final against St Nortbert's was held at Sam Kerr Stadium on Monday 4th August. The Girls again dominated the game to win 5-0. A powerful goal from Kayla Beesley got them off to a great start. Tatem Spencer finished with class to put us up 2-0 at half time, before a Xuri Dalton hattrick sealed the win.

The Semi Final is on Tuesday 19th August at Sam Kerr Stadium. We are yet to find out the opposition, but the team and coaches are excited to get out there and compete again!



Year 8 Camp

Year 8 Camp at Swan Valley Adventure Centre will be a lasting memory for the Year 8s of 2025. From the flying

fox to the Blackout Zone, every moment was filled with excitement, laughter and encouragement while many others required us to step out of our comfort zones and explore new challenges.

What made camp even more special was how much fun we all had just by being together. I got to know so many other people I had never really spent time with before. It was also wonderful to get to know all the teachers outside of the classroom setting.



Overall, Year 8 camp was an awesome experience and I would LOVE to go again. It helped us grow in confidence and created memories that will probably stay for life. We all enjoyed the time spent with friends (and away from schoolwork) and I hope the Year 8s next year will enjoy it just as much as we did!

By Ella Yang (Year 8, Demeter)

Titration

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Last year we entered 7 and this year we had a total of 18 students.

The teams were;

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Trevon Vo, Richard Xu, Kenny Duong

Winnie Nguyen, Marjana Qambary, Zahraa Ramozi

These teams have been working hard during their CCA of Titration Club each Thursday afternoon to perfect their analytical technique and develop their titration skills. On the night they demonstrated excellent values, and the laboratory supervisor commended them on their thorough work and professionalism in the laboratory.

Out of 116 teams across 41 prestigious schools—including PSA, IGGSA, Independent Colleges, and large Government schools—St Andrew's placed **4th and 8th**, ranking us in the **top 15 State Wide** and putting us in strong contention for a national appearance.

Both teams achieved Excellence:

- 4th Place: Trevon Vo, Richard Xu, Kenny Duong
- 8th Place: Bryan Nguyen, Kelvin Truong, Dan Phan

A special mention goes to Kenny Duong and Dan Phan, whose exceptionally low error margin of just 0.05% placed them **equal 5th out of 341 students**, earning them a High Distinction.

Further High Distinctions were awarded to:

- Ian Limo
- Bryan Nguyen
- Richard Xu
- Trevon Vo

Kelvin Truong also earned a Distinction for his strong performance.



Our other teams also performed admirably, achieving Commendations and Credits for their efforts.

Considering this is only our second year in the competition, these are exceptional results. Our students have competed at the highest level and demonstrated remarkable perseverance, hard work, and technical skill.

They have made both me and St Andrew's incredibly proud.

Siza Macdonald

Date: Monday 20th October 2025

Time: TBC - Evening

Venue: Mandoon Estate - 10 Harris Rd Caversham

Please RSVP by **Friday 12th September 2025** via the below Link. Please note that each Year 12 student attends free of charge. Additional guests (e.g. family members) are invited along, Tickets are \$100 per person and can be purchased through the below link as well. If there are any dietary requirements please also make sure that these are noted on the RSVP form below

RSVP Form and Dietary requirements - Please complete.
- [RSVP form & Dietary Requirements](#)

Payment Details - Please Complete - [Buy Tickets Here](#)

We look forward to celebrating this significant milestone with you and making it a night to remember.

Siza Macdonald

Head of Secondary

SAVE THE DATE - Primary School Disco

We are excited to announce that our Primary School Disco will be held on **Friday, 12th September 2025**.

Session times are as follows:

- Kindy – Year 2: 4:30pm – 6:00pm
- Years 3 – 6: 6:15pm – 8:00pm

Tickets are \$10 per child, which includes food and drinks.

This will be put up on Consent2Go for you to book and purchase your tickets. (it has not been posted as yet)

Parents are welcome to stay and relax in the library during the event—**nibbles will be provided**.

We look forward to a fun-filled evening!

