



# 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. 469 ~ 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## All in!

This week, we welcomed our final group of reception children. Hello and welcome to:



*Jacob, Olivia, Demi, Taliah, Theodore, Josie, Beau, Violet and John-Luke*

I know that our reception class will grow and flourish over the next seven years and we are all looking forward to playing our part in that. We also welcome Louis to Year 1 ~ it's lovely to have you as part of the family!

## Parent Information Meetings

Thank you to all the parents & carers who have attended their child's information session, we hope you found it useful. The final meeting is for Reception parents on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 9am after drop off. If you could make your way to the front office and we will welcome you in at around 9am.

## 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.



ASSISI  
CATHOLIC  
TRUST



Rainbows  
GUIDING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH LIFE'S STORMS

## RE News

### **R.E. Learning & Collective worship**

On Monday, we came together for a whole school assembly on our class saints. The children presented the story of each saint and presented a photograph and a symbol for each one. You can view the children's presentation in the video resource centre on our school website.

The children are now beginning their first R.E. theme of the year. The themes are:

[Reception](#) ~ Myself

[Year 1](#) ~ Families

[Year 2](#) ~ Beginnings

[Year 3](#) ~ Homes

[Year 4](#) ~ People

[Year 5](#) ~ Ourselves

[Year 6](#) ~ Loving

You can find the topics for the whole year on our website. There is a direct link to the page if you click on the year group above.

### **Mission Statement competition!**

Our mission statement is displayed in many areas of the school, in word and picture form.

However, we would like to have new symbol/picture that reflects that we are all,

**'Safe in the palm of God's hands'**

and we are asking the children to design it, choosing whichever media they would like – paint, felts, pencil, print etc. We ask that any entries are submitted by next Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September, and we will then select one to turn into a print to be displayed. We cannot wait to see the entries and look forward to sharing the winning design with you.

### **Parish links**

Shawn, Ollie & Michael from St George's Parish church came in this week to talk to the older children about serving at Mass. They shared their experiences of serving and explained how you can become an altar server at St George's or St Gregory's. Some of our servers in school also shared information about their first year serving. Details of the training will be announced in the parish and school newsletters.



### **Parent and carer feedback**

As a school, we are keen to gain the views of parents and carers about all aspects of school life. Today, you will have been sent an email with a link to a questionnaire about the RE provision your child receives. You can also access it by clicking [HERE](#). It covers all aspects, including how we carry out our mission as a faith school to welcome and support all in our community. We would really appreciate if you could take the time to complete the questionnaire online so that we know our areas of strength and identify areas for improvement. Thank you in advance for your support.

## Leadership roles in school

Today in our celebration assembly, I had the pleasure of announcing our new school coucillors. They play a very important part in our school life. They act as a pupil voice, giving feedback, ideas and opinions, in addition to organising charitable events to support local, national and global causes. I know Mrs Arnold is very excited to work with all of you.

Joe & Nyla ~ St Therese class

George & Emilia ~ St Elizabeth class

George & Sophia ~ St Bernadette class

Aaron and Pati ~ St Joseph class

Oscar & Beatrice ~ St Anthony class

Chelsea, Afsa, Leja & Joshua ~ St Peter class

As subject leader for science, Mrs Bracknell announced the Science Ambassadors for the year. She knows that they are going to fantastic in their roles, championing science, helping with resources and demonstrating investigative learning behaviour! Well done to:

Melissa & Victoria ~ St Elizabeth class

Ezinne & Toby ~ St Bernadette class

Charlotte & Billy ~ St Joseph class

George and Padme ~ St Anthony class

Freya, Emily, Kieran, Isabella ~ St Peter class

## Birthdays

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

Jesse (St Therese), Maddison (St Bernadette), Harry H. (St Joseph),  
and Mrs Pickford

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

All clubs will be starting from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Just a reminder about P.E. kits for clubs.

### **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.

## Breakfast & Afterschool Club sessions

Just a reminder that sessions need to be booked 48 hours in advance to secure a place for your child. If you have missed the cut off or need a session at the last minute, please email the Office with the date and session you require. The Office will confirm your booking. Payment will then need to be made under the late session section in Trips on WisePay.





### Head Teacher Awards

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

*Rosa ~ (St Therese) ~ What a fantastic week! Rosa has grown in confidence already. She's a super listener, tries her best and has great ideas. Well done, Rosa!*

*Isla ~ (St Elizabeth) ~ for her fantastic R.E work all about new beginnings and the creation of the world*

*Sebby ~ (St Bernadette) ~ for thoughtful participation and giving wonderful examples in discussions during R.E lessons. Well done Sebby!*

*Pati ~ (St Joseph) for demonstrating outstanding learning behaviour and producing a fantastic character description in English. Well done, Pati!*

*Heidi ~ (St Anthony) ~ for being really engaged and enthusiastic in all subjects this week. A bright smile and lovely manners show she is a wonderful role model too. Keep up the great work Heidi!*

*Olivia ~ (St Peter) ~ for being conscientious in everything she does and for making fantastic contributions in all our lessons – well done!*



## Reminders from last week.....

### 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 this week, from Monday. 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.

## 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 2.30pm.**

**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.

### 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>
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
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Feast of St Therese
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET DAY ~ SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
	Feast of St Francis of Assisi
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Friends of St George's AGM meeting 2.30pm
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
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	All Saints Day ~ Mass in school for the children
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Year 6 height and weight check
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Feast of St Elizabeth
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 @Len Forge 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
	Feast of St Andrew
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	First Sunday of Advent
	Parish Christmas Fayre after 10.45am Mass
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
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Reconciliation service in school
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
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
	End of Term Mass for the children
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>	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December~ Christmas Day	
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> December ~ St Stephen's Day	
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 Service for children in school
	Lent begins
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> – FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2024</b>	
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Feast of St Anne Line
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Netball tournament @ Alleyn Court
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	St David's Day
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Spring Open afternoon 3.30pm – 5.00pm
	Parent & Carer Consultation week
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	St Patrick's Day
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	NHS resilience workshop for year 6
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Feast of St Joseph
	Lent Reconciliation service in school
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

**EASTER HOLIDAY ~**  
**GOOD FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024**  
 Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March ~ Good Friday  
 Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March ~ Easter Sunday

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	First Day of Summer Term 2023
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Feast of St Bernadette
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Afternoon Tea for parents, carers, family and friends! 1pm – 3pm
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	St George's Day
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank holiday
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> MAY	Feast of St Margaret Clitherow and the 40 martyrs
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Reception height and weight check
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Ascension Day ~ Mass for the children
w/b 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATS WEEK
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Pentecost Sunday
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Key Stage 1 Assisi Cross Country @ St Teresa's, Rochford

**HALF TERM HOLIDAY ~ MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY – FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2024**

2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Feast of Corpus Christi
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 2024 Induction Afternoon
13 <sup>th</sup> June	Feast of St Anthony of Padua
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
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Feast of St Thomas More and St John Fisher
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
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Feast of St Peter and Paul
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

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

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

(Block capitals please)

(Block capitals please)

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

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

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

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Class Rep Yr</b>
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(Delete as appropriate)

**at St Georges Catholic Primary**

(Block capitals please)

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

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

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Class Rep Yr</b>
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(Delete as appropriate)

**at St Georges Catholic Primary**

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