



the INSIDER

an Andrea School

Issue 55

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 2023

A Journey of Dedication and Leadership

An Interview with David Micallef, Head of San Andrea School

In the amazing sector of education, where every day unfolds with new challenges and successes, we had the privilege of sitting down with Mr David Micallef, the Head of Sectors for San Andrea School. With a career going back to 1999, Mr. David initially stepped into the realm of education as a Primary School Teacher and then in 2004 joined San Andrea School as an ICT Teacher – a journey described as both unexpected and wonderful.

As our conversation unfolded, it became evident that Mr. David's commitment to San Andrea goes beyond the ordinary. During a challenging period for the school, he was approached to take on the role of 'Head Of Sectors'. Motivated by his profound connection with San Andrea, he embraced the responsibility, showcasing resilience and dedication to the institution.

When asked about his academic preferences, Mr. David expressed a passion for the sciences and languages, a sign of his wide-ranging interests and belief in a balanced education. However, it's not all about textbooks and classrooms for the head of school. Once he regains control on his free time, he wishes to go back to film and theatre, revealing a creative side that complements his role in the educational leadership.

Reflecting on the most rewarding aspects of his job, Mr. David emphasised the sense of accomplishment derived from witnessing the success of the school. He mentioned that the success is closely linked to the strong unity of the San Andrea community.

As a leader, Mr. David faces the challenge of keeping all sectors aligned, making sure everything runs smoothly. His dedication to keeping up with new technology and changes in education shows the school's commitment to maintain it's excellent level.

When asked about his leadership style, Mr. David highlighted the importance of listening to colleagues, exercising patience, and creating an environment where ideas are shared and valued. These qualities with many others, he believes, are crucial for effective leadership in the field of education.

Whilst talking about the crucial qualities of leadership, Mr. David recognised that the role involves various aspects, such as two-way communication and no one trait stands out above the rest. Instead, he highlighted the significance of traits like active listening and patience, as mentioned earlier in our conversation.

As head of sectors, Mr. David places the well-being of students and teachers at the forefront of his priorities. This dedication ensures a supportive environment, fostering growth and well-being, where both academic and personal growth are encouraged.

Lastly, Mr. David explained San Andrea's idea of success, which is based on a holistic approach, including not just doing well in studies but also giving importance to sports and other activities outside of classes. This broad perspective shows the school's commitment to developing individuals with a variety of skills and interests.

Our talk with Mr. David gave us an interesting look into the life and ideas of the head of San Andrea School. His journey at our school from an ICT teacher to a devoted leader shows the passion and dedication that make San Andrea stand out as an excellent school.

Special thanks to Mr. David and Mr. Christopher for graciously giving us the opportunity to conduct this insightful interview. We appreciate their time and openness in sharing valuable perspectives. The interview was taken by Eva Di Battista, Cloe Gallese, and Sibel Robotti.

Grade 11 Students' Work - French

Devine qui c'est !! Guess who!!

Inspired by the game 'Guess who?' or 'Dévine qui je suis?', Grade 11 students of French had to write riddles where they described one of their teachers. The Learning Outcome was to be able to describe a person in detail. This included vocabulary such as : il/elle est de taille moyenne (average height) ; il/elle a les cheveux châtain (chestnut-coloured hair) ; il/elle a des taches de rousseur (freckles) ... Read through some of their work hereunder and try to guess who



1. Elle est belle et elle est de taille moyenne. Elle a les cheveux châtain, mi-longs et frisés. Elle a les yeux verts et grands. Elle ne porte pas de lunettes. Elle a des taches de rousseur. Normalement, elle aime porter des robes et des tennis. Parfois, en hiver, elle porte des bottes et un pull.

Clarisse Caruana



2. Elle a entre 40 et 50 ans. Elle est belle et elle est de taille moyenne. Ses cheveux sont noirs, mi-longs et raides. Elle ne porte pas de lunettes. D'habitude, elle porte des vêtements décontractés et colorés. Elle adore voyager à l'étranger! Qui est-ce?