Invitation to the Year 12 Graduation Dinner

It is with great pride and excitement that we invite you to the **Year 12 Graduation Dinner**, a special evening to celebrate the achievements of the Year 12's and mark the end of their school journey.

Details of the event are as follows:

Father's Day Breakfast

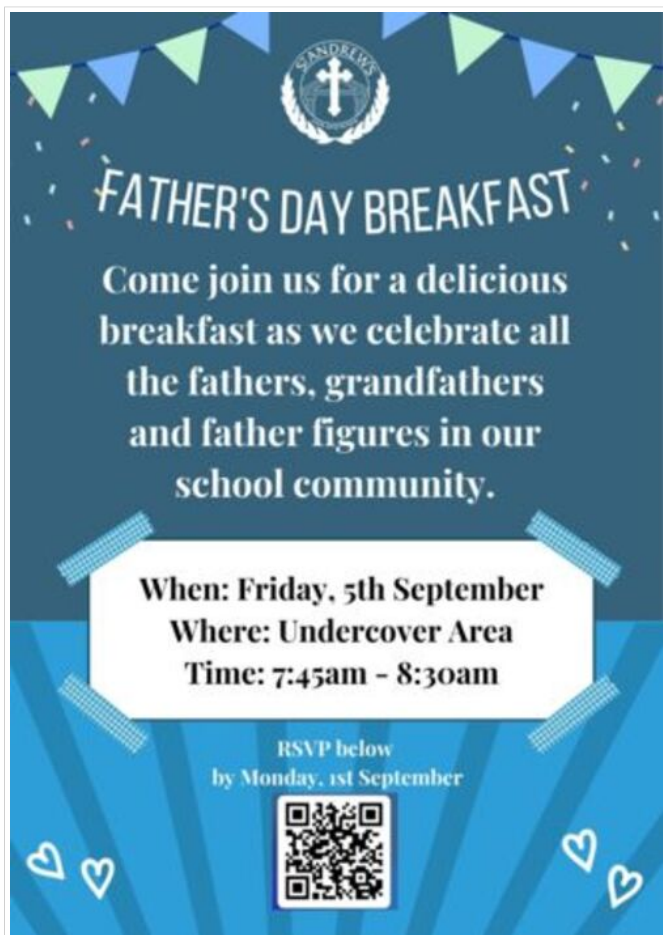
Come join us for a delicious breakfast as we celebrate all the fathers, grandfathers and father figures in our school community.

When: Friday, 5th September

Time: 7:45am- 8:30am

Location: Undercover Area

RSVP here by Monday, 1st
September: <https://forms.office.com/r/SvZv5iCWpw>



unfortunately did not reach anywhere near the level required to make the service financially or logistically viable in the long term.

As such, we have made the difficult decision to discontinue the bus service. The final day of operation will be Friday, 15 August 2025, with the service ceasing from Monday, 18 August onwards.

We understand this may come as disappointing news to those few families who were making use of the service, and we sincerely thank you for your support during the trial period.

Please know that this decision was not made lightly, but rather after careful consideration of the ongoing low uptake and the practical challenges associated with maintaining the service.

Should there be renewed interest in the future or changes in demand, we would be open to re-evaluating the possibility of reinstating a transport option for students.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support.

Cancellation of Bus Service

We are writing to inform you about the conclusion of the bus service that was introduced on a trial basis for this term. The purpose of this trial was to evaluate interest and determine whether a dedicated transport service could be a viable and sustainable offering for our students and families.

Throughout the term, we actively promoted the service through numerous email communications, phoned all parents that initially registered from the expression of interest form and encouraged families to consider using the bus as a safe and convenient transport option. In an additional effort to support increased engagement, we also made slight modifications to the original route based on feedback from the school community, aiming to make the service as accessible and beneficial as possible. Additionally, we reduced the fare to \$3.50 per trip in hopes that a more affordable price point might encourage greater participation. Despite these combined efforts, overall usage of the bus remained consistently low and

