



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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Newsletter no. 443 ~ 6th January 2023

To our wonderful community,



Happy New Year!

A very happy New Year to you all ~ we look forward to an exciting 2023 at St. George's. We welcomed Afsa to St Anthony's class on the first day back; I know she will be a real asset to her class and the school. We also celebrate that Jason from St Therese class has become a big brother for the second time. Mum and baby are doing well and we can't wait to meet the newest member of St George's family.

A New Year Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for a new year. May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside our worries about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

Amen

Epiphany

Father Brett came into school to celebrate the feast of the Epiphany this afternoon. A big thank you to Mrs Wallen for organising Mass and to Father Brett and our wonderful liturgy team for leading us in whole school worship.



Dates for your diary

January 2023

Please see App Message for your Club Start Date & Time

w/b Mon 9 th	Clubs begin
Tue 17 th	Are your children safe? A parent & carers session on E –Safety 17th January 2023 3.30pm & 7pm
Wed 18 th	Chinese New Year theme day for Reception class – class to wear red
Fri 20 th	Swimming starts for years 2, 3, 4 & 5
Tue 24 th	Volunteers session 9am in Community Suite (details below)
Wed 25 th	Volunteers session 2.30pm in Community Suite
Thu 26 th	Volunteers session 3.20pm in Community Suite

Volunteer Sessions

Prior to restrictions, the school used to benefit greatly from a group of parents who were able to come in as volunteers to help with reading, arts, crafts, accompanying school trips, IT, P.E. and other events and activities during the school year.

We have been keen to start this up again, especially as it gives parents and carers the opportunity to feel more part of the life at the school.

I will be running a volunteer session for any parents/carers who would like to offer their time over the next year. It will last around 30 minutes and will cover the key areas of:

- Types of things a volunteer might do
- Safeguarding guidelines and Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2023
- Confidentiality

You will be asked to write down which areas you feel you would like to offer support in and which days are convenient for you. We can then add you to our volunteer register. If you are planning to attend, please complete this [FORM](#) so we have an idea of numbers.

I thank you in advance for your support.

Are your children safe? A parent & carers session on E – Safety 17th January 2023

On Tuesday 17th January, the children in years 3, 4, 5 & 6 will have a session with e-safety experts 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**. **Each session lasts around 1 ½ hours**. We hope that every family is represented. As all the staff will be attending the session, we are unable to supervise any children after school, which is why we have advertised the sessions as early as possible.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to inform us which session you will attend. 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!

Swimming information

Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 will begin swimming lessons at Garons on a Friday morning on Friday 20th January 2023. The coach will be transporting the children throughout the morning, with all children returning by lunchtime.

Just a few reminders:

- The children will be using the diving pool for their lessons. The pool raises the floor so the children are able to put their feet on the bottom, should they need to.
- Your child's class teacher and LSA will be poolside whilst the classes are swimming.
- If you are concerned that your child may be a little nervous, please do not worry, they will be well looked after and reassured throughout. If you feel that it is something that you would like to share with your child's teacher, please do not hesitate to contact them.
- The children will need a one piece swimming costume or swimming trunks/briefs/swimshorts. Baggy shorts or bikinis are not permitted for swimming lessons.
- The children will also need a swimming hat, boys and girls, and they can wear swimming goggles.
- Children can bring hairbrushes, if needed, but there is no need for any toiletries/washing products.
- The boys will get changed in one large private cubicle and the girls in another private cubicle. They will not be using individual cubicles as these can be accessed by the general public.
- The children may need to practise drying themselves, dressing/undressing independently, putting on their swimming hat (we definitely recommend a dusting of talc inside to help!).

If you have any further questions, please contact the office.

Artists of the Month

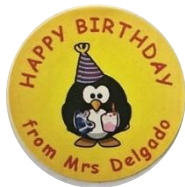
We have two artists of the month for January!

Firstly, congratulations to **Damian** who has been chosen for his picture of a mountain range. He cleverly mixed acrylic paints together to create different shades and tones in his amazing mountain picture. Damian also managed to master the technique of working with a palette knife to make textures in the rocks and trees. Well done Damian!