Daniel Luke Spiteri

3. Devine qui c'est ! Elle a les cheveux châains, bouclés et mi-longs. Ses yeux sont marron et elle ne porte pas de lunettes. Elle est de taille moyenne. Elle aime porter des vêtements colorés et parfois elle porte une blouse de laboratoire.

Elisabeth Apap



4. Il est de taille moyenne mais avec un physique sportif. Ses yeux sont bleus, mais il n'a pas de cheveux, il est chauve ! Normalement, il porte un tee-shirt et un short et parfois il porte une casquette aussi ! Ses étudiants sont passionnés de sport. Qui est-ce ?

Luke Pizzuto

5. C'est une professeure de chimie, elle aime le café elle adore faire du sport. Elle a trente-quatre ans, elle est jolie. Elle est de taille moyenne et ses cheveux sont brun-roux, mi-longs et ondulés. Elle a les yeux petits et bleus. Elle n'a pas de lunettes. Elle porte des vêtements sportifs par exemple, un tee-shirt, des leggings et des baskets.

Sibel Robotti

6. Elle est très belle et elle est de taille moyenne. Elle est mince. Elle a les cheveux blonds avec des mèches châains. Elle est passionnée de dessin. Elle a un chat, un lapin et un oiseau. Elle a les yeux petits et bleus. Elle aime porter des robes. Tu sais qui c'est ?

Lauren Agius



7. Elle est de taille moyenne et elle a les cheveux noirs et frisés. Elle est très jolie, et elle n'est pas âgée. Elle ne porte pas de lunettes et elle a les yeux marron. Elle a deux enfants et elle est passionnée de voyage et de littérature.

Emma Abela

Réponses : 1. Ms Andrea ; 2. Ms Marie Louise ; 3. Ms Sarah ; 4. Mr Kevin ; 5. Ms Amy ; 6. Ms Nadine ; 7. Ms Mariella

Ms Marie Louise Kara
Teacher of French

Book Fair Outing for the G8 and G9 students

Ms. Marlene Attard - Senior School Librarian

**MALTA
BOOK
FESTIVAL** 2023



The G8s and G9s enjoyed an outing to the Ta' Qali book fair earlier on in October. Senior Sector students had the chance to explore and acquire some of the books being exhibited during the Malta Book Festival. After roaming around the stalls students watched a play scripted with the intention of promoting reading further. Two San Andrea students also participated in a quiz that took place prior to the play starting.



Later that evening three grade 9 students also represented our school by attending the award-giving ceremony aimed at celebrating the Malta Reading Champions/Il-promoturi tal-Qari. This event was organised by the National Literacy Agency on the final day of the National Book Festival at Ta' Qali. The awardees received book prizes and a certificate. These students are Caitlin Mangion, Matias Mizzi and Ailey Jane Brincat. We congratulate the three winners once again and praise their efforts. They manage to make reading a priority irrespective of their many commitments and such an achievement deserves to be both underlined as well as emulated.



Valencia Trip - October 2023

On the 17th of October a group of Grade 12 Spanish students had the opportunity to travel to Valencia to further their knowledge in the Spanish culture and language. We stayed at traditional host families in the centre of Valencia throughout our stay. Thanks to this, we were immersed and exposed to the Spanish language. We were constantly learning new vocabulary and building self-confidence. The host family provided us with our daily needs such as packed lunches for school and dinners. The transport system was very safe and efficient to get us on time to our language school Espanhole, in the neighbourhood El Carmen. This trip helped us gain independence and got us out from our comfort zone.

On our trip to Valencia, we had to go to school for a 20-hour intensive Spanish course. It was an extremely fun and interesting experience. Every day we would have lessons prepared by Ms. Ana about several topics. This had helped us in understanding and learning more Spanish and had improved our communication skills. During breaks, we would walk to the Asian store and buy very cheap bao buns. We had different activities including a boat trip, going to the Oceanographic aquarium, watching a dolphin show, visiting the castle and the beach in Peñíscola, having dinner at our favourite HotPot, shopping, and lots of walking. We thank Ms. Maria for carrying the Spanish flag everywhere we walked so that we don't lose her!! We thank Ms. Nikki and Ms. Nathalie for their dedication and hard work during this trip. We had lots of fun and created lots of memories that we are going to hold close to our hearts forever.

