



2 Hellenic Drive
Dianella WA 6059

Subscribe: <https://standrewsgs.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

Email: reception@sag.wa.edu.au
Phone: 08 9303 3840



2026 SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: TERM 2 VOLUME 4

Message from the Acting Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin Term 2 at St Andrew's Grammar, I would like to warmly welcome all students, staff, and families back to school. It has been wonderful to see the positive start to the term, with students returning settled, motivated, and ready to learn. The energy around the school each morning reflects the strong sense of community, belonging, and pride that continues to make St Andrew's such a special place.

The end of Term 1 and beginning of this term have already provided many memorable moments across the school. Our Year 12 Ball was a wonderful way to conclude last term, with students celebrating an important milestone in their final year. We have also come together as a school community to celebrate Greek Orthodox Easter and commemorate ANZAC Day and the Battle of Crete, providing valuable opportunities for students to reflect on the importance of faith, culture, remembrance, and service. I was incredibly proud of the students who represented the school at these events and the maturity and respect they displayed throughout.

We also recently enjoyed wonderful Mother's Day celebrations across the school. Our Mother's Day Breakfast, stalls, and ELC celebrations provided special opportunities for students and families to come together and celebrate the important role mothers and mother figures play in our community. Thank you to all staff, students, and families who contributed to making these events so meaningful and memorable.

Across both the Primary and Secondary Schools, there has been a strong focus on high-quality teaching and learning. In the Primary School, students are continuing to develop a love of reading, strengthen their literacy and numeracy skills, and engage in rich inquiry learning experiences that encourage curiosity and creativity. It has been wonderful to see students so eager to share their writing, ideas, and learning with pride and confidence.

We are continuing to expand opportunities in STEM, Design and Technologies, and digital learning across the school. Students are engaging in coding, 3D design, and prototyping, while Design and Technology students in the Bianca Afkos Building are designing and creating items such as wooden picture frames and jewellery boxes using a range of materials. These hands-on experiences are building creativity, problem-solving, and practical skills in engaging and meaningful ways.

In the Secondary School, students have settled into the term well and are approaching their studies with increasing focus and maturity. Congratulations to the many students recognised at our recent Academic Assembly for Excellence in Attitude and Effort. These students should be very proud of their commitment and positive approach to learning. As we move further into the term, we encourage all students, particularly those in Years 10, 11, and 12, to begin preparing steadily for upcoming external assessments and exams by establishing strong study habits and routines early.

Outside the classroom, student participation and school spirit have been outstanding across both the Primary and Secondary Schools. Our Secondary Inter-House Cross Country Carnival recorded the highest participation to date, creating an incredible atmosphere of encouragement, teamwork, and house pride, with congratulations to Poseidon House for narrowly taking the title. In the Primary School, students also demonstrated excellent determination and sportsmanship during their Cross Country Carnival, with Demeter House winning the Championship Shield. We wish all students the very best as they now prepare to represent St Andrew's Grammar at the upcoming ACC, JACC and IPSHA interschool carnivals.

Last week, I also had the privilege of accompanying our students to the GOAANSE Games in Sydney. The way our students represented St Andrew's Grammar throughout the week made us incredibly proud. Their determination, sportsmanship, humility, and support for one another were exceptional. Whether competing on the court, field, or stage, our students demonstrated the values we strive to instil every day. I would like to sincerely thank all staff involved for the enormous amount of work and dedication that made the week such a success for our students.



Student wellbeing and belonging continue to remain at the centre of all we do. Opportunities such as House events (Inter-house Chess, House Chants), Buddy activities, camps, leadership programs, and community celebrations all play an important role in helping students feel connected, supported, and confident within our school community.

There is much to look forward to throughout the remainder of the term, including the Perth Glory Schools Open Day, Discovery Day, sporting events, camps, and many other exciting opportunities for students and families to be involved in school life.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Together, we look forward to another successful and rewarding term for all students across our school.

Warm regards,

Mrs Siza Macdonald, Acting Principal



Message from the Head of Secondary

Welcome back! This term is shaping up to be one of our busiest yet, with a full calendar of events, learning opportunities, and community initiatives. As a community we are looking forward to working together, supporting one another, and making the most out of everything this term has to offer. Before looking at the coming weeks, I would like to reflect on the many remarkable events that have taken place at the end of last term and those more recently.

On the last day of Term 1, the Year 12 Ball, bringing Term 1 to a memorable close as students celebrated in style at Joondalup Resort, with students embracing the chance to come together and enjoy a milestone event in their final year. From the stunning venue to the impeccable presentation of our Year 12s, it was a night that truly reflected their maturity, spirit, and sense of community.

At the commencement of the term St Andrew's Grammar celebrated Greek Orthodox Easter with a heartfelt and culturally rich program that brought students, staff, and families together. The school embraced long-standing traditions, including symbolic rituals, reflections on the meaning of the Resurrection, and opportunities for students to learn about the importance of Easter within the Greek Orthodox faith. The celebration highlighted the school's strong cultural foundations and its commitment to preserving and sharing Hellenic traditions with the wider community.

The first week of term also saw the Inter-House Cross Country take place, with the most pleasing aspect being the highest attendance to date of this carnival. I commend the students for showing incredible support for their House and teammates. The energy, encouragement, and sportsmanship on display made it one of our strongest events yet. Congratulations to all participants and well done to our place-getters for their outstanding results. [Congratulations to Poseidon](#) for narrowly taking the title from Demeter.



On Saturday 25 April, Aditi Gyanwali (Vice Head Girl) attended the ANZAC service along with myself, Mrs Wall, Primary school leaders, primary staff and students at the Mt Lawley RSL, where they participated in a moving ceremony of remembrance. We also had many students from the Secondary School representing St Andrew's Grammar at the ANZAC Parade in the City, with Mr Dickson. These students marched alongside the GARSL veterans, community groups, and schools from across Western Australia. Their presence reflected the school's commitment to acknowledging the courage, sacrifice, and enduring legacy of the ANZACs. We are incredibly proud of the respect and maturity shown by all students involved.



