



# 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*



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**Headteacher: Mrs A. Delgado**

newsletter no. 468 ~ 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Welcome Back

It was wonderful to welcome the children and families back this week. The children have settled back in so quickly and are already working hard, enjoying their new class and are excited about the year ahead. I look forward to a fabulous year where we will celebrate together and support one another.

This week, we welcomed our first 2 groups of reception children. Hello and welcome to:

*Gordon, Conor, Noah, Eva, Stanley, Mia, Reu'Ven, Lolade, Theo, Hallie-May, Lacey-May, Sophie, Ayden, Hunter, Reuben, Edie, Violet, Freddie,  
Freddie, Myren and Phillipa*

Mrs Cracknell, Mrs Philips and the EYFS staff were amazed at how well they settled; it was as if they have always been here! The remaining children arrive next week – we can't wait for a full house!



## Parent Information Meetings

There will be parent meetings for years R – 6 over the forthcoming weeks. They will take place in the class at 2.45pm, apart from Reception class, and will last no longer than 25 minutes. We ask all parents to be there as key information for the year is shared. Entry is via the side entrance and through the community suite. The dates are:

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 5 Parent & Carers Information Session 2.45pm
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 1 Parent & Carers Information Session 2.45pm
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 Parent & Carers Information Session 2.45pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 2 Parent & Carers Information Session 2.45pm
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Reception Information Meeting for Parents & Carers 9am



## House Captains 2023-24

I am very pleased to announce the House Captains, Sports Captains and Liturgy Team for this year.

### House Captains

*St Anne Line ~ Albey & Ellie*

*St Thomas More ~ George & Julia*

*St Margaret Clitherow ~ Olivia &  
Hannah*

*St John Fisher ~ Archie & Honey*

### Sports Captains

*Jack & Otilie*

### Liturgy Team

*Freya F., Mia, Sam, Sidney,  
Oscar & David*

## RE News

As we begin a new school year, each class has been learning about their class Saint, thinking about the saint's life, why they are a good role model and how they can live to be like them. During our Religious Education lessons, we also take time to reflect; using daily prayers from 'Ten:Ten'. There is a link to the 'Ten:Ten' newsletter onto the school website for you to share as a family.

## CAFOD – Write a prayer of love

You may have seen in the church newsletter that CAFOD are calling for people to write and submit prayers of love. CAFOD writes "Writing a prayer of love is an opportunity to share and celebrate the goodness with your sisters and brothers around the world."

As a school, we are asking for our families to write a prayer of love. These can be submitted to the CAFOD website, using this link; [write a prayer of love](#). We would also like to use these in our school newsletter, therefore could you also email a copy to the school, as we will publish one prayer each week.



## Birthdays

Congratulations to everyone who has celebrated a birthday since the beginning of September, or are celebrating this weekend:

*Edie & Sophie (St Francis), Dolly (St Therese), Sophie & Adekitan (St Elizabeth),  
Ruby, Aviya & Ellie (St Bernadette), Harry S. & Beatrice (St Joseph),  
Honey & Mia (St Peter) and Mr O'Shea*



## Extra-Curricular Clubs

Football, cricket and basketball clubs begin next week, with the remaining clubs starting from 18<sup>th</sup> September. You will receive a confirmation email of your child's place by Wednesday next week. Below is the timetable for the club. With the exception of Southend United, all children will need to be collected from the playground and can exit via the gate that exits onto Eagle Way. Children attending Southend United can be collected from Shoebury Park.

### **P.E. kit or uniform for sports clubs?**

**Lunchtime girls football and cricket club** – The girls to bring their P.E. kit into school with them to change into. They will need trainers, not football boots.