Viva Valencia!!

By Ana, Ema, Matthea, Chelsea, Giulia, Faith, Giulia, Scarlett, Amy, Emily, Daniel, Alejandro & Landy



Después de las clases, caminamos al Parque Gulliver; un parque con grandes toboganes y nos divertimos mucho.



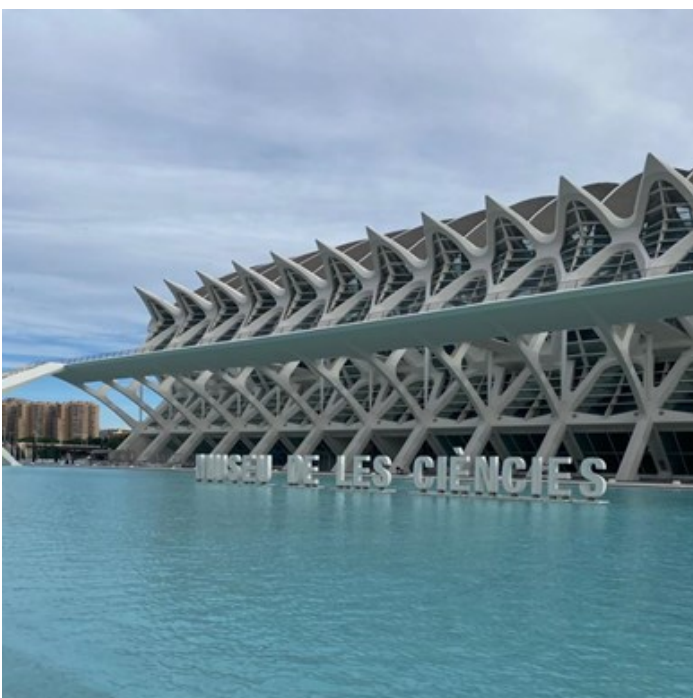
Estamos en la Playa De Las Arenas, jugando en la telaraña.



Hicimos un paseo en barca por una hora en el lago de la Albufera.



Estamos cruzando la calle para ir al Jardín de Turia



Estamos al Museo de las Ciencias. Caminamos por la zona para ver estas estructuras maravillosas. También visitamos el acuario del Oceanografic y vimos un espectáculo de delfines.



Esto es el Parque Gulliver. Es un parque muy divertido y para todas las edades. Hay muchos toboganes y alrededor hay jardines bonitos.



Todos los días después de la escuela fuimos a comprar bao buns.



Nos divertimos mucho tomando fotos con el selfie stick



Comimos una paella típica y era muy deliciosa

Press Repeat

*Press repeat, all problems are solved,
Press repeat, all problems unclogged,
Press repeat, to save the day,
Press repeat, no donkey will bray.*

*Actions of the past will be repeated,
People of the past reincarnated,
No matter their evil,
Annoying as a weevil,
They will arrive,
Along with their pride.*

*No mortal able to try and take action,
Only those able to take on attraction,
For whom may seem to be our leader,
Will make all people become a bleeder.*

*Destruction and destroying,
Destruction and constant boiling,
Destruction and torture,
Destruction and non-stop murder.*

