



St George's C of E Primary School

Learning for Life



CONTACT US:
01206 230305
admin@st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk
www.st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk

20th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of the Autumn term—and what a busy one it has been! We have much to celebrate already this academic year, including a very successful 'Healthy Me' Week in November, a really positive SIAMS inspection and a whole host of lovely Christmas celebrations.

Thank you for all your support; it makes all the difference. Thanks, too, to the fantastic St George's team, whose dedication and care for the children is second to none.

I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year and look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday 6th January.

Best wishes,

Mrs Keitch

WE WISH YOU A
Merry Christmas
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Here are some of the highlights of the past two weeks.....

Christmas Panto: Aladdin

On Friday 6th December, the whole school walked up to the Village Hall to watch a performance of Aladdin. It was a beautiful bright morning and the children enjoyed the walk, chatting with their partners. The show was lots of fun and it was great to see it on a proper stage. Thank you to all the volunteers who joined us too—we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



Born In A Barn!



Last week, the Year One and Two children performed their Nativity to the school and to their families. They did a fantastic job of learning and delivering their lines and sang with gusto. Well done!

Thank you to Mrs Elliott and the other supporting adults for all your hard work to ensure the children were well-rehearsed and confident.

Christmas Disco fundraiser

On Friday evening, the children returned to school for our Christmas Discos. They had a great time, singing, dancing and playing games—there was even a visit from Santa! Thank you very much to the staff for working hard to organise and run the event and to Mr Taylor for being a fantastic DJ and Master of Ceremonies! This year, the disco was our main Christmas fundraiser and I am please to say that we raised just over £600 for the school. Thank you very much for your support; we hope the children had a lovely time.



Carol Service

On Wednesday, we gathered at St George's Church for this year's Carol Service. The Year Five and Six children delivered their lines beautifully and clearly and we all enjoyed singing our favourite Christmas songs. Thank you to those who were able to join us; I hope you enjoyed it. Thanks also to Jenny Nicholls for all her hard work for the church and to Reve John Saxon for participating in the service. Our link with St George's Church is really important to us.



Christmas Dinner

On Thursday, the whole school joined together in the Hall for Christmas Dinner. We listened to Christmas music, pulled Christmas crackers and enjoyed a delicious roast while wearing our Christmas jumpers! Thank you to staff for pitching in to serve and to our kitchen staff for preparing the food.



Forest School News

This term, I have been joined by Pathfinders Class and Year 1 Explorers children at Forest Schools. We have been checking the temperature each week and have been lucky with the mild temperatures and mainly dry sessions.

The children have enjoyed climbing trees, digging, bug hunting, shelter building, knot tying, hammocks and the zip line. We have used the flint and steel to create sparks and recapped our safety rules when having our main fire, with lots of children able to recall important information about how to keep ourselves and others safe.



After the many donations of glass jars (thank you!), the children made their very own leaf globes, using paper cutters to create leaf confetti and mixing in water, glitter and glycerine to slow down the movement of the swirling leaves.



We have talked about the season of Winter and how the animals are going into hibernation. The children have enjoyed collecting leaves and creating life-size hibernation piles of leaves, checked the hedgehog house ensuring it is warm and cosy, and ensured that any insects found were returned to their warm habitats.



We have built lots of shelters, practiced moving logs around safely and used our imaginations to set up areas for role play, including campfires.



By Nicky 'Nightingale' Powell

Explorers News

What a busy half term it has been in Explorers class! Not one but two separate performances; from both our Reception children and Year 1s. Everyone performed amazingly to the school and to their families. It was lovely to see so many family members there to enjoy it with us and to hear the positive comments from everyone afterwards.

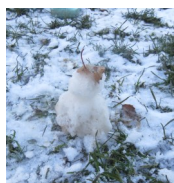
Thank you, and well done to the Stars of the Shows!



In class, we have been feeling festive, with lots of Christmas themed activities. We have practised our shape and number recognition, and counting, through various Maths activities, shown off our amazing phonic skills by writing Christmas cards, lists and labelling special characters from The Christmas Story.