The second artist is Pati. Over 80 young people from a variety of Southend schools entered an art competition about climate change last term. Mrs Gillett was delighted to announce that Pati's piece has been chosen as the winner for KS2 age group! Her work will be put up on display in the Focal Point Art Gallery from Wed 18 Jan to Sun 19 Feb 2023 as part of the S for Southend Exhibition. Congratulations Pati!

Birthdays



Congratulations to Nyla from St Francis class who celebrated her birthday on the first day back! Happy birthday!

Punctuality Points

We are continuing to promote attendance and punctuality at St George's as there is a clear link between excellent attendance and excellent progress and outcomes. Every child earns a punctuality point for their class when they are on time and the class with the best punctuality % earns a 'party' at the end of the year. Weekly, the class with the best punctuality will go into lunch first on a Friday so they have more time playing at lunchtime. The standings at the end of last term are:

Class	Punctuality percentage (in before the 8.55am)
Reception	97.5%
Year 1	96.1%
Year 2	97.2%
Year 3	97.7%
Year 4	97.2%
Year 5	98.1%
Year 6	95.5%

Well done to St Anthony's class – year 5, who had the best punctuality for last term. I wonder if they keep it up, or will another class improve this term and take the lead spot? We will be giving weekly updates from next Friday.

Prayers



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

Mrs Delgado

Diary Dates * Dates in bold are new additions

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER – WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2023	
Thursday 5 th January	First Day of Spring Term 2023
Tuesday 17 th January	E-Safety session for parents 3.30pm or 7.00pm
Wednesday 18 th January	Chinese New Year theme day for Reception class – class to wear red
Tuesday 24 th January	Volunteers session 9am in Community Suite
Wednesday 25 th January	Volunteers session 2.30pm in Community Suite
Thursday 26 th January	Volunteers session 3.20pm in Community Suite
Friday 20 th January	Swimming begins for years 2, 3, 4 & 5

w/b 6 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 13TH – FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2023	
Thursday 16 th March	Reception Class Assembly 9am
	Reception height and weight check
Monday 20 th March	Spring Open afternoon 3.30pm – 5.00pm
	Parent Consultations week
Mon 20 th & Tue 21 st March	Year 6 Bikeability
w/b 27 th March	Year 3 & 4 Stations of the Cross 9am Parents welcome
	Book Fair in school 3.15pm
Wednesday 29 th March	Key Stage 2 Assisi Cross Country
Friday 31 st March	Last day of Spring Term
EASTER HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 3rd APRIL – FRIDAY 14TH APRIL 2023	
Monday 17 th April	First Day of Summer Term 2023
	Year 4 Bikeability
Wednesday 19 th April	Reception Fairy-tale theme day – children to dress up
Wednesday 26 th April	Netball and Football tournament at Our Lady of Ransom
Monday 1 st May	Bank holiday
w/b 8 th May	KS2 SATs week
w/b 15 th May	KS1 Assessment week
Thu 18 th May	Year 1 Class Assembly @ 9am
Wednesday 24 th May	Key Stage 1 Assisi Cross Country
	Year 5 Class Assembly @ 9am
HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 29TH MAY – FRIDAY 2nd JUNE 2023	
Monday 5 th June	Children return to school
w/b 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Tuesday 13 th June	KS2 Borough Sports @ Garons
Wednesday 21 st June	Reception 2023 Induction Afternoon
Thursday 22 nd June	St George's Celebration Day from 9am – all families welcome
Friday 23 rd June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Monday 26 th June	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Tuesday 27 th June	KS2 Assisi Catholic Sports @ St Thomas More 9.30am
Friday 30 th June	Year 5 & 6 End of Year Performance 9.15am & 6pm
w/b 3 rd July	Year 6 Residential Trip
Thursday 6 th July	KS1 Assisi Sports
Friday 14 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly in school @ 2.30pm
Friday 21 st July	Last day of term
SUMMER HOLIDAY MONDAY 24TH JULY 2023	