Congratulations to all students who were inducted onto the Honour Roll for Excellence in Attitude and Effort Term 1, and were as a result, recognised at our Academic Assembly in Week 1. Your commitment to learning and your positive approach set a powerful example for our school community. Well done on this outstanding achievement.



Last week, I had the privilege of accompanying the St Andrew's GOANSE Games Team to Sydney for an incredible week of competition, and what an unforgettable week it was.

Our students represented St Andrew's with excellence in every sense of the word. Whether they stood on the podium or faced tough competition, every student displayed outstanding commitment, resilience, humility, and sportsmanship. They competed with passion, supported one another wholeheartedly, and carried themselves with the pride and character that define what it means to be a St Andrew's student. Watching them encourage teammates, respect their opponents, and give their absolute best was a true reflection of the values we hold so highly as a school.



A heartfelt thank you to the Mr Purton, Mr Collins, Mr Burnett, Miss Styles and Miss Santarelli, who coached, mentored, and supported our team throughout the week, and an immense shout-out to Mr Gleeson for his tireless efforts in organising the team and coordinating the entire trip. Your dedication, hard work, and support contributed greatly to the success of the week and made this incredible experience possible for our students.

We celebrated some outstanding results across the week, including **1st place overall for Girls' Netball, Girls' Futsal, Boys' Football, and Boys' Futsal** - an exceptional achievement! **2nd place overall** was awarded to Boys' Basketball, and Girls' Football. **3rd place overall** was awarded to Boys' Table Tennis and both Girls' and Boys' Volleyball. The Girls' Basketball team came 4th place overall and the Girls' Table Tennis team won St Andrew's first ever Table Tennis match. They placed 6th overall in an extremely competitive event and should be immensely proud of their determination and effort.

Congratulations also to our students awarded MVP of the event:

- Xuri Dalton – Girls' Futsal
- Novak Senic – Boys' Football
- Pia Mungra – Girls' Volleyball
- Morris Chan – Boys' Volleyball

Our dancers also made us immensely proud, showcasing incredible commitment, skill, and enthusiasm throughout the week. What made their performance even more special was that many of the students were not from a Greek background, yet they embraced Greek dance with such passion, respect, and pride, truly making it their own. They represented the spirit and culture of St Andrew's beautifully and should be extremely proud of their efforts and performance.

To every student who competed, performed, supported, and represented our school so proudly — thank you. You demonstrated excellence not simply through results, but through your character, determination, and the way you represented the St Andrew's community. We could not be prouder.



On Sunday 10 May, our community came together to commemorate the Battle of Crete. The day began with a Doxology at Evangelismos Church, followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the Battle of Crete Memorial in Kings Park. I extend my sincere thanks to Ms Baltatzi and Mr Kyriakakis for supporting Pelina Koutsouveli and Sia Zafiropoulo, who represented the school with pride through their performances on Mother's Day. They did an outstanding job.



A special mention to all our mothers, thank you for all your love, care, and support. We hope you had a wonderful Mother's Day.

We are excited to host the Perth Glory Schools Open Day on 18 May and look forward to welcoming families, showcasing our programs, and celebrating the opportunity to combine education with the exclusive Perth Glory Schools Academy.

As we move further into the term, our Year 10, 11 and Year 12 students are already turning their attention to the upcoming exam period. Although the assessments are still several weeks away, now is the ideal time for students to establish steady study routines, revise key concepts and seek support in any areas where they feel less confident. Preparing early not only reduces stress but also leads to deeper understanding and stronger results. We encourage all students to use the resources, workshops, and teacher guidance available as they work towards a successful exam block.

As the term progresses, it is important for students to begin putting purposeful effort into preparing for the academic challenges ahead. Establishing strong study habits now revising consistently, staying organised, and seeking clarification when needed, helps build confidence and reduces pressure later in the term. By taking small but steady steps early, students set themselves up for deeper learning, stronger results and a far more manageable workload as assessments approach.

In closing I would like to express my gratitude for the strength, unity, and shared purpose that define our school community. The events of the past weeks have shown what we can achieve together, and I am excited for all that lies ahead. Thank you for your continued partnership and support as we work towards another successful and enriching term.



St. Andrew's Grammar Shines at GOAANSE 2026 in Sydney



What an unforgettable week for our St. Andrew's Grammar students at the GOAANSE Competition in Sydney!

From the moment the team arrived and attended the Opening Ceremony at St Euphemia Greek Orthodox Church, there was a real sense of excitement, pride and determination among our students. Across three action-packed days of competition, our athletes and performers represented the school with outstanding sportsmanship, teamwork and school spirit — and the results spoke for themselves.

A Strong Start to the Week

Day One saw St. Andrew's Grammar make an immediate impact, with both our Girls Netball and Boys Football teams successfully defending their GOAANSE titles from last year.

The Girls Netball team dominated throughout the day with commanding performances, while the Boys Football team showed composure under pressure in a thrilling final match against All Saints to secure the Championship shield once again.

Congratulations to:

- Dina Getachew – Girls Netball Best & Fairest
- Sam Luxton – Boys Football Best & Fairest

The momentum continued into Day Two, with students competing across Basketball, Football and Table Tennis.

Our Boys Basketball team produced an impressive campaign to finish 2nd overall, while the Girls Football team demonstrated incredible resilience — bouncing back from an early setback to finish runners-up after winning every remaining match.

A particularly special moment came with St. Andrew's recording its first ever GOAANSE Girls Table Tennis win, marking a proud milestone for the school.