**After school sports club – football & basketball** – Children bring their P.E. kit (no football kits) into school with them to change into. Children will need football boots and shin pads.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Lunchtime club 12.00 – 12.30	Games club Mrs Wallen Years 1 & 2	Cricket club year 5 & 6 12-1pm	KS2 Well-being club Mrs Marquis	KS1 Reading Club Mrs Philips
	Year 3 & 4 Chatterbooks Reading Club Mrs Howell	Construction Mrs Cracknell years 1 & 2	Choir Mrs McLoughlin Years 3 – 6	Girls Football Yr 4,5 & 6 12-1pm
	11+ club Year 5 Mr Sims			
After school club 3.20pm – 4.15pm	Year 5 & 6 Football club Outside coach	Science Club (Crest Awards) Mrs Bracknell		Southend United Football Yr 1 – 6)
	Netball Club Mrs Delgado Year 5 & 6	Year 5 & 6		SSPSA KS2 Basketball club Outside coach KS2
				Cross stitch club Mrs Irons finish at 4pm Years 5 & 6

## Reading Awards 2023 – 24

Reading is the key that opens and gives access to all areas of the curriculum. At St George's we consider reading to be a key skill that every child needs, as early as possible, so as to reach their full potential.

To positively encourage reading at home, the reading reward system will start again from **next Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> September**. Over the course of this year, there will be the opportunity for your child to earn certificates of achievement, once they complete a certain number of reads with a

relevant comment by a parent or adult that your child has been reading to. For the younger children, it may be that your child's reading experience for that day was sharing a book with an adult. As the children move into Years 5 and 6 and become more independent readers, this comment may be written by your own child around what they particularly enjoy, or a word or phrase that they needed to check to meaning of.

Each class teacher will keep a track of parent/child comments, in addition to the support we give for reading at school, and once the certain number of reads are reached, your child will receive a reading certificate. The totals are

**50 reads ~ BRONZE READER, 100 reads ~ SILVER READER**

**150 reads ~ GOLD READER, 200 reads ~ DIAMOND READER**

**250 reads ~ SUPER READER and 300 reads ~ CHAMPION READER!**

It would be fantastic to award every child in the school a certificate reaching the milestones.

Last term, we were able to purchase a large amount of brand new phonics books, to ensure our children have a wider range of phonically decodable books to enjoy. We were able to do this due to the fundraising of the Friends of St George's over the past few years.

There have been occasions when books have been returned with water or food damage. We understand that accidents happen, and it is especially easy for water bottles to pop open in book bags. However, due to the cost involved in purchasing and then replacing these books, we have to ask parents/carers to please ensure your children are careful when using the books at home or transporting them to/from school. If books are damaged at home, we will be asking the family responsible to pay for a replacement via Wisepay. Alternatively, you can purchase the book yourself and send it in to school. As always, thank you for your support.

### Communication

If you need to contact your child's teacher, email them via the office [office@st-georges.southend.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-georges.southend.sch.uk) and mark it for their attention, or for the year group. You will receive a confirmation email that it has been received and the teacher will reply at the earliest opportunity. It may be after the school day has finished, or the next day, due to looking into a matter or due to the teacher not being in school. Please be assured that it will be dealt with. As ever, the staff thank you in advance for your support and patience.

### Children being collected from school

If there is a change to who will be collecting your child at the end of the day, we ask that you email the office so the message can be passed on immediately. It would also be useful, where possible, if you could introduce the adults that are to pick up your child in your absence. If your child is in Year 6 and walking home, we also need a letter/email confirming this.

### Healthy Snacks

Just a reminder that all infant classes receive fruit or vegetables to encourage healthy eating. Juniors can also bring in a healthy snack for break time.

## Lunches

As a school we promote healthy eating and healthy lunches for all our children. For a child to grow and develop properly, it is vital that they are eating a suitable diet. An example of a healthy lunchbox should:

- be based on starchy carbohydrates (bread, potatoes, rice, pasta)
- include fresh fruit and vegetables/salad
- include a source of protein such as meat, fish, eggs, cheese (or dairy alternative)
- include a side dish such as a yoghurt (or dairy alternative), tea cake, fruit bread, plain rice/corn cakes, homemade plain popcorn, sugar-free jelly
- include a still drink such as water, sugar-free or no-added-sugar drinks

It may be that children have the occasional packet of crisps or a chocolate covered biscuit etc, **but it should not contain:**

- sweets or pure chocolate bars (such as Dairy Milk, Wispa etc),
- fast food/left over takeaway from previous day
- food that is highly processed/high saturated fat content

All of these are directly linked to obesity and future health issues, such as diabetes. Lunch boxes are regularly monitored to ensure that the children have enough to eat and are eating the right types of food and with 210 to check, we would appreciate your support in not including unsuitable items.

