



# St George's C of E Primary School

## Learning for Life



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20th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Carol Service**

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Carol Service at St George's Church on Friday. The church looked lovely, the children sang beautifully and the Navigators children delivered their readings with confidence. Our Christmas Choir made their debut performance, complete with duets, trios and two-part harmony - well done!

### **Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day**

On Monday, the children came to school dressed in their Christmas Jumpers ready for Christmas Dinner! We all gathered together in the Hall for roast turkey with all the trimmings and a Christmas cracker for every child, kindly donated by our Chair of Governors, Nigel Rowe. The children had a wonderful time, singing along to Christmas tunes and enjoying their Christmas cupcakes. Many thanks to Emma, our Cook, for a very successful first Christmas Dinner at St George's and thank you to all the staff for pitching in to prepare the Hall, serve the meals and clear away.

### **Christingle**

On Tuesday, Amanda led Collective Worship and introduced the children to Mr Christingle! She explained the symbolism of the Christingle and we sang a lovely Christingle song. Amanda also presented us with some special Christmas gifts: our very own candle snuffer for our worship candle and some beautiful decorations for our Advent Wreath. Thank you Amanda!



### **Charity Fundraiser Movie Afternoon**

On Tuesday afternoon, the children all enjoyed watching a Christmas film in their classrooms, complete with drinks, snacks and cuddly toys! Thank you for your kind donations for the School Council's chosen charity, Porridge and Pens - we raised a total of £117.60.

### **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

As we reach the end of the Autumn term, I would like to thank everyone in the St George's community for your support, care and teamwork. We have made a great start to the academic year and we look forward to returning, refreshed and renewed, for the Spring term. *Thank you to our dedicated Governors, hardworking staff, superb children, fantastic PTA and supportive families - we really do make a great team!*

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas break and look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 8th January.

Mrs Keitch



# ST GEORGE'S CHRISTMAS 2023



## Communication over the Christmas break

The School Office closes at 4.00pm on Wednesday 20th December and reopens at 9.00am on Thursday 4th January. Any emails received during the break will be responded to as soon as possible on Thursday 4th January.

Wishing you a lovely Christmas and New Year.

## Tesco 'Stronger Starts' Blue token scheme

Don't forget to spread the word - please vote for St George's!!



## Invitation: St George's Crib Service, Christmas Eve 4.00pm

On Christmas Eve, St George's Church will be holding a very special service. This will be a "live nativity" in the churchyard, telling the Christmas story.

Children are invited to come in costume as one of the characters in the Nativity story. Needed are angels, shepherds, wise men (or women!) or animals from the stable.

I do hope some of you will be able to join this lovely service.

## Update: PTA Christmas Fundraising

In addition to the money raised at the Christmas Fete, the PTA made an additional £74 on refreshments at the KS1 Nativity and Reception Christmas Spectacular.

**This brings the Christmas fundraising total to £2211!!**

This is a fantastic achievement - thanks again to the PTA for their hard work and to all our families for supporting our fundraising events. We genuinely do rely more and more on this fundraising and we are very grateful.



## Well done, Toby!

Toby in Adventurers has been working hard towards achieving his 6th and final Personal Challenge badge at Beavers. To obtain this, Toby had to complete two separate challenges.



Toby chose public speaking about a topic of his choice (his pet jumping spiders).

The Beavers leaders chose the other challenge which was to be a 'lodge leader'. This involved encouraging his lodge members to follow the rules, standing nicely in line, being quiet when appropriate and setting a good example overall.

This badge is the last of 6 challenge badges he needed to achieve the overall Chief Scout's Bronze award (the top award for Beavers Scouts)!

Well done, Toby, what a fantastic achievement!

### Dates for your Diary

|  |   |
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| Thursday 4th and Friday 5th January 2024   | Non Pupil Days  |
| Monday 8th January   | First day of term for children  |
| Week Beginning Mon 19th February   | Half term   |
| ***SAVE THE DATE***<br>Friday 1st March<br>Further information and booking instructions to follow next term. | Quiz Night Fundraiser!<br>Max six per team. £5.00 per head.<br>Bring your own drinks and nibbles. |
| Thursday 28th March  | Last day of term<br>Easter Service in church 2.00pm - parents welcome                             |

### Free Parent Workshops

**Step By Step: 8 Week Parenting Programme - Fully funded for you by Child First Trust.**

**Venue: KENDALL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Start Date: Tuesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 from 9.15am - 11am.**



7 Further Sessions: Tuesday the 30th Jan, Tuesdays 6th and 13th Feb, (no session in half term). Tuesday 27th Feb, Tuesday 5th of March, Tuesday 12th March and Tuesday 19th March 2024.

Please see the attached flyer for further information about the course content.

For more information, or to book your place, please contact our Family Support Worker, Jackie Curtis (07732 22688) [Jackie@childfirsttrust.org.uk](mailto:Jackie@childfirsttrust.org.uk)

### Autism Central

Essex County Council is working in partnership with Autism Central to provide support and guidance for parents of children with autism (no diagnosis required). [This link](#) will take you to the Autism Central Hub, which has lots of information, links to group support sessions and information about the Peer Education Programme.



**Autism  
Central**

Parents can request a one-to-one call with a Peer Educator, attend online group sessions, and find a broad range of information all on the [Autism Central](#) Website.

Upcoming sessions include Christmas holiday survival, anxiety, and sensory processing.