Best & Fairest recognitions included:

- Pia Mungra – Girls Basketball
- Rehan Ahmad – Boys Basketball
- Jemma Skinner – Girls Football
- Strati Pergamalis – Boys Table Tennis
- Asha Niedoba – Girls Table Tennis

Championship Success on the Final Day

Thursday capped off an incredible week of competition, with our students once again rising to the occasion.

The Girls Futsal team completed a remarkable three-peat, going undefeated to claim another Championship title, while the Boys Futsal team secured the Football and Futsal double after an outstanding series of matches.

Both Volleyball teams also performed strongly, with the Girls and Boys teams each finishing 3rd overall following excellent campaigns.

Best & Fairest awards on the final day went to:

- Caitlin Freestone – Girls Futsal
- Josh Canlas – Boys Futsal
- Emilia Kovacevic – Girls Volleyball
- Morris Chan – Boys Volleyball

Individual Excellence Recognised

An exceptional achievement for St. Andrew's Grammar was having four students recognised by referees as the

Most Valuable Player across the entire competition in their respective sports:

- Xuri Dalton – Girls Futsal
- Novak Senic – Boys Futsal
- Pia Mungra – Girls Volleyball
- Morris Chan – Boys Volleyball

These honours are a reflection not only of individual talent, but also the commitment, discipline and teamwork displayed throughout the week.

Outstanding Representation Beyond Sport

Alongside the sporting competition, our dancers proudly represented St. Andrew's Grammar at the Performing Arts Evening, delivering a fantastic performance filled with passion, energy and school pride.

The week was also a wonderful celebration of friendship, culture and community, with students creating memories and experiences that will stay with them for years to come.

Thank You

A sincere thank you to Mr Gleeson, Mr Burnett, Mr Purton, Ms Styles, Mr Collins, Miss Santarelli and Mrs Macdonald for making the week such a smash success!

A warm congratulations to every student who represented St. Andrew's Grammar at GOAANSE 2026. You competed with determination, respect and pride, and the entire school community could not be prouder.

Plus check out our GOAANSE PERFORMING ARTS DANCE video on facebook!

ANZAC Day Commemorations at St. Andrew's Grammar



St. Andrew's Grammar proudly honoured ANZAC Day this year with significant school and community events to mark this important event in Australia's history.

Our staff and student leaders represented the school at the official commemorative service, joining our wider community in paying tribute to the courage, sacrifice, and enduring legacy of those who served,

Back on campus, students from Primary through to Secondary came together for special assemblies dedicated to remembering the brave men and women of Australia and New Zealand who gave their lives for the freedoms we enjoy today.

The commemorations featured moving performances by the St. Andrew's Grammar Choir, as well as heartfelt original poems written and presented by our students. We were honoured to welcome guest speaker Colonel Michael Page, RFD (Retired), whose address offered valuable insight and perspective on the significance of service and sacrifice.

Our Acting Principal, Siza Macdonald, also shared thoughtful reflections, reminding students of the values of courage, friendship and resilience that ANZAC Day represents. We extend our sincere thanks to Father Terry for

offering a special prayer to bless Australia during this important occasion.

As part of our school assembly with Father Terry, we also took the opportunity to celebrate Greek Orthodox Easter. Father Terry shared a special message with our community. Staff and students also enjoyed watching the traditional custom of cracking κόκκινα αυγά (red-dyed eggs), a favourite tradition during Greek Orthodox Easter.

Through both community participation and in-school commemorations, St. Andrew's Grammar continues to uphold the spirit of ANZAC Day with pride and respect.

Lest we forget.

A Special Week of Mother's Day Celebrations



Last week, our school community marked Mother's Day with a series of special events, bringing students and families together in meaningful ways.

We began with our Mother's Day Stall on Tuesday, where students enjoyed selecting from a range of gifts for the mothers and carers in their lives. It was lovely to see the care taken as they chose something special. Thank you to Mrs Mahabeer and Mr Lilmohun for their work in organising the stall and ensuring everything ran smoothly.

On Thursday, we hosted our Mother's Day Breakfast, which was a wonderful way to start the day. It was great to see so many mothers, grandmothers and special carers sharing breakfast with our students. A big thank you to our canteen staff for preparing the food, and to our Primary staff for their help in serving throughout the morning.

Our ELC students also welcomed mums and carers for a Mother's Day afternoon tea. The children performed a selection of songs and presented handmade gifts they had created themselves. It was a lovely opportunity for families to spend time together and celebrate the occasion.

Thank you to all the families who joined us across these events. We hope all our mothers and special carers enjoyed a happy and well-deserved Mother's Day last weekend.

Year 10 Textiles



Our Year 10 Textiles students recently enjoyed an excursion made possible through the generosity of Scotch College, who kindly lent us one of their buses for the day. We are incredibly grateful for their support, which allowed the excursion to go ahead.

Students visited the ParaQuad Industries, where they learnt about the organisation's employment pathways and inclusive workplace practices. The group gained valuable insight into the Equal Employment Opportunity system and the important role ParaQuad plays in creating meaningful employment opportunities within the community.

Following the visit, students had the opportunity to thrift shop for their upcoming upcycling textiles task, sourcing pre-loved garments and materials that they will creatively transform into new designs.

It was a valuable and enjoyable day for all involved and we thank Luke Basson for joining us.

Kind regards

Ms Sam Scott, Technologies Teacher

Year 9 Geography: Investigating Unsustainable Tourism



At the end of Term 1, as part of their Geography unit, Year 9 students recently investigated places around the world at risk due to unsustainable tourism.

Through their research, students explored the environmental, social, and economic impacts of tourism, while also considering strategies to promote more sustainable practices and protect vulnerable destinations for future generations.

To validate their learning, students were challenged to write a formal letter to Hon. Don Farrell, presenting their research findings, concerns, and recommendations for improving sustainability in their chosen location.