*Even after peace ensues,
Press repeat, and all hell breaks loose.*

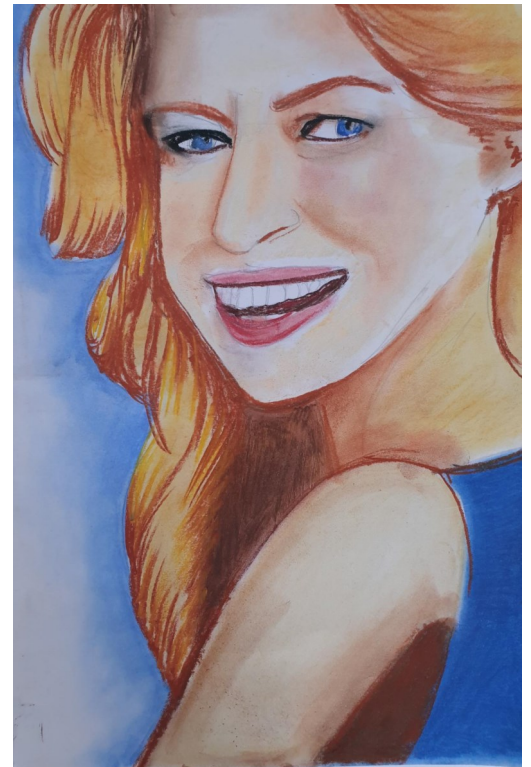


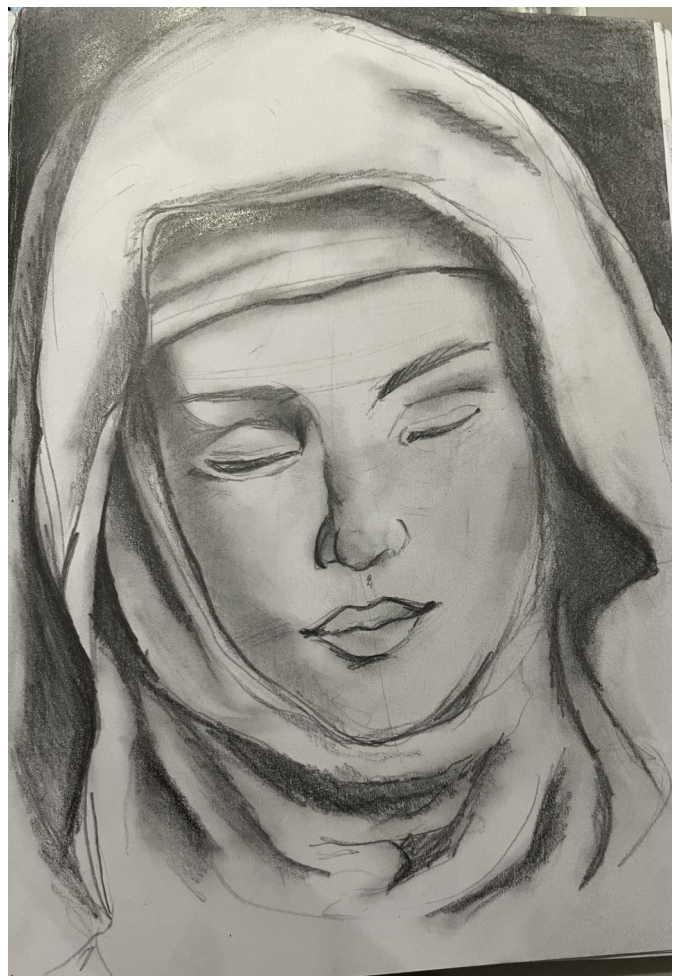
Nathan Azzopardi Muscat

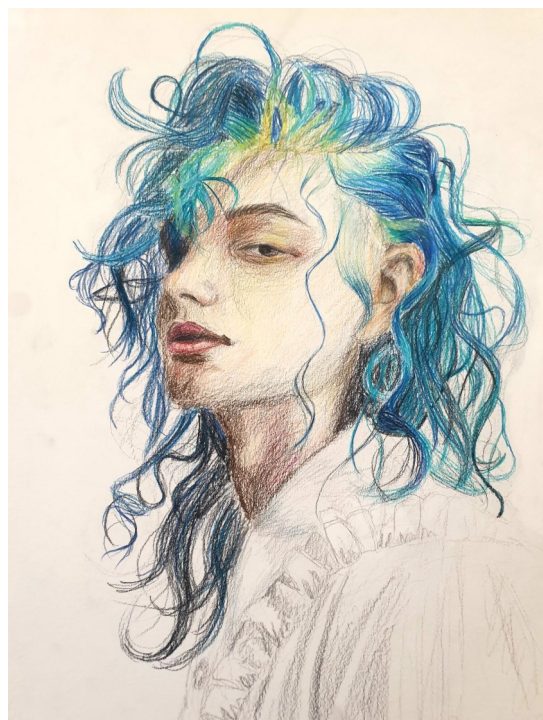
