



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 555 ~ 24th October 2025

To our wonderful community,

November dates for your diary

HALF TERM ~ MONDAY 27TH – FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2025

Monday 3 rd November	First day back of Autumn 2 Half Term Nourish School Lunches begin!
Wednesday 5 th November	Year 3 Stone Age day
Thursday 6 th November	Individual School Photographs St George's Has Talent!
Friday 7 th November	Year 5/6 Football Tournament at Len Forge – parents welcome
Tuesday 11 th November	Year 6 Remembrance Assembly 10.45am ~ parents welcome
Wednesday 12 th November	Assisi Catholic trust Year 5/6 Football and Netball @STM ~ no spectators as during school day
Thursday 13 th November	Reception 2026 Open Morning
Tuesday 18 th November	Reception 2026 Open Morning
Wednesday 19 th November	Assisi Catholic trust Girls Football @OLOL ~ no spectators as during school day
Thursday 20 th November	Yr 5/6 Boys Football League match @ Shoebury Park – parents welcome
Friday 21 st November	KS1 Football at Len Forge – parents welcome
Wednesday 26 th November	Reception 2026 Open Morning
Saturday 29 th November	St George's Christmas Fayre 12-2pm

Wishing you all a wonderful half term holiday. Look forward to seeing you all back on Monday 3rd November.

Much love,

Annabelle Delgado



Road Safety

Many of you may be aware of a traffic incident that occurred on Monday involving one of our pupils. A Year 5 child was struck by a motorcycle while walking home. We are very relieved to report that there were no serious injuries, and the child has since returned to school.

This incident serves as an important reminder of the need for continued vigilance around road safety—for both pedestrians and motorists. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the noticeable improvement in parking outside the school. On behalf of the whole school community, I truly appreciate your efforts and hope this continues after the half-term break.

However, I remain concerned about the speed at which some vehicles travel around the Eagle Way loop. The safety and wellbeing of our children and families is our top priority. In response to these concerns, the school's governing body has written to the Highways Team to explore the possibility of introducing additional road safety measures outside St George's—similar to those implemented near other schools. I will keep you informed of any updates as we receive them. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Goodbye and Good Luck

It is with sadness that I inform you that Mrs. Phipps will be leaving St George's at the end of this term, with her final day being Friday, 19th December 2025.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Mrs. Phipps for her dedication, hard work, and commitment to the children of St George's. We wish her every success in her new teaching role.

Open Evening and Parent/Carer consultations

It was so lovely to see so many families at the open evening at the beginning of this week and at consultations throughout the week. Thank you to all the staff for making the school look fabulous – it was such a celebration of the children's work. We hope that you found the consultations useful and a positive way to strengthen school/home links.

School Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Thursday 6TH NOVEMBER to take individual and family photos. Any children who do not attend St George's are very welcome from 8.30am onwards for a family photograph. Please come to the front entrance. All siblings in school will have a family picture taken. **YEAR 1** and **YEAR 4** children will need to come to school in their usual uniform and bring their P.E. kits to change into. Thank you in advance for your support.

Birthdays

Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday over half term.

Alison & Luca (St Francis), Reuben & Conor (St Elizabeth),

Izzy (St Bernadette), Rosie S. & Keziah (St Joseph),

Mia-Rae & Spencer (St Peter) Mr Sims and Mrs O'Shea





Head Teacher Awards

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

Annabelle ~ (St Francis) ~ for doing a great job at getting along and playing nicely with her friends

Zara ~ (St Therese) ~ Zara has had a fabulous half term in year 1. She is always focused, always listening and always enthusiastic. What a great example to everyone! Well done, Zara.

Stanley ~ (St Elizabeth) ~ for his exceptional spelling and reading skills for his age. He reads with fluency and understanding well beyond his years, and his strong vocabulary and love of words really shine through in everything he does. Well done, Stanley!

Audrey ~ (St Bernadette) ~ for an amazing first half term in year 3. She always works hard and is a great role model for our class. Well done, Audrey.

Elsie ~ (St Joseph) ~ for having an outstanding attitude towards her learning and always bringing an infectious smile into the classroom. She works with motivation and independence.
Well done, Elsie!

Abigail ~ (St Anthony) ~ for having had a wonderful first half term; consistently working to a high standard with enthusiasm, showing engagement in all subjects, and supporting friends.
Well done, Abigail!

Albie ~ (St Peter's Class) ~ for his wonderful enthusiasm for learning. He always works hard and produces work to his best ability – a role model of learning! Keep up the great work.