A special congratulations goes to Paris Mouselas and Connor Hawkins, whose letters were of an exceptional standard. Their thoughtful research, strong persuasive writing, and well-developed recommendations led to their letters being selected and sent via post to the Senator. Well done to Paris and Connor on this outstanding achievement, and to all Year 9 students for their engagement and hard work throughout this task.

Ms Tanja Mitkovski, HOLA – HASS

Year 9 English

Our Year 9 students are engaged in a unit of work where they have been studying advertising as a genre, deconstructing ads for their purpose and audience.

They have been actively and positively participating in the lessons and have reported that they're enjoying the unit. This week they were able to choose a product or idea that they felt passionate about and create their own ad for it.

The following ad was created by Michaela Phillips-Stiles in class!



Ms Pauline Crisp, HOLA English

Year 8 English

Year 8 English students are currently improving their visual literacy, an important part of the course in the older years. In Ms Holmes class, students had the opportunity to create thaumatropes to experience the 'persistence of vision' idea upon which film is based.

Check out the pictures below!



Ms Pauline Crisp, HOLA English

Science Year 7: Friction Investigation



Our Year 7 scientists have been busy investigating the fascinating world of forces and friction, and what a fantastic effort they made!

Using wooden blocks, spring balances and plenty of curiosity, students tested how different surfaces affected friction. They explored everything from tabletops and carpet to bubble wrap, grass, concrete and even kitchen terry cloths. Students carefully measured the force needed to drag the blocks across each surface, completed three trials for accuracy and then calculated the mean friction force.

The classroom was full of excitement as students compared results and discussed why some surfaces created more friction than others. They then took on the role of serious scientists by writing detailed scientific reports explaining their findings and conclusions.

I am incredibly proud of the hard work, enthusiasm and scientific thinking shown by this wonderful group of Year 7 students. They have learnt that forces are at work all around us every day, and that science can be both challenging and a lot of fun!

Ms Mariska Coetzee, Secondary HASS/Science, Middle School Teacher (7.2)

Secondary Mathematics

Here's an update on our senior mathematics studies,

Year 12 : The year 12 Methods students are exploring the effect of linear transformations on the Expected value, the variance and the standard deviation.



Year 10 : Year 10 students investigating how the scale factor alters perimeter, area and volume of various shapes.



Year 7 : Year 7 students have been learning about fractions and percentages this term. In this lesson, students browsed everyday items online and calculated the final price of the items after applying a % discount.



Mr Christoffer Zander, HOLA Mathematics

Greek Corner



This term, students will continue to participate in the mainstream Modern Greek program with an increased emphasis on interactive and communicative teaching practices. A strong focus will be placed on developing students' confidence in expressing themselves in Greek and strengthening their spoken communication skills through meaningful and engaging learning experiences.

Extension Greek students will continue to access the online platform Ελληνόπουλα, which supports the development of language skills through a range of interactive learning activities. Increasing emphasis will be placed on applying grammatical and syntactical structures taught in class through authentic communication tasks and collaborative activities.

Throughout the term, students across all year levels will engage in a variety of interactive learning experiences, including puzzles, games, quizzes, role plays, and collaborative tasks designed to reinforce vocabulary, comprehension, and oral language development in an engaging and supportive environment.

Year 3 students will focus on extending their counting skills using tens and hundreds while exploring vocabulary related to the classroom and school environment. Students will participate collaboratively in shared learning experiences, making simple descriptions about themselves and others within the school context.

Year 4 students will undertake a unit focused on diet and dining, exploring the vocabulary associated with Greek cuisine and traditional foods. Students will collaboratively plan a Greek-style meal, make suggestions, and work in groups to design a Greek restaurant menu. They will also express preferences and share information about menu items using appropriate Greek vocabulary and sentence structures. In addition, Year 4 students will participate in the Primary School Inquiry Project, investigating the question: "How has transport changed in Greece throughout the centuries?"

Year 5 students will focus on the concept of time, exploring vocabulary related to days of the week, months, seasons, and daily routines. Students will develop their ability to initiate interactions, exchange information with peers, and express opinions and preferences relating to their everyday lives, routines, and hobbies.

Year 6 students will undertake a unit centred on travel and overseas experiences. They will engage in interactive tasks that involve exchanging information, expressing opinions and preferences, and exploring various aspects of overseas travel. Students will collaborate in group activities to plan a family trip to Greece, make recommendations about places to visit, and participate in transactional language activities such as booking accommodation and purchasing tickets.

Across all year levels, students will continue to be challenged through engaging and interactive learning experiences. A variety of educational games and activities, including Bingo, Colour Race, Word Racing, syllable games, and charades, will be incorporated into lessons to support language acquisition while fostering enthusiasm, participation, and enjoyment in learning Greek.

In Term 2, our Upper Primary students in Modern Greek Extension Studies are exploring a range of exciting and engaging topics that continue to strengthen both their language skills and their understanding of Greek culture.

Our Year 3 students are focusing on the importance of recognising, understanding, and confidently using classroom vocabulary in Greek during their everyday learning. Through interactive activities, games, and conversations, students are building their confidence in communicating in Greek in the classroom environment.

Meanwhile, our Year 4 students are discovering the rich and delicious world of Greek cuisine. Students are learning the names of traditional Greek foods and are expressing their likes and preferences using simple Greek phrases and sentences. This topic has been a wonderful way for students to connect language learning with culture and everyday life.

The Year 5 students are exploring daily routines and everyday activities. They are learning how to describe a typical day in their lives, including morning, afternoon, and evening tasks and responsibilities. Through speaking, reading, and writing activities, students are developing their ability to communicate about familiar routines with increasing confidence and detail.

Our Year 6 students are taking an exciting journey through majestic Greece, visiting famous cities and exploring important historical landmarks and sites. This fascinating unit not only strengthens students' language skills, but also deepens their understanding of Greek culture, geography, and history. Students are thoroughly enjoying learning about the beauty and significance of Greece while expanding their Greek vocabulary and conversational skills.

