

# St George's C of E Primary School

## Learning for Life



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20th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of the Autumn term! And what a busy, hardworking term it has been.

Over the past two weeks, the children have been involved in lots of lovely Christmas events and activities. This is such a special time of year at St George's; full of celebration, joy and community. Inside this newsletter you will see just a few snapshots of the festivities, including the Christmas performances, Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day!

On Monday we lit the fourth candle on our Advent wreath, the candle of Love. The children learned the Makaton signs to accompany the chorus of a lovely modern carol called 'Love Shone Down'.

[Here is the link](#) if they would like to sing it at home!

I would like to say a big **Christmas 'Thank You'** to the following people:

The **children** for working hard and being kind.

The **staff** for another very hardworking term - have a break over Christmas, please!

The **parents** for your ongoing support and partnership.

Our **reading volunteers**: Mrs Burton, Miss Harris, Mrs Adams and Mrs Worn. Thank you so much for giving your time to support our children.

**John Jackdaw**, for your help and enthusiasm with Forest School.

Our fantastic **PTA** for their dedication and commitment to supporting our school.

**Jenny, Gregory, Cannon Stephen and Sue** for supporting us with Collective Worship and welcoming us into St George's church.

The **Governors** for their support and commitment to St George's.

It has been wonderful to re-establish some of our St George's traditions this term, joining together as a community to learn, play and celebrate.

I wish you all a happy, peaceful Christmas and look forward to seeing you all again in the new year.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Keitch





Reminder: Reception, Year One and Year Two parents

There will be two photographs from St George's in Tuesday's Gazette: One of our Reception children's Christmas Singalong and one of our Year One and Two children's Nativity, 'Born in a Barn.'

Don't forget to buy a copy as a keepsake!



Well done to all the children in Year One and Year Two for their fantastic Nativity performance. 'Born in a Barn' told the story of the birth of Jesus from the point of view of the animals sharing a stable with the new born baby.

The children spoke clearly, sang beautifully and made us all smile!

Well done, Year One and Year Two!

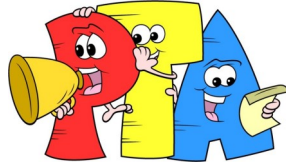


The Reception children put on a wonderful show for their grown ups too. Dressed as elves, Santas, angels and snowmen, they treated us to a lovely selection of Christmas songs.

We were very impressed with their confidence and thoroughly enjoyed their performance.

The Reception children performed to the whole school on Friday too. Here they are with their Big Friends, who encouraged them and cheered them on.





We are pleased to announce that we raised £1520 at the Christmas Market this year and £136 from refreshments at the KS1 Nativity.....

**A grand total of £1656!**

On Monday we enjoyed a lovely Christmas Movie Night, watching The Grinch and eating pizza - a great way to celebrate the end of term!

Thank you to all who have supported us this term. Please do consider giving your time to support our upcoming events in the new year. We can only plan and stage fundraising events with your help.

Kate and Chris  
Co-Chairs of the PTA

### It's Christmas (Oh yes, it is!)

On Wednesday, we enjoyed a whole school trip to the pantomime in Clacton. Everyone had a wonderful time and threw themselves into the audience participation with gusto! The children represented their school admirably and were by far the best behaved in the theatre!



Mr Johnston caught the eye of the pantomime dame, Mrs Clyde Roberts got a hug from Buttons, Mrs Cutts joined in a magic trick and Bailey was given a special book by the fairy godmother!

Isyla was even chosen to go onto the stage and take part in a competition with Buttons!



## Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

The children looked wonderful in their Christmas jumpers on Monday! Here they are in assembly on Monday morning.



At lunchtime, the Hall was filled with Christmas music and excited chatter as the children pulled their crackers and enjoyed a delicious Christmas Dinner. Thank you to Ms Allen and Mrs Leeder in the kitchen for all their hard work and to all the staff for helping to make it a special occasion.