FRIENDS OF ST GEORGE'S
PRESENTS

ST GEORGE'S HAS TALENT!

6TH NOVEMBER 2025

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO ENTER
SOLO OR AS A GROUP

ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED BY
SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER TO
PTA@ST-GEORGES.SOUTHEND.SCH.UK

ENTRIES MUST BE UNDER 1 MIN 30
SECONDS AND MUST NOT INCLUDE
ANY GYMNASTICS

PERFORMANCE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL OR
MESSAGE YOUR CLASS REP

P.E Kit reminder

As the weather is changing and getting colder, can you please ensure your child wears the red school sweatshirt/ plain red sweatshirt and plain all black or all navy tracksuit bottoms/leggings -no stripes/patterns/other colours. Socks must be plain grey or white, no stripes, logos etc.

Winter Uniform

Just a reminder that the children need to dress in their winter uniform when we return on Monday 3rd November. We ask that you name/label everything! You can purchase all school uniform items from our uniform supplier, [Brand Identity](#) (delivery or collection within 24 hours (Monday – Friday) Please see the uniform list below:

- White shirt, excluding Reception who will continue to wear the school embroidered polo shirt
- Tailored grey trousers/shorts (as appropriate), plain grey pinafore/skirt
- Grey or white socks (including on P.E. days)
- Grey or navy tights ~ no black tights
- Black Shoes
- School jumper or cardigan
- Yr 1 – 6 School tie (elasticated in Yr 1 & 2)
- Plain waterproof outdoor coat (with hood)
- Red, white, navy or black hair band/scrunchie/bow
- School embroidered knitted hat or other warm hat which is plain in design and suitable/practical for school

Year R Admissions ~ September 2026

If you have a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, they are due to start school in September 2026

Applications can be submitted to the Local Authority from 14th September until the 15th January 2026 [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Please note that a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) must be completed which can be found on our website or you can request a copy to be sent via email. If your child has been baptised, or equivalent, in a Christian church, please send a copy of their certificate in with your application. The Supplementary Information Form is to be returned to the school by 22nd January 2026

We will be holding information sessions for parents who are thinking of applying for a place for their child in September 2026. 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. Please contact the office to book a place.

The dates are as follows:

Thursday 13th November

Tuesday 18th November

Wednesday 26th November



The Hungry Cupboard

Thank you to the children and families in St Therese & St Francis class who have been filling the Hungry Cupboard over the last fortnight. The team from St Vincent's Centre, Southend - Short Street were delighted to come and collect the food donations.

Times Table Rock Stars

Congratulations to our TOP TEN rockstars this week.

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Nana - Year 6	Baffuor - Year 2	Mia - Year 2	Ronnie W. - Year 6	Ella - Year 4
6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th
Ruby - Year 5	Kyle - Year 6	Abigail - Year 5	Freddie - Year 6	Milita - Year 4

Punctuality Percentages

Sadly no 100% punctuality for any class this week.

Prayers



Please remember all in our community who need your prayers at this time.

God Bless,

Mrs Delgado

Diary Dates

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

Date:	Event:
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER – FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2025	
Monday 3 rd November	Children return to school
Wednesday 5 th November	Feast of St Elizabeth
	Year 3 Stone Age Day
Thursday 6 th November	Individual School Photographs
	St George's Has Talent!
Friday 7 th November	Southend Schools Football tournament (year 5/6 boys) @ Len Forge
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Assembly led by Year 6 10.45am
Wednesday 12 th November	Assisi Catholic Trust Football and Netball tournament @ STM
Thursday 13 th November	Reception 2026 Information Session for parents and carers 9.30am
Tuesday 18 th November	Reception 2026 Information Session for parents and carers 9.30am
Wednesday 19 th November	Assisi Catholic Trust Girls Football tournament @ OLOL
Thursday 20 th November	Football match v Sacred Heart @ Shoebury Park
Friday 21 st November	Southend Schools Football tournament (key stage 1) @ Len Forge
Wb 24 th November 2025	Last week of staff led clubs
Wednesday 26 th November	Reception 2026 Information Session for parents and carers 9.30am
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
Monday 15 th December	Non uniform day for winning house team
Tuesday 16 TH December	KS2 Carol Concert 2pm at St George's Church
Wednesday 17 th December	Rocksteady Concert 9.30am
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
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
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 16TH – FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2026	
Wednesday 25 th February	Netball tournament @ Cecil Jones
	Year 3 Roman Dress Up Day
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
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 winning 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 8 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Tuesday 9 th June	KS2 Borough Sports @ Garons (afternoon session)
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	

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular renewals help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.