## Infant Lunches

Don't forget 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. We cannot process orders after Wednesday as the completed orders have been sent to our supplier. Thank you in advance for your support. If you have any queries about the lunches, please contact the office.

You access the order form on the school website [www.sgcps.co.uk](http://www.sgcps.co.uk)

## 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.**

## Uniform

Thank you for sending your children back to school so smartly dressed on the first day of term. Could you please check that all the children's items are named as we already have a few items which have been found unmarked.

Just to remind all parents that on health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear any jewellery in our school, including earrings. If your child had their ears pierced during the summer holiday and the healing process is still not complete by the time school starts again in September, we ask that you use micro pore tape or plasters to cover each ear to minimise the

risk of the earring being caught and tearing the soft lobe or penetrating the bone behind the ear should there be unintentional contact during the school day. The wearing of earrings may also prevent the child from taking part in physical activities, both in curriculum time and extra-curricular activities.

Hair should be away from the face so as to not cause a distraction, and should be presentable and suitable for school. The school does not permit children to have extreme haircuts; this includes logos or patterns cut into the hair. Children's hair should not be coloured or bleached. Hair bands, clips etc should be red, white, navy or black. Make up and/or nail varnish should not be worn during the school day. Similarly, temporary transfers or fake 'tattoos' are not appropriate and should be washed off.

### Pre-loved Uniform

We are continuing to build up a stock of good quality second hand uniform of all sizes which will be available for anyone who needs it. If you have any uniform your child will no longer use, please drop it into school to be sorted. We are looking for shirts, dresses, skirts, shorts, trousers, PE kits, raincoats, winter coats, school shoes etc.

### Friends of St George's News ~ Annual General Meeting

The Friends of St George's AGM will take place on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October (time to be confirmed next week)**. As parents/carers at St George's School, you are all members and are invited to **attend**. The Friends of St Georges are 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. **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.**

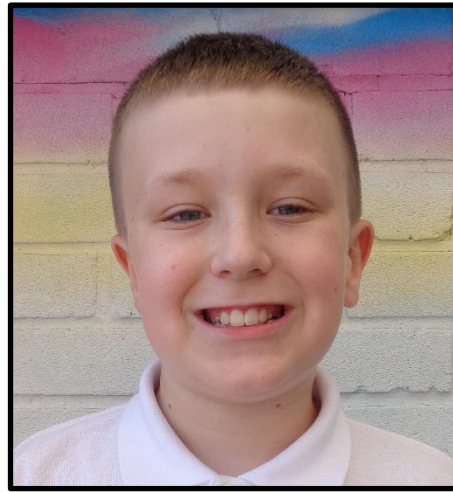
The posts are: **Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary positions.**

If you think you may be interested and would like a little more information, please contact **Tina Ugo**, our current chair, who is happy to give further information about the different posts.

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 which can be found at the end of this newsletter**

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** so please try to spare 30 minutes to attend. The form can be found at the end of this newsletter and on our website.



### Head Teacher Awards

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

*Florence ~ (St Therese) ~ for a fantastic start to year 1. Great listening, joining in and trying her best in everything. What a superstar!*

*Tabitha ~ (St Elizabeth) ~ for working hard in all areas and for being a great listener, which has enabled her to make lots of contributions during lessons.*

*Sophia ~ (St Bernadette) ~ for an amazing start to year 3, showing engagement, kindness and a fantastic smile.*

*Albie ~ (St Joseph) for a fantastic start to life in Year 4. He has worked hard, behaved brilliantly and contributed thoughtfully in lessons. Well done, Albie!*

*Olivia ~ (St Anthony) ~ for having a fabulous first week in Year 5. She has written a beautiful prayer and created a lovely picture of a lily - the symbol of our class saint, St Anthony of Padua.*

*Oliver ~ (St Peter) ~ for his writing this week. He has made an excellent start to his narrative by using interesting language, to describe the 'dreamgiver' character. I can't wait to read your final piece!*



## Prayers

We keep all our community in our thoughts and prayers.

