

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Eagle Way, Shoeburyness, Essex SS3 9RN.

Telephone: 01702 293522 email: office@st-georges.southend.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs A Smith

*Let it be known to all who enter here, that Christ is the reason for this school,
the unseen but ever present teacher in its classes,
the model for its children, the inspiration for its staff.*

*We aim to be a Christian community and witnesses to Christ,
where all can experience and grow in Christian love
through God's word and the gifts of His sacraments,
and through prayer and personal example.*



newsletter no. 148 11th September 2015

Dear Parents,

After the first full week, I imagine that we are all ready for this weekend! We welcomed our next 10 reception children on Thursday.

Elicia, Orla, Harry, Isis, Ernie, William, Dylan, Joseph, Oliver and Lilah

I know that the children will grow and thrive, spiritually, academically and personally during their time here. We look forward to getting to know all of the new children and their families ~ even if you have been here before!

Are your children safe? A parents session on E – Safety

The internet has changed all of our lives, particularly our children's. For parents and carers this opens up a whole new world of things to be aware of. For many of us, this can all be a bit too much. You might be struggling to keep up with the things your child is doing online, you might wonder whether what they are doing is safe, and you might also be thinking *how can I be as good a parent online as I am offline?*

As a school, safeguarding is of paramount importance, and this includes safety online. We deliver e-safety lessons to the children during ICT and regularly talk to them about their online activity. On Wednesday 30th September, the children in years 3, 4, 5 & 6 will have a session with an e-safety expert to further educate them on keeping safe.

In addition to this, we have organised a **session for parents**; one will be at **3.30pm** and one at **7pm**.

We expect that every family will be represented, due to every parents responsibility to safeguard their child

You may think that your child is too young, or that you have adequate filters in place etc., but we cannot stress enough the potential dangers for all of our children and how vital it is that you are aware of them. Each session lasts around 1 ½ hours, due to the amount needed to be covered. As all the staff will be attending the session, we are unable to supervise any children after school, which is why the session has been advertised at the earliest opportunity. There is a slip at the end of this newsletter to inform us which session you, or a representative (aunt, uncle, nan etc) will be attending, to return to the office. We have been informed that other local primary schools have run these sessions for parents and turnout has been very high. Let's aim for 100% at St George's, for our children's sake.

Reading Reward

I have been really pleased by the reaction of the children regarding the reading reward. A few parents have asked for clarification about books, frequency, how the 'reads' are counted etc.

- Each day you listen to your child and make a comment, it counts as one of the 'reads'.
- You do not have to listen to the whole book for it to be counted. It may take several 'reads' to complete a book. Conversely, if you hear your child completes more than one book in one sitting, that is still classed as one 'read'.
- The book can be a reading scheme book or a library book. Both count as long as a comment has been made.
- Independent readers may comment on the book they are reading ~ interest, unknown vocabulary etc., and this will still be counted. This will be monitored by the class teacher.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask your child's classteacher, Mrs Philips or myself.

Spellings in Key Stage 2

From this term, the approach to learning spellings in Key Stage 2 will be changing. The children will not be given a list of words to learn to spell for a test each week. Instead, there will be more focus on learning the rules and conventions of spelling patterns so that the children can apply them independently. Each week a different spelling pattern or convention will be introduced in class, for example 'able' endings on words. Your child may be given a challenge such as finding out their own list of words that have this ending, by using resources such as dictionaries. They will also be encouraged to find out the meanings of any words that they are unsure of. Throughout the week, daily spelling sessions in class will look at developing the knowledge of each spelling convention and on a Friday your child will have spelling test that will select a range of words following the convention of the week that are put into sentences, for example. "The family had an enjoyable time at the restaurant". In addition to all of the conventions that the children need to cover in each year group there is a list of words that are set that need to be learnt. Each week two or three of these words will be given to practise as these will also form part of the spelling test e.g. 'restaurant'. A total score of 20 will be achievable each week.

The following Monday will be an opportunity to revisit the convention from the previous week before moving on to the next focus. At the end of each half term there will continue to be a spelling test that will select words from all the conventions taught during that half-term.