It has been wonderful to see all students actively participating, showing enthusiasm, and continuing to grow in their appreciation of the Greek language and culture throughout the term.

Ms Stelliani Tzavellas, K-12 Greek Curriculum Coordinator



Welcome to the St. Andrew's Grammar Library.

Sparking a Lifelong Love of Reading

In our library, we know that reading is a magical doorway to curiosity, creativity and empathy. My focus this term is "Inspiring to Read," aiming to connect every child with a book they love - whether it's an action-packed adventure, a captivating graphic novel, an entertaining eBook or an appealing picture book. We are celebrating stories and genres across all year levels and hope you'll join us in fostering a joyful reading habit at home. Let's make reading the best part of the day!



Why not participate in the 2026 Premier's Reading Challenge!

The 2026 Western Australian Premier's Reading Challenge runs from March 23 to June 12, encouraging students (K-12) to read 12+ books (K-6) or 6+ books (7-12) to earn a signed certificate. Weekly prizes are available, and students can register on the official WA Premier's Reading Challenge website.

Key Details (WA 2026):

- Duration: March 23, 2026, to June 12, 2026.
- Participants: Kindergarten to Year 12.
- Goal: Read 12+ books (K-6) or 6+ books (7-12).
- Logging: Track progress online, with weekly prize draws for active participants.

And finally...

Quote of the Day:

There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book."

— Frank Serafini

Happy Reading!

Mrs Tracey Ricchini Press, K-12 Teacher Librarian



St. Andrew's Badminton Academy is in full swing, training weekly with Coach Lily Buttrose.

We will have an in-school round robin competition this term, and will be involved in community tournaments in Terms 3 and 4. The team is showing great improvements in footwork and skills, as well as showing strong teamwork.

Ms Carole Prasad, Head of Badminton Academy

Message from the Head of Primary

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to Term 2 at St. Andrew's Grammar! We hope you had a restful holiday break and enjoyed quality time with loved ones over Easter and ANZAC Day. Thank you for supporting such 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. Many students are in classrooms by 8:30am, preparing for the day and finalising homework, which sets a strong and purposeful tone for learning.

As we move into the term, we remain focused on fostering a vibrant culture of learning, growth, and curiosity across our Primary School. Our aim is to continue strengthening each child's educational experience while supporting their wellbeing and engagement.

Fostering a Love for Reading

Reading continues to be a central priority across the Primary School. Our new home reading practices are designed to encourage regular reading at home and strengthen positive partnerships between school and families. Students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 should be bringing home a class reader or library book from Monday to Thursday and we encourage families to spend 5–10 minutes each evening listening to their child read and discussing the text.

This consistent practice builds fluency, comprehension and confidence, while also nurturing a genuine love of reading. In school, Guided Reading, shared story time and explicit teaching of reading skills remain key components of our approach. In the Early Years, we continue to strengthen foundational literacy through the Heggerty phonics program.

If you would like further support in helping your child with reading at home, I will be running a **"Power of Reading" workshop at 9:00am on Thursday 4th June in the library** —we warmly invite you to attend.



Creative Expression through Talk for Writing

Through the Talk for Writing approach, our students are developing strong communication skills, creativity and confidence in expressing their ideas. Across the school, we are seeing high-quality writing, with students demonstrating imagination, structure and pride in their work. It is always a highlight to see students eagerly sharing their writing—and many love coming to find me to read their work aloud. Seeing their pride and enthusiasm is a true highlight of my day.

Teaching and Learning – Clarity and Purpose

A key focus this term is strengthening clarity in teaching and learning. We are placing a strong emphasis on ensuring that learning intentions are clear, purposeful and understood by every student. When students know what they are learning and what success looks like, they are more confident, engaged and motivated.

"When learning is clear and purposeful, students thrive and grow."

By making learning intentions and success criteria visible and meaningful in every lesson, we are supporting students to take greater ownership of their learning and achieve success.

Inquiry Learning with Kath Murdoch

We are proud to continue our collaboration as one of six schools in Western Australia working with Kath Murdoch to strengthen inquiry-based learning. This approach encourages curiosity, questioning and deep thinking, supporting students to make meaningful real-world connections.

To support this learning, we are excited to introduce [Ollie the Wise Owl](#), our symbol of curiosity and thinking. Ollie reminds students that learning begins with asking thoughtful questions and exploring ideas deeply.



Mathematics

Mathematics is taught through engaging, hands-on experiences that make learning meaningful and enjoyable. This term, we are strengthening our use of manipulatives and practical resources to deepen understanding, while also developing students' mental maths skills to build confidence and flexibility with numbers.

Advancing Digital Skills

We are delighted to continue working with our STEM Instructional Coach, Dr Michael Graffin. His work with staff and students is enhancing the integration of digital technologies across the curriculum and enriching learning experiences for all students. This term, Dr Graffin is supporting students' exploration of prototyping and creative tools, including Book Creator, Scratch, 3D modelling and Augmented/Virtual Reality to present the findings of their inquiry projects.

Student Wellbeing and Belonging

Student wellbeing remains at the heart of everything we do. We are intentionally building resilience, confidence and a strong sense of belonging across the school. In our younger years, we are enhancing learning through play-based and inquiry-focused approaches, where students are demonstrating excellent engagement, curiosity and focus in their learning.

Initiatives and events such as House Lunches, Buddy Class activities, Olympic Day and the Year 6 Camp continue to provide opportunities for connection, leadership and personal growth. We are also proud of our active School Council, where student voice is valued and students are empowered to contribute meaningfully to school life.

