

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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To our wonderful community,

I cannot believe how quickly this half term has flown by. We have had so much to celebrate as a school, with successes in sport, science, academics, art, music and so much more. There is still plenty to look forward to, and we are already excited to welcome everyone back after the break. I would like to wish all of our children and families a wonderful and restful half term. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 1st June.

Goodbye and Good Luck

Today we say goodbye to Jacob from St Joseph's class as he leaves us to begin new adventures. I have no doubt that he will continue to shine at his new school, and they will be very fortunate to have him as part of their community.

Thank you, Jacob, for being such a wonderful example of everything that is great about St George's. We are all very proud of you and wish you every success and happiness for the future.

Science Fair

Thank you to all the families who were able to attend our Science Fair yesterday. It was wonderful to see so many of you there!

I hope you were as impressed as we were by the children's enthusiasm, subject knowledge and the fantastic experiments that everyone was invited to take part in.

A huge thank you to Mrs Bracknell for organising this whole-school event, and thank you also to all of the class teachers and support staff for their hard work and dedication in preparing for such a successful afternoon. Class teachers nominated children to receive a special science award for their engagement in science over the year.

Albie, Joshua, Eddie & Grace (St Francis), Brody & Donny (St Therese),

Stanley & Taliah (St Elizabeth), Kcian, Teddie & Izzy (St Bernadette),

Willow, Tabitha & Finley (St Joseph), Alex, Toby & Addilyn (St Anthony) & Damian (St Peter)



Head Teachers Award

Congratulations to this week's winners.



Holly ~ (St Francis) ~ for always being cheerful, happy and willing to have a go at a task. She comes in everyday with a big smile on her face which brightens the day.

Antoni ~ (St Therese) ~ for always being enthusiastic, keen to get stuck in and try his best. He is always caring and looking after others. Well done Antoni!

Freddie ~ (St Elizabeth) ~ for working hard to improve his reading by applying his phonic skills more confidently and understanding the meaning of words he reads. He has also begun to read with greater expression and enthusiasm. Well done Freddie!

Mabel ~ (St Bernadette) ~ for always giving 100% in lessons. She works hard to make sure her work is always beautifully presented and of a high standard.

Eva ~ (St Joseph) ~ for always working with enthusiasm and perseverance. She produces excellent work in English lessons, and her learning behaviour is outstanding. Well done, Eva!

Katie ~ (St Anthony) ~ for working hard even when things have been tricky. Always supporting and caring for her friends. Well done, Katie!

Jude (St Peter) ~ for his wonderfully polite manners and the fantastic growth in confidence he has shown this term. He is always so cheerful!

Ada ~ (St Peter) ~ for being such a kind and thoughtful member of our school community

KS1 Pentecost Dash

What a fantastic morning we had at St Teresa's for the Pentecost Dash!

We took a team of 30 children to the cross-country event, and every single one of them gave 100% – and a little bit more! Their determination, teamwork and sportsmanship made us all incredibly proud.

Our team finished 4th overall, which is a wonderful achievement for our school.

We also celebrated some fantastic individual successes:

- St Francis class – Tilly (Gold) and Fiadh (Bronze)
- St Therese class – Beau (Gold) and Florence (Gold)
- St Elizabeth class – Conor (Gold) and Reuben (Silver)

A huge well done to the whole team. You represented St George's brilliantly and should all be very proud of yourselves!

Well done to: Eddie, Demir, Joshua, Albie, Teddie, Holly, Tilly, Fiadh, Liz, Alex
Beau, Oliver, Harry, Aden, Isla, Florence, Hollie, Zara,

Baffuor, Reuben, Noah, Conor, Reu'ven, Jacob, Olivia, Melissa, Josie, Mia, Sophie & Hallie-May

Reading Awards

Well done to the children who received their SILVER reading award

Michelle (St Anthony)

Those who received their GOLD award

Ellie & Lex (St Anthony) and Nana (St Peter)

And to the children who received their DIAMOND reading award this afternoon, marking 200 reads

Penny (St Francis), Mia (St Elizabeth), George & Ruby (St Bernadette) and Mia-Rae (St Peter)

AND A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST SUPER READERS!

Demir, Florence, Isabella-Ava (St Francis), Hollie (St Therese),

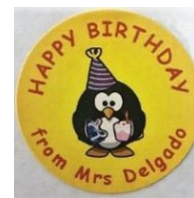
Reuben, Hallie-May (St Elizabeth), Lily, Jason, Emilia & Milita (St Joseph),

Abigail, Sophie, Teddy & Sophia (St Anthony) and Aaron (St Peter)

Birthdays

Congratulations to Ivy & Archie (St Therese), Tabitha (St Joseph)
who are celebrating birthdays this week.

And those who are celebrating their birthday during half term
Elsie (St Francis), Emilia & Hollie (St Therese), Taliah (St Elizabeth),
Shia (St Peter) and Mrs Sapsford



Prayers



We keep all of our community in our prayers.

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 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
Thursday 11 th June	Junior Music Festival
Saturday 13 th June	Feast of St Anthony of Padua
Tuesday 16 th June	Induction afternoon for Reception 2026
Wednesday 17 th June	Year 2 Trip
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 St Thomas More and St Bernard's visit for Year 5 Parents @2.30pm
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 2nd July	KS1 Assisi Catholic Sports @ St Teresa's 10am – noon
Friday 3rd July	Year 6 Transition Day TBC
Tuesday 7 th July	Year 5 Taster Day
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 ONLINE GROOMING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.



See full reference list on our website

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