



ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

At St George's, God calls us by name to love,
learn and achieve together, safe in the palm of His hands.

'I have called you by your name; you are mine' Isaiah 43



Eagle Way, Shoeburyness, Essex SS3 9RN.

Telephone: 01702 293522

Email: office@st-georges.southend.sch.uk Website: www.sgcps.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs A. Delgado

newsletter no 558 ~ 21st November 2025

To our wonderful community,

December dates for your diary

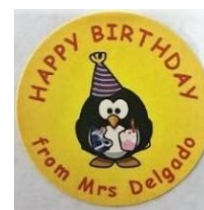
Tuesday 2 nd December	A visit from Enzo!
Friday 5 th December	Netball Santa Rally @ Alleyn Court
Wednesday 10 th December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play 9.15am
Thursday 11 th December	Reception Nativity Play 9.15am Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play 2pm Year 5 Stargazing Event
Friday 12 th December	St George's Got Talent – 9am start – 2 guests per performer
Monday 15 th December	Non uniform day for winning house team Christmas Gift Sale
Tuesday 16 th December	KS2 Carol Concert 2pm at St George's Church
Wednesday 17 th December	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am Christmas Dinner at school
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Games Day led by Year 6 Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 19 th December	Last day of Autumn term

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER – FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY 2026

Birthdays

Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday this week.

Oliver (St Therese), Hallie-Mae (St Elizabeth) and Ronnie (St Bernadette)





Head Teacher Awards

Well done to all the children recognised for their achievements this week.

Elizabeth ~ (St Francis) ~ for always being a reliable role model for excellent behaviour and for applying her phonics superbly to write a sentence.

Reyna ~ (St Therese) ~ for exceptional effort in everything she does. Well done, Reyna!

Reu'Ven ~ (St Elizabeth) ~ for his brilliant storyboard and artwork about the Annunciation of John the Baptist. His creativity, understanding and effort really shone through—well done!

Dolly ~ (St Bernadette) ~ for fantastic instruction writing in English this week. She listened well to ensure all of the instruction features were met. Well done Dolly!

Elijah ~ (St Joseph) ~ for being a superstar student this week! He has worked with great enthusiasm and been a super example for others to follow. Great job, Elijah!

Fiachra ~ (St Anthony) ~ for his enthusiasm towards reading, always wanting to discuss what he has read. Well done Fiachra!

Eliana ~ (St Peter) ~ for being a maths superstar this week! She has been working more independently and is always ready to tackle challenging questions. Well done, Eliana!

Hot Dinners

Please find below the link to order lunches for the week of the 8th December 2025. The deadline for ordering your lunch is the 3rd December 2025 12 noon

<https://forms.office.com/e/j1yKWQDr2r>

Bronze reading Awards

Congratulations to all the children who gained their BRONZE reading certificate this week:

Eddie (St Francis), Carson, Jessica & Oliver (St Therese), Kcian (St Bernadette),
Melissa & Arlo (St Joseph), Dalton, Ellie, Jazmin, Katie & Lex (St Anthony)

Times Table Rock Stars

Congratulations to our TOP TEN rockstars this week.

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Conor – Year 2	Baffuor – Year 2	Abigail – Year 5	Freddie – Year 6	Reu'ven – Year 2
6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th
Kyle – Year 6	Aviya – Year 5	Ronnie W – Year 6	Milita – Year 4	Jacob – Year 2

Punctuality Percentages

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
97%	98%	98%	98%	99%	97%	99%

The Hungry Cupboard

Thank you to the children and families of St Elizabeth's class who have been filling up the Hungry Cupboard this week. The Cupboard is continuing to visit classes in the run up to Christmas. There is a list of items required by the SVP at the end of the newsletter.

Enzo is coming!

Next Tuesday Enzo the healthy elf will be joining us to run the Mighty Mile. We ask that all the children bring in trainers or plimsoles. In addition, they can wear Santa hats, reindeer headbands, snowman boppers, in fact any Christmas accessories will do!

Prayers

This weekend, the Church celebrates the first week of Advent. The first Sunday of Advent is a time to reflect on hope.

We pray for ourselves and for everyone. We ask that our hope will be fixed on God and that God will inspire us to hope for good things. We pray for everyone who feels that their hope has

gone. May they find a new hope that shines like this candle flame. Lord Jesus Christ, hope of our hearts and hope for the world, come close to us this Advent
Amen.

Mrs Delgado

Diary Dates

Further activities/dates will be added as soon as they have been finalised and will be in **BOLD**