Mass

It was lovely to see family and friends at the start of year Mass this morning. My thanks also goes to Father Brett for celebrating the Eucharist with us, especially as he is probably suffering a little from jetlag, after returning from holiday only yesterday!

Diary Dates

Please note there was a duplication error for an event this term. There is only ONE date for Open Evening, Wednesday 18th November, 5pm – 7pm

Birthdays

Congratulations to everyone who celebrated a birthday this week.

Keavy (St Therese)

Ella (St Bernadette)

Ben R. & George (St Joseph)

Emma & Harrison (St Anthony)

Parent Information Meetings

Thank you to all the parents who have attended the sessions. We hope you found them useful.

The remaining dates are:

Friday 11th Sept ~ St Bernadette (Year 3)

Tuesday 15th Sept ~ St Therese (Year 1)

Wednesday 16th Sept ~ St Anthony (Year 5)

Tuesday 22nd Sept ~ St Francis (Year R)

Reminders

Free School Lunches for Infants

It is vital that all parents are aware that we need to receive your order by Wednesday for the following week. If not, we will presume that you wish to provide lunch for your child. **You** access the order form on the school website www.sgcps.co.uk

Milk

Every child under the age of five is entitled to FREE school milk.. You can register your child for school milk at www.coolmilk.com It is very straightforward and the milk is delivered daily to the school, to be distributed at break times. Children over 5 can also receive milk. The cost is £1.10 per week (22p per day).

Nuts

We have children at St. George's who have severe anaphylactic allergies triggered by peanuts and other nuts. The key to preventing an anaphylactic reaction is to avoid exposure to the trigger. Please do not send foods containing nuts or peanuts to school. This includes Nutella spread and peanut butter.

Congratulations

During the holidays, our children had a great deal of success. Xavier and Faith (St Therese) entered a local horticultural and craft show at St Andrew's and St Peter's, South Shoebury. Both children created something which reflected a passage from the bible. Faith was awarded gold and Xavier was presented with silver.

There have also been many exams during the months of July and August. Congratulations to Elliot (St Anthony) who passed ballet and modern with Distinction. Henry F. (St Joseph) took his Dancing Junior 1 exams and was awarded Honours for the quick step and jive. Emily M. (St Anthony) passed her Grade 1 in Musical Theatre, as did Hugh (St Bernadette) who was also awarded rosettes for tap and modern. Bonnie (St Peter) passed her Grade 2 in flute.

Pupil Premium Grant

The government has introduced the Pupil Premium Grant to help children from lower income families reach their full potential and to achieve higher academic grades at school.

Under this arrangement, infant schools receive funding for every pupil who meets the criteria for free school meals; so it is important to us to ensure that every child that meets the criteria is actually registered at the school so we can claim this money.

We are able to check eligibility using a simple, secure and confidential online process.

You meet the criteria if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

In order to determine whether you meet the criteria for the Pupil Premium Grant for your children, please complete the form attached to this week's newsletter and return it to the school office. However, only parent or carer details may be used to apply for this benefit.

Year R Admissions ~ September 2016

We will be holding information sessions for parents who are thinking of applying for a place for their child in September 2016. Each session will take place from 9.30~10.30am and will include a talk from the Headteacher, a tour of the school and the opportunity to ask questions. The dates are as follows:

Wednesday 4th November

Tuesday 10th November

Thursday 19th November

Please phone the school office (01702 293522) to book your place.

Applications can be submitted to the Local Authority from 14th September 2015 to 15th January 2016. The form can be downloaded from the council website at:

<http://www.southend.gov.uk/admissions/>. Please note that a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) must be completed, which is available from the school. If you are a practising Catholic, ask your priest for a completed Certificate of Practice to support your application.

The Supplementary Information Form is to be returned to the school and the priest will return the certificate of practice. Both of these must be submitted by 22nd January 2016.

After School/ Lunchtime Clubs ~ Autumn Term 2015

All forms need to be returned by **WEDNESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER**. All clubs will begin w/c 21st September.