And not forgetting the cold temperatures and flurry of snow we were treated to a few weeks back. The children loved the first-hand experiences to explore the fallen snow, making mini snowmen and exploring our footprints. Back in class we practised our cutting skills to make beautiful snowflakes and investigated ice and melting through tuff tray set ups.



This week's Stars of the Week

Week ending 13th December:

Explorers

★ Kyle—for working hard to form your numbers correctly and always being keen to have a go at adult-led tasks

★ Ronnie—for having a fantastic attitude towards your learning, making progress with your writing of both letters and numbers. Well done!

Pathfinders

★ All Pathfinders—for an amazing performance of your Nativity. Well done everyone!

Adventurers

★ Jenson—for impressing all of your teachers with your brilliant determination and perseverance with your times tables.

★ Holly—for always putting in 100% effort in your work and helping others when they are upset

Navigators

★ Isla—for being caring and supportive of the younger children

★ Benjamin—for showing a range of creative abilities and being very helpful around school.

Week ending 20th December:

Explorers

★ Calea—for your enthusiasm with singing and performing with a smile!

★ Imogen—for always wanting to help and being independent in your learning

Pathfinders

★ Freddie—for your enthusiasm towards your learning

★ Kiyra—for exploring our learning themes in your independent time

Adventurers

★ Imogen—for always helping cheer up your friends and showing responsibility in class

★ Alice—for always putting in 100% effort with your work and challenging yourself

Navigators

★ Elana—for taking on many responsibilities and showing determination to complete tasks

★ Isabella—for showing leadership skills and consistently working hard on your home learning

HALF TERMLY AWARDS

Lunchtime Awards:

★ Explorers: Dovas—for always having a clean plate and trying different foods

★ Pathfinders: Rosie—for exploring fun ways to play with your friends

★ Adventurers: Jenson—for always being polite and well-mannered

★ Navigators: Isla—for helping the younger children in the lunch hall

Reading Awards:

★ Explorers: Rosie—for always practising at home and making great progress

★ Pathfinders: Sophie—for your enthusiasm towards reading

★ Adventurers: Alexander—for always updating your reading record and practising spellings

★ Navigators: Antoni—for keeping a strong reading record and working hard on spellings

My Happy Mind Awards: Celebrate module

★ Explorers: Rosie and Frank

★ Pathfinders: Lavender and Nmachi

★ Adventurers: Theodore and Edith

★ Navigators: Charlie and Layla



Dates for your Diary

Please make a note of the dates below.

Friday 20th December	Last day of term Carols and Raffle 2.40pm—please join us!
Monday 6th January	First day of term for children
w/b 6th January	St George's Book Week
Tuesday 11th February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 14th February	Break the Rules Day fundraiser
w/b 17th February	Half term break
Monday 24th February	Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 4th March	Autism Reality Experience Bus—details to follow
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th March	Parent Consultations
Wednesday 2nd April 9.30am	Easter Service at St George's Church
Friday 4th April	Last day of Spring Term

Forest School 'Nightingale' Awards

w/b 9th December:

Jonathan - For your knowledge and understanding of how to keep safe when fire lighting. You recalled significant information to share with the group. Well done!

Archie - For being a great help, offering advice and friendly encouragement to others on technique of using the flint and steel to create sparks.

Ava - For showing perseverance when attempting to light your mini fire. You kept trying and didn't give up, all the while with a smile on your face. Well done!

Elsie - For your interest in den building, wanting to create a shelter just in time for the rain. You moved logs around safely and collaborated with others to build an amazing shelter!

w/b 16th December:

Noah - For your willingness to learn and your great ideas. You moved logs safely around the forest area, after being shown and built a natural shelter, covering the roof with leaves.

Leo - For sharing your knowledge of how to be safe during our main fire and recalling what a fire needs in order to burn (oxygen)

Maisie - For your help in building a hashtag with kindling for the main fire. You were so proud of yourself for doing this for the first time. Well done!