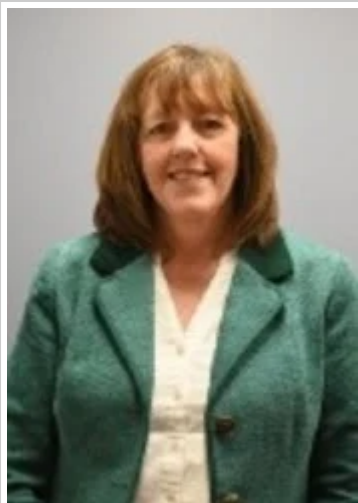
Upcoming Events and Community Engagement

This term is filled with exciting events and opportunities for involvement. Please stay connected via Schoolbox for updates. We warmly invite families to join us for [Discovery Day on Wednesday 24th June](#), where you will see inquiry learning in action across the school.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we look forward to a vibrant and successful Term 2, filled with curiosity, creativity and meaningful learning.

Warm regards,

Mrs Julie Wall, Head of Primary



Inquiry Learning in Term 2



This term, our Primary students will be engaging in Inquiry Learning—an approach that nurtures curiosity, questioning and deep thinking. Through inquiry, students explore big ideas while developing important skills such as problem-solving, collaboration and critical thinking.

Each year level will be guided by a key inquiry question:

- Kindergarten: *How do living things grow and change?*
- Pre-Primary: *Why do living things need a home?*
- Year 1: *How do things move?*
- Year 2: *How do animals help the world around them?*
- Year 3: *How do different environments influence the way people live?*
- Year 4: *What should transport look like as the world changes?*
- Year 5: *How can humans help animals survive in a changing world?*
- Year 6: *How can we use knowledge of Australia's past to create solutions for future challenges?*

These questions will guide learning throughout the term and support students in making meaningful, real-world connections.

Meet Ollie the Wise Owl

This term, we are excited to introduce Ollie the Wise Owl, our guide to curiosity and thinking. Ollie isn't wise because he knows all the answers—he's wise because he asks thoughtful questions:

"I wonder why that happened?"

"What do you think will happen next?"

"How could we solve this problem?"

Ollie encourages our students to think deeply, explore ideas and enjoy the journey of learning. When your child talks about Ollie, it's a wonderful opportunity to continue those conversations at home—wondering, questioning and learning together.

✨ Because wise learners don't just know the answers... they ask the questions that help them find them.

Competition Time!

Ollie our W.I.S.E. owl will keep an eye on us during our inquiry learning.

We are running a competition to see if anyone can guess what the acronym W.I.S.E. stands for. Think about inquiry learning and what assets we have to use to be successful with our learning.

You need to complete an entry form and hand it to your teacher. They will be collected at the end of Week 3 and you can have as many goes as you like!

There will be a prize for the person who guesses what the acronym stands for (or the person who gets the closest).

Have a go and stay curious!

Discovery Day - Save the Date

We warmly invite families to join us for Discovery Day on Wednesday, 24th June, where you will see inquiry learning in action across the school. Families will be able to choose between a morning or afternoon session—more details to come.

We look forward to an exciting term of curiosity, discovery, and learning together!

Mrs Julie Wall, Head of Primary

Year 6 Technology



Year 6 Technology saw all three classes come together in the undercover area, which was buzzing with excitement and anticipation...

Students enthusiastically participated in a large-scale workshop where they explored and identified real-world challenges across four key topics: the ageing population, invasive species, farming and agriculture, and natural disasters. It was inspiring to see such curiosity and engagement as students shared ideas, asked thoughtful questions, and worked collaboratively with their peers. This dynamic session has provided a strong foundation for their inquiry learning this term, and we commend the students for their positive attitude, teamwork, and genuine interest in expanding their knowledge.

Ms Sharareh Ahmadzadeh, Mrs Michelle Emmelhainz, Mrs Catherine Attard & Mrs Christine Mellidis

Class 6.3 Class Assembly



Last term, students independently researched an Asian country as part of their HASS projects.

From there, we discussed ideas for our assembly and decided to select a cultural celebration and relevant images to share our learning. Writing independently about their chosen celebration gave each student a voice and allowed them to contribute to the class assembly in a meaningful way.

Each child spoke confidently and clearly, delivering a wonderful performance. This focus on celebrations continued through their Greek item, showcasing their family's heritage. Parents were truly blown away by the students' knowledge as well as their fluent use of the Greek language.

This assembly was proudly produced in collaboration with Mrs Mellidis, Miss Everett, Kiria Eleni and Kiria Vivi.

Year 5 Geography: The Amazing Race



In Geography, our Year 5 students took part in a fun and interactive activity inspired by The Amazing Race!

We began by looking at a world map and revising where North and South America are located. Students then worked in small groups to complete a series of “country stations” set up around the classroom.

At each station, they read information, identified the country and recorded key facts such as its location, features and interesting details. To make it even more exciting, students stamped their “passports” at each station as they travelled around the room!

As they rotated through the stations, students explored how a country’s location can influence things like its climate, environment and the animals that live there. This activity also encouraged teamwork and communication.

It was fantastic to see the students so engaged and working together to build their understanding of North and South America!

Miss Lauren Giannakis & Mrs Toya Loiacono, Year 5 Teachers

Year 5.2 Assembly: Animal Adaptations



On Friday the 8th of May, Year 5.2 proudly presented their class assembly all about animal adaptations and how animals ‘stay alive’ in our changing world. The students explored a variety of structural and behavioural adaptations through informative speaking, acting and of course dancing!

The assembly opened with a whole class dance to ‘Stayin Alive’ by the Bee Gees, which perfectly introduced our theme. Throughout the performance, the students showcased different animals and their unique adaptations through a range of fun songs and mini dance performances including Eye of the Tiger, Karma Chameleon, Eagle Rock, What Does the Fox Say, Old Town Road and even Baby Shark!

I am incredibly proud of the confidence, enthusiasm and teamwork Year 5.2 demonstrated throughout the performance. They looked amazing on stage, spoke beautifully and danced with so much energy and joy. Most importantly, they genuinely had so much fun performing and their excitement was contagious for everyone watching.