DAY		CLUB	TEACHER	MAX NO:	YEAR GROUP	Time
Monday	1	Football	External provider Mr Sims	24	Yr 5 & 6	3.15 - 4.15
	2	Art	Mrs Lawrence	20	Yr 1 & 2	
	3	Recorder	Mrs Howell	20	Yr 4 - 6	
	4	First Holy Communion*	Mrs Smith (at St George's Church)	n/a	Yr 3 - 6	4 - 5pm
Tuesday	5	Debating and Quiz Club	Mrs Noblet Mrs Archer	20	Yr 5 & 6	Lunchtime
	6	STEPS AHEAD	External provider	20	Yr 3-6	3.15 - 5.00
	7	Cooking Club**	Miss Reed	10	Yr 6 (1 st half term) Yr 5 (2 nd half term)	3.15 - 4.15
Wednesday	8	French	Mrs Arnold Mrs Philips	20	Yr 3	Lunchtime
	9	Netball	Mrs Smith	20	Yr 5 & 6	3.15 - 4.15
Thursday	10	Choir***	Mrs Sayer & Mrs Beales	30	Yr 3-6	Lunchtime
	11	Challenging Games	Mrs Halvey	20	Year 2	3.15 - 4.15
	12	Pupil Voice	Mrs Wallen Mrs Gillett	Different groups of children will be invited at various times		Lunchtime

*If your child wishes to be part of the First Holy Communion group, they must be a baptised Catholic or be preparing for this sacrament

**If your child would like to participate in cooking club, you will be asked to provide the ingredients for the different recipes. You will, of course, be given notice on the items required for that session.

***If your child signs up for choir, they are making a commitment for all three terms due to the events that have already been planned for the forthcoming year

Music Lessons

Peripatetic music lessons start next week. Tuition fees need to be paid by 9am Monday morning in order for your child to begin their sessions.

Annual General Meeting

The Friends of St George's AGM will take place on **Tuesday 6th October at 3.30pm** in the community suite. As parents/carers at St George's School, you are all members and are invited to attend. We are still looking for enthusiastic volunteers who are willing not only to raise money which will benefit all of the pupils at the school but also help organise and run social events throughout the year. If you feel that you would like to play an active part in the school community, you may like to consider putting yourself forward for one of the positions. Our current Chair, Emma Traylor, will be resigning her post, so we are looking for a new Chairperson. We will also be electing:

Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary positions.

If you think you may be interested and would like a little more information, please do not hesitate to come and see me. Emma is also equally happy to give further information about the post.

Each post is for a year and at the end of that time you can choose to either stand down or put yourself forward for re-election. In addition to these, we also need CLASS REPS. This role requires you to be a link between the committee and parents/carers in that class, giving information, asking for support and taking forward any ideas etc. The class reps need to be nominated in the same way as the other FOSG positions.

Any person wishing to put themselves forward for any of these positions must complete the nomination form from the school office. A copy of the form will also be available on the website

You need two people (one to nominate and one to second) who are parents or carers with children attending the school. You then sign the form accepting the proposal. The form must be completed and handed to the office or a standing committee member before the AGM. To make this meeting certified it is important that we have **at least 30 parents/teachers** so please try to spare 30 minutes to attend. Children will be supervised in the ICT suite.

A request from Miss Reed

As part of our 'life skills' learning in the EYFS, we are looking to acquire a number of bikes for the children to learn to ride on. If you have either a balance bike (without pedals) or a pedal bike which is suitable for a 4-6 year old (12" or 14" frame) which you would be happy to donate to us, please let me know.

Miss Reed

Parish News

First Holy Communion

If your child is a baptised Catholic and was 7 or over on 31st August, we hope to see them on the First Holy Communion and Reconciliation course which will be commencing on Monday 2nd November 2015.

These important sacraments enable us to receive Christ at Mass, celebrating his love. Forms are available in the porches of both churches. You will need to bring the completed form to the Registration Meeting taking place at 7pm on Monday 5th October, 7pm, at St. George's Church.

Holy Communion 2016



A Very British Concert

for HCPT



Join us in a concert celebrating British composers, including many Proms classics. Proceeds will go towards HCPT to help children and young helpers in the parish go to Lourdes.