Have a lovely weekend,

God Bless,

*Mrs Delgado*

## Diary Dates

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

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 5 Parent & Carers Information Session 2.45pm
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 1 Parent & Carers Information Session 2.45pm
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 Parent & Carers Information Session 2.45pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 2 Parent & Carers Information Session 2.45pm
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Reception Information Meeting for Parents & Carers 9am
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Flu Immunisation for all year groups
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	MacMillan Cake sale in school
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Friends of St George's AGM meeting
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Key Stage 1 & KS2 Cross Country competition @ Garons
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 5/6 Deanery Football and Netball tournament pm
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> – FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023</b>	
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Children return to school
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Year 6 height and weight check
Wb Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent & Carer Consultation week
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Afternoon 3.30pm – 5.00pm
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Reception 2024 Information Session for parents and carers 9.30am
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Girls' Football tournament
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Assembly led by Year 6 9am
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5/6 Football tournament @Garons all day
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Wear odd socks to school day – anti bullying week awareness
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual and family photographs
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Reception 2024 Information Session for parents and carers 9.30am
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Reception 2024 Information Session for parents and carers 9.30am
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3 class assembly

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Bikeability
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play 9.15am
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity Play 9.15am
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Nativity Play 9.15am
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Carol Concert 2pm at St George's Church (TBC)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper/Outfit day
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Non uniform day for winning house team
	Year 6 games day – details to follow
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of Autumn term
<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER – WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2024</b>	
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	First Day of Spring Term 2023
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Ash Wednesday
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> – FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2024</b>	
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Netball tournament @ Alleyn Court
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Spring Open afternoon 3.30pm – 5.00pm
	Parent & Carer Consultation week
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	NHS resilience workshop for year 6
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Key Stage 2 Assisi Cross Country
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Science Fair in school 2.30pm ~ everyone welcome
Wb Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Stations of the Cross 9am everyday # led by years 3 & 4
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of Spring Term
<b>EASTER HOLIDAY ~ GOOD FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024</b>	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	First Day of Summer Term 2023
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Afternoon Tea for parents, carers, family and friends! 1pm – 3pm
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank holiday
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Reception height and weight check
w/b 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATS WEEK
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Key Stage 1 Assisi Cross Country @ St Teresa's, Rochford
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY – FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2024</b>	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Children return to school
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception class – Learn to ride session
w/b 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	KS2 Borough Sports @ Garons (morning session)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception 2023 Induction Afternoon
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Bikeability

Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	KS2 Assisi Catholic Sports @ St Thomas More 9.30am
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	St George's Celebration Day from 9am – all families welcome
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1 Assisi Catholic Sports @ St Teresa's 10am – noon
	Year 6 Leavers Assembly in school @ 2.30pm
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 5 & 6 End of Year Performance 9.15am & 6pm
w/b 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Residential Trip
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Mass 6pm
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term
<b>SUMMER HOLIDAY MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2024</b>	

**Nomination paper for the Election of FOSG Committee Members**

I\* \_\_\_\_\_ Propose\*\* \_\_\_\_\_ as

(Block capitals please)

(Block capitals please)

**For the election**  
**Chair                      Vice Chair                      Treasurer                      Secretary                      Class Rep Yr**  
**at St Georges Catholic Primary**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I\* Second the proposal of \_\_\_\_\_ as

**Chair                      Vice Chair                      Treasurer                      Secretary                      Class Rep Yr**  
 (Delete as appropriate)

**at St Georges Catholic Primary**

(Block capitals please)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_ am willing to serve as

**Chair                      Vice Chair                      Treasurer                      Secretary                      Class Rep Yr**  
 .....  
 (Delete as appropriate)

**at St Georges Catholic Primary**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_