Grade 10

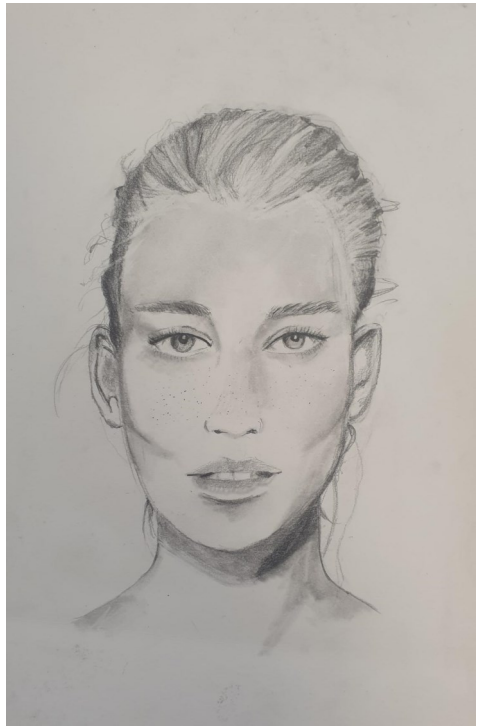
Art Students' Work

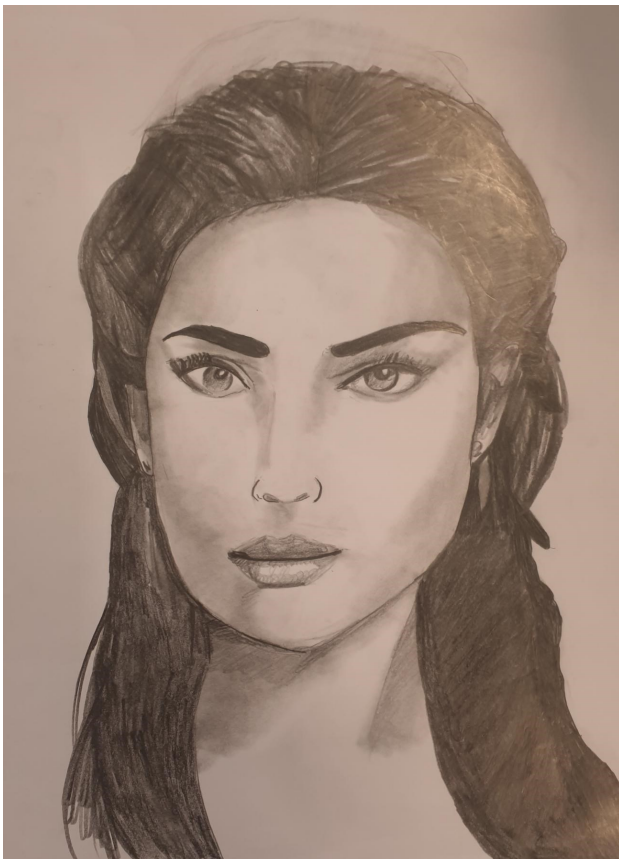
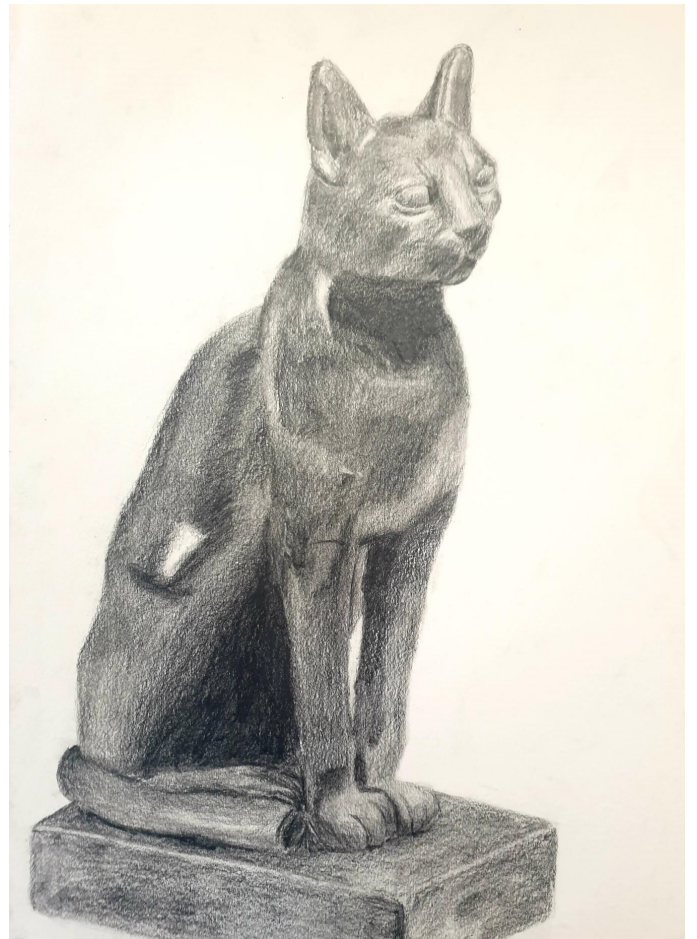
Ms. Nadine Debattista Briffa Art Teacher













