Learning and Teaching Newsletter - September 2020

St Andrew's Academy

A Community of Faith and Learning @StAndrewsLandT

The purpose of this newsletter is to share excellent practice across our school.

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App of the month

<u>Padlet</u> works like an online noticeboard, students can contribute with an online post it notes during lessons.



Podcasts of the month

<u>Changing Conversations</u> - Episode 15 Exploring Courage



What does courage mean to you and why is it necessary?

What gets in the way of it and how can we grow in courage?

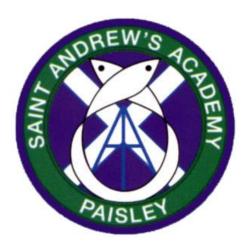
Recommended Reading

Happy – Finding joy in every day and letting go of perfect

Recommended by Paula Buchanan

A light read that includes some exercises to encourage you to stop and think in the moment. It focuses on happiness being something you can work on rather than being something you are born with.





Upcoming Events

October 12

October Week

Focus Creativity and Innovation in the Classroom

In September's Professional Reading group, we discussed 10 ways teachers can be more creative and innovative in their classrooms. This was a lively discussion and a few points discussed were the importance of the teacher setting the tone for the lesson, looking at adapting group and individual work to suit the different personalities in the class and the importance of letting learners take risks and fail in class. Further to this, we looked at the different approaches departments had to problem finding strategies to encourage deep learning.

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Sharing good practice

Maths Week Scotland 2020

Last week we participated in Maths Week Scotland. Our Weekly Focus was on Maths Week, we were encouraging the students to talk to those around them about Maths. The students were encouraged to ask their parents/carers, family or friends about how they use Maths in their daily life or job.

We asked staff to display their first jobs and how they used Maths or Numeracy to do their job in posters on their doors. Students completed the new puzzle which was set every day during Maths Week by the Deputy First Minister.

Digital Learning

Our practices in digital learning continue with some teachers this month trialing Team Chat lessons where they have shared their screen with pupils and some pupils have joined via Teams to participate in the lessons. One Note is being used well across departments to allow pupils to upload photos of work or to type directly in, some teachers are using this online jotter in place of a physical jotter.

The Digital Learning Staff Team is going well, with useful advice being posted by various colleagues. The digital support channel is there for anyone who wants to ask a question. Please feel free to ask anything or if you can help someone out with an enquiry please feel free to write a reply. Lynsey Melrose has produced a Guide for Students who are self-isolating at home on how to access all our digital platforms, this has been posted on the school social media sites and our website.

Learning and Teaching Idea of the Month - Padlet

Marisa Kerr and Shealagh Begg have been using a great programme called PADLET. They have found it really easy to use. You can log in with your glow details and can also get an app. Once you set your PADLET up, pupils scan a QR code from the board and it takes them instantly to the PADLET board. Then they can share their ideas live in the class and they appear on the screen. https://en-gb.padlet.com/









In-house CLPL

October

Restorative Approaches 1 6/10/2020 4.00pm ENG 4

Staff Onenote & class notebook

TBA

ICT 6

Restorative Approaches 2 20/10/2020 4.00pm

ENG 4

The shape of a lesson 21/10/2020 3.00pm

ENG 4

Retrieval Practice

ENG 4