Thank you to all families for your ongoing support and for joining us to celebrate such a special morning with Year 5.2.

Kind regards,

Miss Lauren Giannakis, Year 5.2 Primary Teacher

Year 4 Excursion



Our Year 4 students wrapped up a fantastic Term One with an exciting excursion to the Aquarium of Western Australia.

This engaging and hands-on experience brought their classroom learning to life, as students explored a variety of marine habitats and discovered the incredible diversity of ocean life. It was a wonderful opportunity to spark curiosity, deepen understanding, and celebrate a term of learning together.

Here's what our students had to say about the experience!

"My favorite part of AQWA was the danger zone and when the instructor was talking about the strength of sea creatures. She said if humans had the same power, we could throw a tennis ball to the moon! I also liked the touch pool and I really liked touching the sharks but the bad thing is that the water doesn't smell good." – **Jonathan Xu**

"On Thursday the second of April, we all went to AQWA! I loved the tunnel the best. We went inside and there were fish, stingrays, and more! My favourite animal in the tunnel was the sea urchin. I also liked the touch pool. There were sharks and starfish. The starfish felt like rocks!"

– **Mirna El Zein**

"On Thursday the second of April, we all went to AQWA! It was really fun and I learnt a lot! First, we went into a room where we had some snacks and the instructor told us a bit about our day and what we would see. Then we split into our groups. We went to the coral reef first, and then the touch pool where we got to see and touch lots of different animals. Then we went on the conveyer belt through the enormous tunnel tank. We enjoyed this so much that we went on it three times! Out of ten, I would rate our excursion a ten!" – **Jack Power**

Ms Rebecca Trevisan & Ms Deanna Papa, Year 4 Teachers

Year 3 Nature Walk Reflection



As part of their science learning, our Year 3 students participated in an engaging nature walk to identify examples of living, non-living and once-living things in the school environment.

Before heading outside, students completed a hands-on sorting activity where they worked in groups to organise picture cards into categories that were initially unknown to them. This "hook" activity encouraged students to draw on their prior knowledge and discuss the characteristics of different objects and organisms.

The children were highly engaged and eager to justify their thinking as they sorted the cards. During the nature walk, students enthusiastically applied their new understanding to classify items they discovered around the school grounds. The experience sparked rich conversations about where living things make their homes and what can happen when those habitats are damaged or destroyed, helping students develop a deeper appreciation for the importance of protecting the natural environment.

Ms Jo Simpson, Year 3.1 Teacher

Primary Physical Education: Olympic Day!



What a wonderful start to Term 2 in Primary Physical Education!

Students continued their preparations for our Olympic Day celebrations, training during Physical Education and Sport lessons to succeed in their cross-country races.

On the 30th of April, the primary school showcased their skills and competitive spirit in a day full of endurance running and sportsmanship.

Congratulations to all our individual award winners, and to Demeter House for winning the cross-country championship shield. Amazing work!

Over the next several weeks, our top athletes will now work towards our two interschool cross-country carnivals, JACC and IPSHA, during Thursday Sport. These are two exciting opportunities for our students to take part in. We look forward to both!

Mr Michael Pynes, Head of Primary Physical Education and Sport

Primary Music News



Term 2 has seen a focussed start in Primary Music. Our Performance Choir performed a very moving song at our ANZAC Day assemblies called, *The Last ANZAC*, by Michael Travers. Year 5 student, Ayana Aara Niraz lead the choir for this performance, and we are extremely proud of her efforts.

Music Classroom:

- Our Pre-Primary students had a ball performing a scarf dance to accompany *The Waltz of the Flowers* by Tchaikovsky. Movement activities such as this are an integral part of experiencing the musical element of Form and Structure i.e. whether musical sections are the same or different.
- In Year 1 Music we are learning to perform rhythmic dictation with crotchets, quavers and will shortly introduce the concept of crotchet rests.
- The Year 2 children are determining the solfa singing notes of known songs and learning about step and skip intervals.
- Recorder studies continue to be the focus in Year 3, consolidating B, A & G notes with the addition of new note, low E.
- In Year 4 we continue with ukulele studies with a focus on chords and chord progressions in songs that the students will sing and play.
- The Year 5 students are consolidating their keyboard skills as well as performing music theory activities.
- Our Year 6's are learning all about the bass and its importance in band, ensemble, or orchestra. They are playing bass line patterns and riffs to accompany known songs.

The Primary Band students are looking forward to their upcoming performance at the IPSHA Performing Arts Festival at Penrhos College in Week 4. We look forward to sharing news of their success.

Mathletics Holiday Competition Winners



Congratulations to our top 10 students from our Term 1 Break Mathletics Holiday Competition!

PLACE	STUDENT	CLASS	POINTS
1	Yuvan Jhankur	2.2	41,448
2	Ella Dragojevic	3.1	31,431
3	Kristian Ristic	5.1	27,868
4	Uddhav Prashar	5.2	26,968
5	Nirman Sojitra	3.1	25,868
6	Luka Dragojevic	5.1	20,330
7	Shlok Singh	4.2	19,609
8	Alexander Williams	2.2	17,868
9	Jack Power	4.1	16,041
10	Mobin Alkashwan	5.2	15,400

Mr Tom Fortune, Assistant Head of Primary Wellbeing & Whole School Events and CCA Program Coordinator

Primary Greek News



It has been an exciting start to the term. In Kindy, the students are finishing off their learning about colours and are beginning to explore numbers. We have also started preparing for Mother's Day, and we are very excited to share our special gifts and perform for our parents.

This term, Year 1 students will revise and build confidence in using greetings, asking simple questions, and introducing themselves in Greek. They will be introduced to the Greek alphabet in a structured, step-by-step approach, focusing on letters A-H through engaging songs, games, and hands-on activities. Students will also develop their listening and speaking skills by learning to understand and respond to simple words and sentences.