Dia de los Muertos

Ms. Maria Teacher of Spanish



Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a vibrant and colorful Mexican celebration that honors deceased loved ones. Taking place from October 31st to November 2nd, it coincides with the Catholic holidays of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. Rather than being a mournful occasion, Dia de los Muertos is a festive and joyful celebration of life and death.

Families create elaborate altars called "ofrendas" adorned with marigolds, candles, sugar skulls, and photographs of the departed. The belief is that during this time, the spirits of the deceased return to the world of the living to enjoy the offerings and the company of their loved ones. Families may also visit cemeteries to clean and decorate graves, sharing stories and memories.

Food plays a significant role, with special dishes and treats prepared as offerings. Pan de muerto (bread of the dead) and sugar skulls are common culinary symbols. The celebration is a unique blend of indigenous beliefs and Catholic traditions, fostering a sense of community, remembrance, and the belief that death is a natural part of the human experience.

How to Make Pan de Muerto?

Make the bread dough.

Turn the dough out onto a floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic.

Cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled in size.

Punch the dough down and shape into a large round loaf with a round knob on top.

Place on a baking sheet, loosely cover, and let rise again in a warm place.

Bake until golden brown.

Make the glaze, then glaze the cooled bread.



Ingredients

Bread:

¼ cup milk

¼ cup butter or margarine

¼ cup warm water (110 degrees F/45 degrees C)

3 cups all-purpose flour

¼ cup white sugar

2 teaspoons anise seed

1 ¼ teaspoons active dry yeast

½ teaspoon salt

2 large eggs, beaten

1 tablespoon orange zest



Method

To make the bread: Heat milk and butter in a medium saucepan over low heat until butter melts. Remove from heat and add warm water. Mixture should be around 110 degrees.

Combine 1 cup flour, sugar, anise seed, yeast, and salt in a large bowl. Beat in warm milk mixture, then add eggs and orange zest; beat until well combined. Stir in 1/2 cup flour and continue adding more flour until dough is soft.

Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface; knead until smooth and elastic. Place dough into a lightly greased bowl. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise in a warm place until doubled in size, 1 to 2 hours.

Punch dough down and shape into a large round loaf with a round knob on top. Place dough onto a baking sheet; loosely cover with plastic wrap. Let rise in a warm place until just about doubled in size, about 1 hour.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Bake in the preheated oven until golden brown, 20 to 30 minutes. Cool slightly before brushing with glaze.

To make the glaze: Combine 1/4 cup sugar, orange juice, and orange zest in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat and boil for 2 minutes. Brush glaze over top of warm bread. Sprinkle with 2 tablespoons sugar.

ENJOY!!