# Adventurers News

Here are some of the children's thoughts and reflections on our class trip to Flatford Mill:

I loved the Flatford Mill trip it was really fun and everyone was being really creative. One of my favorite activities was where we had to ask some people, who were visiting Flatford Mill, questions about Flatford and what they thought about the surroundings. Luckily everyone said they loved it at Flatford and described it as a calm and peaceful place. I think everyone really enjoyed the trip.

**by Isla W**

You walk into the fields full of greenery. North, East, South and West. Each direction has a different landmark at Flatford Mill. Spinning the dial learning correct directions. Compasses are very helpful especially in the olden days, when there was no technology and only handmade objects. Rivers running, compasses searching, Flatford Mill is so much fun for everyone.

**by Elana**

We had a fascinating start to the trip - for those people that know it was a very amusing story! When we went to Flatford Mill I really enjoyed the sheet of clues to take us to different landmarks across this location. When we got taught how to use the compasses to help us know which direction we needed to go, it helped us to make our way through the different landmarks. After we had our lunch, we collected people's opinions of what they thought about Flatford Mill. We also got to enjoy the nature around us, by standing still for around two minutes and listening.

**by Charlie**

When we went to Flatford Mill I really liked exploring the area and doing a long walk around the Mill. I saw some other groups doing it as well because we were divided into four groups. It was a very fun trip especially the start, you might know our funny story but what I can say if you don't know is that it was very amusing.

**by Donovan**

The nature was absolutely amazing. The different coloured leaves were beautiful, the trees were very tall, the grass was well trodden and the buildings were historical. Colourful flowers were all over the place and the dazzling sun was amazing. As we all sat in the Flatford Mill classroom, I saw a waterfall with a little bridge on top, leading to a long, flowing river.

**by Maddie**



## Dates for your Diary

You may wish to make a note of the dates below.

**Further information will be sent out to you in due course.**

Tuesday 20th December	Last day of term
Thursday 5th January	First day of Spring term
Friday 10th February	Last day of half term
Monday 13th - Friday 17th February	Half term break
Monday 20th February	First day back at school
Friday 31st March	Last day of term
Wednesday 19th April	Return to school NB: Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th April are Non Pupil Days

## Forest School 'Nightingale' Awards

John 'Jackdaw' - For all your help this term with our Forest Schools sessions. Your support has been invaluable and your knowledge and enthusiasm has been very much enjoyed and appreciated by myself and the children.

Alfie and Antoni - For being creative in the icy weather, cleaning chunks of ice to create shiny 'diamonds'.

Ellis - For being enthusiastic and initiating your own activities - bird watching and parachute making. It was lovely to see you revisiting prior learning with such determination. Well done!

### Reminder: 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.





★ **Our Stars of the Week last week were:**

★ **Explorers**

★ Reception - for your fantastic Christmas performance!

★ Year One - for a brilliant Nativity performance!

★ Harry - for your fantastic effort and progress in Phonics

★

★ **Pathfinders**

★ Year One and Two - for a brilliant Nativity performance!

★ Oscar - for sharing your enthusiasm and knowledge of animals

★

★ **Adventurers**

★ Alfie G - for working really well in Maths and showing determination

★ Monroe - for excellent focus in all learning sessions and always wanting to do well.

★

★ **Navigators**

★ Oliver - for showing incredible positive personal growth and taking on many new challenges

★ Sofia - for resilience and determination with wonderful art work and Maths

★

★ **Lunchtime Awards go to:**

★ **Explorers**

★ Violet - for lining up nicely and for setting a good example in the lunch hall

★

★ **Pathfinders**

★ Bella- for lovely manners and always following the lunchtime rules

★

★ **Adventurers**

★ Lilly - for playing well with other children at lunchtime

★

★ **Navigators**

★ William - for being kind and caring to the younger children

★

★ **Reader of the Week Awards go to:**

★ **Explorers**

★ Freddie - for fantastic progress in Phonics

★

★ **Pathfinders**

★ Blake - for having a keen interest in reading at home

★

★ **Adventurers**

★ Antoni - for focusing on your reading during reading sessions

★

★ **Navigators**

★ Rosie - for fantastic research and use of vocabulary for your Blitz newspaper article

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