This term, Year 2 students will revise greetings and extend their language skills by learning vocabulary related to parts of the day, colours, and the Greek alphabet in greater depth. They will explore classroom vocabulary and practise asking and answering questions such as "What is this?" using simple sentence structures. In addition, students will be introduced to basic grammar concepts, including gender articles and prepositions such as "on," "under," and "in," through interactive games and activities.

Ms Stelliani Tzavellas, K-12 Greek Curriculum Teacher

Reading Intervention



What Does Literacy Intervention at St. Andrew's Grammar Look Like?

A strong literacy intervention program targets the five key areas that underpin reading comprehension: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Phonemic awareness involves recognising and manipulating the individual sounds in spoken words, which lays the foundation for decoding. Phonics builds on this by connecting sounds to letters and letter patterns, helping students read written words accurately. Fluency refers to the ability to read smoothly, accurately and with appropriate expression, allowing readers to focus on meaning rather than decoding each word. Vocabulary knowledge supports understanding by ensuring readers know the meaning of the words they encounter. Comprehension involves actively making sense of the text through skills such as predicting, questioning, summarising and making inferences.

To strengthen these areas, literacy intervention programs use a range of targeted activities. These include explicit teaching of phonemic awareness using the Heggerty Curriculum, along with student enhancement of vocabulary through phonics instruction, correct spelling patterns, definition exploration and exposure to words in varied contexts. Word maps, semantic webs and word sorts help students deepen their understanding of word relationships. Interactive read alouds and guided reading sessions encourage discussion of unfamiliar words and phrases. Hands on activities, such as matching games and speed reading, make learning engaging. Incorporating writing tasks that require students to apply newly learned vocabulary reinforces retention and supports overall language development, given the reciprocal relationship between reading and writing. For guaranteed academic growth, all students are strongly encouraged to engage in the enjoyment of literature and daily reading at home.

Mrs Maria Kassinas, Literacy Intervention Teacher

Lego Club



Every Wednesday morning, the Greek room buzzes with excitement as the kids gather for their weekly lively co-circular activity known as LEGO Club.

Designed for students in years two to six, the club offers a space where imagination runs wild, problem-solving is fun, and friendships are built brick by brick.

The LEGO Club is more than just play—it's a hands-on learning experience. Each week brings a new theme or challenge, from designing dream cities to working together to make our very own LEGO Easter Bunny. Kids learn about engineering, planning, and teamwork, all while developing patience and focus.

This week was the Amazing Marble Maze Challenge where the children constructed unique mazes for their marbles. I cannot wait to see what ingenuity the next LEGO challenge will bring and a big thank you to every parent and student for their support to the club.

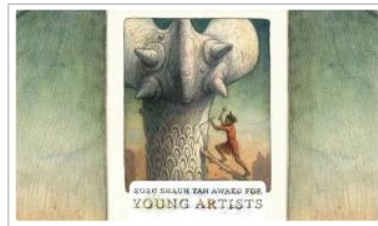
Ms Anne-Marie Karageorge, Primary Teacher

Primary Visual Arts

Welcome back to Term 2! The students have got straight into Art-making.

Over the next few weeks, Students are working on their individual ideas and designs to enter a School Art competition. There will be an award from each year level from Years 1-6.

Students may then enter the prestigious Shaun Tan Art award. I am very excited to see their ideas come to life in the coming weeks.



Term 2 Upcoming Projects

Year One



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

Year Two



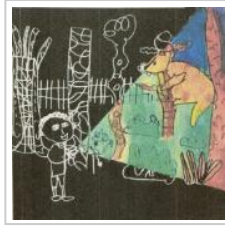
Year Two's will be looking at the work of Eric Carle and creating a Collage of a Seahorse based on the story of Mister Seahorse.

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 an Owl with Pattern and Colour a focus.

The Art room 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 Simone Mullenger, Visual Arts Specialist Teacher

Alumni Update: Meet Taylor



We're delighted to share an update from our alumni community

Taylor is currently studying a Bachelor of Midwifery through Charles Darwin University. Now in her second year, Taylor is fully immersed in the rewarding and hands-on nature of midwifery training. Her degree includes extensive practical experience, with travel to Darwin twice a year for assessments, alongside regular placements

ranging from 3 to 6 weeks at WA hospitals such as King Edward Memorial Hospital, Osborne Park Hospital and Midland.

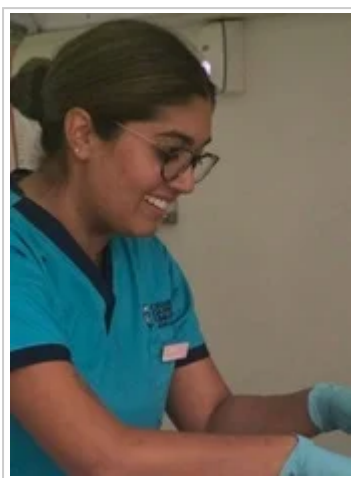
Taylor has shared how much she loves her degree, especially the opportunity to care for pregnant women and be part of the birthing experience, moments she describes as both powerful and inspiring. She highly recommends midwifery to anyone considering a specialised and deeply impactful healthcare career.

With her strong connection to St Andrew's, Taylor is especially passionate about the opportunity to support expectant mothers within the school community. Being able to give back in this way would make her learning journey even more meaningful.

A particularly unique aspect of Taylor's studies is her involvement in the Continuity of Care program, where she is required to follow 15 expectant mothers throughout their pregnancy and birth journey into motherhood. [If you know anyone who may be interested in having a student midwife accompany them during their pregnancy journey, Taylor would welcome the opportunity and would be incredibly grateful for the support.](#) **>Click here to download her flyer!**

We are incredibly proud of Taylor's dedication and enthusiasm, and we look forward to celebrating her continued achievements as she progresses through her degree.

Meet Taylor!



eXtend: Book Now for Term 2

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