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
Friday 5 th December	Netball Santa Rally @ Alleyn Court
Wednesday 10 th December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play 9.15am
Thursday 11 th December	Reception Nativity Play 9.15am
	Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play 2pm
	Year 5 Stargazing Event
Friday 12 th December	St George's Has Talent!
Monday 15 th December	Non uniform day for winning house team
	Christmas Gift Sale
Tuesday 16 th December	KS2 Carol Concert 2pm at St George's Church
Wednesday 17 th December	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am
	Christmas Dinner at school
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Games Day led by Year 6
	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 19 th December	Last day of Autumn term
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER – FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY 2026	
Monday 5 th January	First Day of Spring Term 2026
Wednesday 7 th January	Sportshall Athletics Event Year 5/6
Thursday 8 th January	Sportshall Athletics Event Year 3/4
Friday 16 th January	Southend Schools Football tournament (year 3/4 boys) @ Len Forge
Tuesday 20 th January	ACT Dance Festival @ Palace Theatre
Friday 23 rd January	Year 3 & 4 Swimming starts
Thursday 5 th February	Year 5 Class Assembly
Monday 9 th February	Netball League matches after school @ Shoeburyness High School
	Spring Open afternoon 3.30pm-5pm
	Parent-Carer Consultation week
Thursday 12 th February	ACT Music Festival @ STM
Friday 13 th February	Southend Schools Football tournament (key stage 1) @ Len Forge
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 16TH – FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2026	

Wednesday 25 th February	Netball tournament @ Cecil Jones
	Year 3 Roman Dress Up Day
Friday 27 th February	Year 3 & 4 Girls Football @ Len Forge
Tuesday 3 rd March	'Hot Cross Run' @ St Thomas More
Wednesday 4 th March	Key Stage 1 Tag Rugby tournament @ Southend Rugby Club
Wednesday 11 th March	Year 3/4 Tag Rugby tournament @ Southend Rugby Club
Friday 13 th March	KS1 Girls Football @ Len Forge
Monday 16 th March	Netball League matches after school @ Cecil Jones
Tuesday 17 th – 20 th March	Year 6 Residential trip
Thursday 19 th March	Feast of St Joseph
Monday 23 rd March	Non uniform day for wining house team
Wednesday 25 th March	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am
	Year 3 & 4 Stations of the Cross @ St George's Church 2pm
Friday 27 th March	Last day of Spring Term
EASTER HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 30TH MARCH – FRIDAY 10TH APRIL 2026	
Friday 3 rd April ~ Good Friday Sunday 5 th April ~ Easter Sunday	
Monday 13 th April	First Day of Summer Term 2026
	Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 14 th April	Year 6 Bikeability
Thursday 16 th April	Feast of St Bernadette
Thursday 23 rd April	St George's Day
Monday 4 th May	Bank holiday
w/b 11 th May	Year 6 SATS WEEK
Tuesday 19 th May	Crowning of Mary school celebration – details to follow
Wednesday 20 th May	Science Fayre 2pm
Thursday 21 st May	KS1 Cross Country – Pentecost Dash! @ St Teresa's, Rochford
Friday 22 nd May	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 25TH MAY – FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2026	
Monday 1 st June	Back to school
w/b 8th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Tuesday 9 th June	KS2 Borough Sports @ Garons (afternoon session)
Wednesday 10 th June	School Class Photographs
Saturday 13 th June	Feast of St Anthony of Padua
Tuesday 16 th June	Induction afternoon for Reception 2026
Friday 19 th June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS

Monday 22 nd June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Wednesday 24 th June	KS2 Assisi Catholic Sports @ St Thomas More 9.30am
Friday 26 th June	St George's Celebration Day from 9am – all families welcome
Tuesday 30 th June	Year 5 & 6 End of Year Performance 1.45pm
Wednesday 1 st July	Year 5 & 6 End of Year Performance 9.15am & 6pm
Thursday 2 nd July	KS1 Assisi Catholic Sports @ St Teresa's 10am – noon
Friday 3 rd July	Year 6 Transition Day TBC
Friday 10 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 9.05am
Monday 13 th July	Non uniform day for winning house team
Tuesday 14 th July	Year 6 Leavers Mass 2pm @ St George's Church
Wednesday 15 th July	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am
Friday 17 th July	Last day of term
SUMMER HOLIDAY MONDAY 20TH JULY 2026	



St Vincent's
a place of help, hope and opportunity

Food Donations needed

UHT Milk	Tea, Sugar & Coffee
Pasta sauces	Jams & Spreads
Tinned Meat	Tins of veggie food (macaroni cheese/ veggie ravioli etc)
Mayo	Tinned Tomato
Butter	Cereal
Nappies	Pasta
Wet wipes	Instant Noodles
Crisps/ biscuits	Toiletries

St Vincent's Centre, Victoria Business Park, Short Street, SS2 5BY, Phone: 01702592980
Email: nesperm@svp.org.uk
Charity No: 1053992



ST VINCENT'S CENTRE, SOUTHEND

Christmas Hamper Appeal 2025

Join Us To Lift Families Up This Christmas

This Christmas we will be supporting many families with hampers. These are the items we need to create a hamper for a family in need.

- Pasta
- Chocolate spread or jar of jam
- Packet of cream crackers
- Packet of sweets/biscuits
- UHT milk
- Jar of instant coffee
- Bottle of ketchup
- Cereal
- Mince pies
- Christmas crackers
- Tins of custard
- Jar/packet instant hot chocolate
- Jar of pasta sauce
- Gravy granules
- £10 voucher - Tesco, Sainsburys or Lidl

Last donations 15th December 2025

Unit 9, Victoria Business Park, Short Street, SS2 5BY
Charity No: 1053992

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok's Following Feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You Feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 to £224.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Between 1.6 and 1.9 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12-15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability, and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 26.11.2025