Sunday 13th September 3:00 pm
 St Gregory's Church
 Thorpe Bay Broadway
 £8/£5 concessions

Tickets available after 10.30 mass at St. George's,
 or call 07795086239/07774004699 to reserve.

Prayers



Please remember all in our community who need your prayers at this time.
 Have a lovely weekend with your family.
 God Bless,

Mrs Smith

Diary Dates

Further activities/dates will be added as soon as they have been finalised.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
Friday 11 th September	Start of Term Mass 9.30am @ St George's Church Yr 1-6
	Year 3 Information Meeting for parents 3.30pm
Tuesday 15 th September	Year 1 Information Meeting for parents 3.30pm
Wednesday 16 th September	Year 5 Information Meeting for parents 3.30pm
Thursday 17 th September	Reception Group 3 start today
Monday 21 st September	After school clubs begin
	Year R parents Coffee Morning 9am in the school
Tuesday 22 nd September	Year R Information Meeting for parents 3.30pm
Tuesday 29 th September	Year 4 Class Mass 2.30pm in school

Monday 5 th October	First Holy Communion Parents Session 7pm @ St George's Church
Tuesday 6 th October	Year 3 Class Celebration 2.30pm in school
	PTA AGM 3.30pm
Wednesday 7 th October	Year 1 & 3 Waitrose Trip
Thursday 8 th October	Year 2 & 4 Waitrose Trip
Friday 9 th October	Year 5 Waitrose Trip
Sunday 11 th October	Family Mass at St George's 10.45am
Monday 12 th October	Year 6 Waitrose Trip
Tuesday 13 th October	Year 1 Class Celebration 2.30pm in school
Wednesday 14 th October	Training for school volunteers in the Community Suite 9am, 3.25pm & 7pm
Thursday 15 th October	Year 4 Class Assembly 9am
Tuesday 20 th October	Year 5 Class Mass 2.30pm in school
Thursday 22 nd October	Year 3 Class Assembly 9am
HALF TERM ~ MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER - FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2015	
Monday 2 nd November	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
	First Holy Communion programme begins 4-5pm in St George's Church Hall
Wednesday 4 th November	Info. Meeting for Prospective Parents ~ Year R 2016 9.30am
Tuesday 10 th November	Info. Meeting for Prospective Parents ~ Year R 2016 9.30am
	Year 2 Class Celebration 2.30pm in school
Wednesday 11 th November	REMEMBRANCE DAY ~ Year 6 Class Assembly 10.30am Everyone is welcome
Sunday 15 th November	Calling Mass for ALL children making their First Holy Communion this year 10.45am @ St George's Church
Tuesday 17 th November	Year 6 Class Mass 2.30pm in school
Wednesday 18 th November	Open Evening 5pm - 7pm
Thursday 19 th November	Info. Meeting for Prospective Parents ~ Year R 2016 9.30am
	Year 5 Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 25th November	Open Evening 5 - 7.30pm *-DUPLICATION ERROR
W/C 23 rd November	Parent Consultations
Monday 14 th December	Year 1 & 2 Performance (2pm)
Tuesday 15 th December	Year R Nativity (9.30am)
	Year 1 & 2 Performance (7pm) No siblings below secondary age
Wednesday 16 th December	Year R Nativity (9.30am)
	Carol Concert 7pm at St George's Church
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch
Friday 18 th December	Last Day Autumn Term ~ Mass at 2pm in the school
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 21st DECEMBER 2015 - FRIDAY 1st JANUARY 2016	