School Cross-Country Results

BOYS

1500m (Under 12)

GIRLS

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Alessandro Carcone	5.05
2 nd	Karl Callus	5.20
3 rd	Mattias Tedesco	5.31
4 th	Max Bartolo	5.37
5 th	Matthew Baldacchino	6.00

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Mikela Ann Spiteri	5.17
2 nd	Julia Farrugia	5.47
3 rd	Amy Montebello	5.58
4 th	Isabella Petersen	6.16
5 th	Elena Bartolo	6.29

BOYS

2000m (Under 13)

GIRLS

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Sebastiano Robotti	8.56
2 nd	Xamairon Micallef	8.57
3 rd	Leon Mercieca	8.59
4 th	Liam Fenech	9.26
5 th	Nico Gomez	9.47

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Julia Gatt Taliana	9.19
2 nd	Elaine Cassar	10.05
3 rd	Elena Pizzuto	10.26
4 th	Carla Montagno Bozzone	10.42
5 th	Caitlin Rose Mangion	11.11

BOYS

2500m (Under 14)

GIRLS

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Rohan Julian Farrugia	9.26
2 nd	Benjamin Aquilina Vella	10.08
3 rd	Elias Vella	10.22
4 th	Thomas Sciberras	10.38
5 th	Benjamin Paul Borg	10.46

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Sara Giordano Imbroll	9.51
2 nd	Emma Higgins	12.31
3 rd	Kyra Webb Gatt	12.42
4 th	Julia Borda	13.07
5 th	Kaya Albanozzo	13.37

BOYS

3000m (Under 15)

GIRLS

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Daniel Luke Spiteri	9.28
2 nd	Sean Bugeja	9.32
3 rd	Luke Fenech	9.51
4 th	Giorgio Antonio Muscat	9.53
5 th	Luke Buttigieg	10.09

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Elisabeth Apap	10.51
2 nd	Sibel Martina Robotti	11.33
3 rd	Ella Marie Camilleri	12.00
4 th	Ann Debono	13.26
5 th	Zixi Zhou	15.21

BOYS

3000m (Under 16)

GIRLS

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Thomas James Zammit	12.07
2 nd	Tommaso Maroino Bray	12.08
3 rd	Anwar Gihani	12.22
4 th	Andrew Grech Hardie	12.41
5 th	Kyle Agius	12.43

Placed	Name	Time
1 st	Sophia Ella Huhn	14.58
2 nd	Giulia Louise La Vita	15.47
4 th	Julia Vassallo Scicluna	16.14
5 th	Ema Vella	16.40
6 th	Stella Buhagiar	18.05

Winners and Runners-up

Grade 8 Winner & Runner-up



Grade 9 Winner & Runner-up



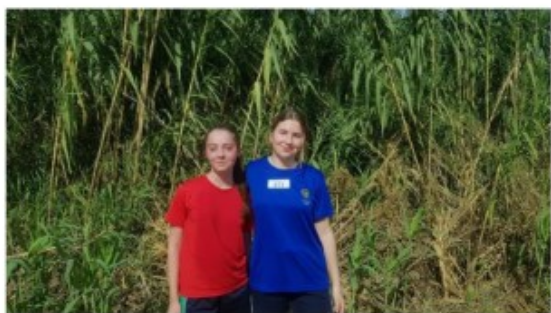
Grade 10 Winner & Runner-up



Grade 11 Winner & Runner-up



Grade 12 Winner & Runner-up



1st Place - Castile

251 points

2nd Place - Provence

226 points

3rd Place - Auvergne

189 points

4th Place - Aragon

143 points

School Cross Country 2023-2024 Points Obtained				
Class	Provence	Auvergne	Castile	Aragon
Under 12 Girls	60	26	18	10
Under 12 Boys	31	18	33	14
Under 13 Girls	12	9	38	13
Under 13 Boys	20	22	29	2
Under 14 Girls	20	13	19	26
Under 14 Boys	7	38	13	32
Under 15 Girls	1	11	37	11
Under 15 Boys	38	10	28	14
Under 16 Girls	17	19	12	3
Under 16 Boys	20	23	24	6
Totals	226	189	251	131

School Cross-Country Records

BOYS

Category	Distance	Name	Time	Year
Under 12	1500m	Alessandro Carcone	5.05	2023-2024
Under 13	2000m	Adam Azzopardi	7.47	2017-2018
Under 14	2500m	Rohan Julian Farrugia	9.26	2023-2024
Under 15	3000m	Nikol Micallef	10.16	2016-2017
Under 16	3000m	Michael Debattista Segond	9.26	2022-2023
Under 17	3000m	Nicholas Sammut	11.10	2012-2013

GIRLS

Category	Distance	Name	Time	Year
Under 12	1500m	Mikela Ann Spiteri	5.17	2023-2024
Under 13	2000m	Sara Giordano Imbroll	8.25	2022-2023
Under 14	2500m	Sara Giordano Imbroll	9.51	2023-2024
Under 15	3000m	Robin Caruana Montaldo	12.33	2016-2017
Under 16	3000m	Hailee Buttigieg	12.27	2022-2023
Under 17	3000m	Van Vuuren Abigail	15.15	2021-2022



School Team Photos



Handball Girls U/16 - Team A



Handball Girls U/16 - Team B



Football Girls U/16



Basketball Girls U/16



Football Boys U/16



Basketball Boys U/16



Handball Boys U/16



Volleyball Girls U/16.



Mr. Kevin Mamo
Pe and Houses Department

Happy San Andrea Day to our incredible community!

On the morning of the 30th November, our school was alive more than ever with a vibrant band march, filling the air with music and excitement followed by mass, bringing together students, educators, parents, and guardians in the true spirit of unity and gratitude. A huge thank you to everyone who participated and made this day unforgettable!









San Andrea Students @ the MICC

During the month of September 10 students from San Andrea spent 8 days in Poland attending The MICC (Model International Criminal Court). This project aims to improve students' understanding of how international criminal law and its institutions work. It raises awareness on human rights violations and humanitarian crimes that are punished under international law. The simulation court is a hands-on approach to this subject where international cases are discussed afresh, and the judges have to come up with new verdicts depending on the most convincing arguments brought up by the prosecutors or the defendant lawyers.



In the programme we participated in there were 3 cases and I was assigned as the prosecutor in the Simon Bikindi case. Simon Bikindi (1954-2018) was a very popular Rwandan singer-songwriter who was convicted for incitement to genocide through his songs during the Rwandan war between 1990 and 1994. We were given detailed material to study the case and our arguments as prosecutors in the case assigned to us were convincing enough for the judges to prove Simon Bikindi once again. For me it was an amazing experience as I had a through insight of the Roman Statute outlining the human rights and an immersive practice in a court case which was so well organised and mirroring a real court atmosphere. This experience helped me also to confirm my line of career. It was a unique experience which I will treasure for ever.



Ben Debattista

Grade 11

Students' Council

Ms. Joyce Valletta

Career Guidance - Senior School



The student council participated in the Senior Student Council Democracy Awards last year and got the silver award.

Student Council selling biscuits at the Movember event





A Christmas message.

As the festive season unfolds, I send you heartfelt wishes for a Christmas, on behalf of the wellbeing team at San Andrea School, filled with warmth and joy. May the simplicity of the holidays fill your heart with peace and happiness. In the spirit of giving, let's share love and laughter with those around us, and may our kindness be a sign for those facing challenges. As we gather with family and friends, let's be sensitive to the struggles some may endure and extend a helping hand. May this Christmas be a tapestry of precious moments, kindness, and compassion. Merry Christmas! 🎄 ✨

Mr Ryan

Head of Wellbeing

Christmas Season is the reason to wish all joy and happiness, but may we be reminded to embrace the spirit of sharing and kindness. Merry Christmas and Happy 2004 to you and all your loved ones.

Ms Lara Muscat

Head of EM Sectors

Inspired and encouraged by His Holiness Pope Francis, my thoughts during these beautiful times extend to any person who is feeling at the periphery and excluded. Let this be a time when we reach out to each other, we believe more in inclusion, in diversity, in accepting different opinions, different creeds all aimed towards the meaning of giving and “to rejoice in humble and generous service”. To all of you and your loved ones my sincere well wishes for a blessed Christmas. May I take this opportunity to thank my dedicated colleagues in the Early , Middle and Senior Sector for their enthusiasm, care, love, support and passion to assist our cherished students and their beautiful families; a huge thank you for all the support staff, and all those rendering service to make our San Andrea School a wonderful place to be. To you all – A HAPPY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Mr Christopher

Head of Senior Sector