Monday 4 th January	First day of Spring Term
Thursday 21 st January	Year 4 Class Assembly 9am
Sunday 31 st January	Family Mass at St George's 10.45am
Thursday 4 th February	Year 3 Class Assembly 9am
Thursday 11 th February	Year 2 Class Assembly 9am
HALF TERM ~ MONDAY 15th - FRIDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2016	
Monday 22 nd February	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Sunday 28 th February	Family Mass at St George's 10.45am
Thursday 3 rd March	Year R Class Assembly 9am
Wednesday 9 th March	Open Evening 5 - 7.00pm
Thursday 10 th March	Year 1 Class Assembly 9am
W/C 14 th March	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 23 rd March	Easter Service led by Yr 3 & 4 2pm & 7pm at the school
Thursday 24 th March	Last Day of Spring Term
EASTER HOLIDAY ~ FRIDAY 25th March - FRIDAY 8th APRIL 2016	
Monday 11 th April	First day of Summer Term
Thursday 21 st April	Year 5 Class Assembly 9am
Monday 2 nd May	BANK HOLIDAY
Saturday 7 th May	First Holy Communion Mass 2016 TBC
Saturday 14 th May	First Holy Communion Mass 2016 TBC
Tuesday 17 th May	Year 2 Class Celebration 2.30pm in school
Thursday 19 th May	Year R Class Assembly 9am
Tuesday 24 th May	Year 4 Class Mass 2.30pm in school
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 30th MAY ~ FRIDAY 3rd JUNE 2016	
Sun 5 th - WED 8 th June	Year 6 Residential Trip
Sunday 12 th June	Going Forth Mass for ALL First Holy Communion children 10.45am at St George's Church
Tuesday 14 th June	Year 1 Class Celebration 2.30pm in school
Thursday 16 th June	Year 2 Class Assembly 9am
Friday 17 th June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Monday 20 th June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Tuesday 21 st June	Year 5 Class Mass 2.30pm in school
Friday 24 th June	ST GEORGE'S CELEBRATION DAY FOR ALL FAMILIES
Tuesday 28 th June	Year 3 Class Mass 2.30pm in school
Thursday 30 th June	Year 1 Class Assembly 9am
Tuesday 5 th July	Year R Class Celebration 2.30pm in school
Thursday 14 th July	Years 5 & 6 Summer Performance 2pm & 7pm (no younger siblings at the evening performance)
Monday 18 th July	Year 6 Leavers Mass 7pm
Thursday 21 st July	Last day of term End of Year Mass 2pm

After School/ Lunchtime Clubs ~ Autumn Term 2015

Child's name _____

Class _____

DAY		CLUB	TEACHER	I would like to attend	YEAR GROUP	Time
Monday	1	Football	External provider Mr Sims		Yr 5 & 6	3.15 - 4.15
	2	Art	Mrs Lawrence		Yr 1 & 2	
	3	Recorder	Mrs Howell		Yr 4 - 6	
	4	First Holy Communion*	Mrs Smith (at St George's Church)		Yr 3 - 6	4 - 5pm
Tuesday	5	Debating and Quiz Club	Mrs Noblet Mrs Archer		Yr 5 & 6	Lunchtime
	6	STEPS AHEAD	External provider		Yr 3-6	3.15 - 5.00
	7	Cooking Club**	Miss Reed		Yr 6 (1 st half term) Yr 5 (2 nd half term)	3.15 - 4.15
Wednesday	8	French	Mrs Arnold Mrs Philips		Yr 3	Lunchtime
	9	Netball	Mrs Smith		Yr 5 & 6	3.15 - 4.15
Thursday	10	Choir***	Mrs Sayer & Mrs Beales		Yr 3-6	Lunchtime
	11	Challenging Games	Mrs Halvey		Yr 2	3.15 - 4.15
	12	Pupil Voice	Mrs Wallen Mrs Gillett	n/a	Lunchtime	

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E SAFETY SESSION FOR PARENTS WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2015	
PRINT NAME	
I will be attending/ sending a representative to the E Safety session at 3.30pm 7pm	

Please hand into the office

Application for the Pupil Premium eligibility check

Part one – details of parent/carer – Please use CAPITALS

Name of person receiving the benefit (must be parent or carer)	
Relationship to the child	
Date of Birth of parent/carer	
National Insurance number, or National Asylum Seeker Number	

Part two – details of children at this school

Number of children at this school	
Name and date of birth of child 1	
Name and date of birth of child 2	
Name and date of birth of child 3	
Name and date of birth of child 4	

Please confirm that you agree that we can use the information that you provide to process your claim for Pupil Premium with Southend Borough Council.

The information you supply will be retained as a record. By making this application you consent for us to use the information in this way. You may withdraw your consent at any time by <contacting us on this number/writing to us at this address>. All personal details will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Signed..... date.....