



St George's C of E Primary School

Learning for Life



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9th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our PTA Christmas Market on Friday. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was wonderful seeing the children so excited to visit Santa in his grotto - complete with snow! See over the page for an update from the PTA.

Advent

On Monday we lit the second candle on our Advent wreath. The second candle represents Peace and in Collective Worship the children thought about how they can work for peace - at home, at school and in the wider world.



Over the next week or so, we will light the remaining candles on the wreath, representing Joy, Love and the Light of Christ.

The Bridge Newsletter

Here is the link to this month's edition of The Bridge Newsletter from Essex County Council, for families of SEND children <https://essexcc.pagetiger.com/sendfamilybulletinmayedition/december-edition>

Online Safety Guides

I have updated the [E Safety page of our school website](#) with lots of useful guidance and resources from **Internet Matters**. There are links to step by step guides to setting up a range of devices, social media platforms, games and channels safely, as well as age-specific online safety guidance. Please do take a look - there will be a guide which is relevant to your child.

Your child will also bring home today a digital safety booklet produced by Vodafone. I hope you find it useful.

Unihoc Tournament

On Tuesday, a group of Year 5 and Six pupils attended a Unihoc (Hockey) tournament held at Harwich High School. See over the page for their report - they represented St George's very well and we are very proud of their performance. It is lovely to be able to take part in events such as this once again; it is particularly important for a small school like ours to get involved in inter-school events.

St George's Church Christmas Eve Service: 4.00pm December 24th

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.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Keitch



Well done Sienna!

Well done to Sienna in Adventurers (and Mum Michelle!) who took part in a sponsored 'Santa Run' at the weekend, raising money for Colchester Hospital Children's Ward.

If you would like to sponsor Sienna, the sponsorship form will be in the school office throughout next week.

Alternatively, you can donate via their [Just Giving page](#)

It's lovely to see one of our pupils raising money for charity and thinking of others. Well done Sienna!

Essex Fire Museum Christmas Open Day

Sunday 18th December 2022

(Come and meet Santa)



Visits must be pre-booked via: museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

**Address: Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire station,
Hogg Lane, Grays, RM17 5QS**

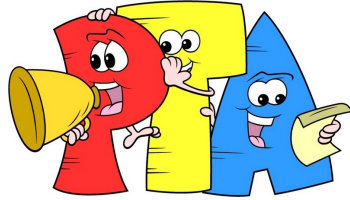
Christmas Postbox

The St George's Christmas Postbox will be in use from Monday 12th December. It is located near the front office so that children can post their Christmas cards to each other over the coming week. Please ensure the recipient's name and class is written on the envelope.

If you would like a list of the children (first names only!) in your child's class, you can collect one from the school office.

Please note, there is no expectation that children will send cards. For environmental and financial reasons, many families choose not to.





A huge thank you to everyone who supported the PTA Christmas market last Friday. A very cold but enjoyable evening was had by all and the children seemed to especially enjoy the grotto.

We did need to scale down our plans a little as we didn't have the man power or donations to support some popular stalls but overall we think it well.



Thank you to all the children who entered our Christmas Jumper competition. The winners were presented with their prizes earlier in the week.

KS1 Eliza Riches-Weedon
KS2 Lily-Rose Stoian

The Christmas Movie Night is booked for 19th December 3pm-5pm for all year groups and tickets are on sale now via the PTA Events website.

We will be showing the animated version of The Grinch and offering takeaway pizza, hot chocolate and popcorn. There is a 20% discount for siblings using the code "sibling" when you book.

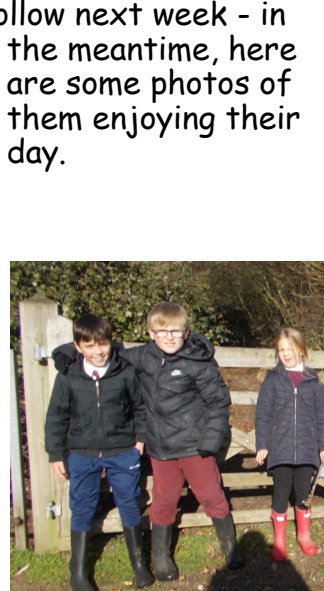
Thank you for your support

Kate and Chris
Co-Chairs of the PTA

Adventurers Trip to Flatford Mill

On Thursday, the Year 3 and 4 children went on a field trip to Flatford Mill.

More information to follow next week - in the meantime, here are some photos of them enjoying their day.



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 13th December 2.00pm and 6.00pm	KS1 (Y1 and 2) Nativity performances - rescheduled
Wednesday 14th December	Whole School Trip to the pantomime
Thursday 15th December 2.15pm	Reception Christmas Sing-Along
Friday 16th December 2pm	Carol Service at St George's Church
Monday 19th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner
Monday 19th December	PTA Movie Night
Tuesday 20th December	Last day of term
Thursday 5th January	First day of Spring term

Year 5/6 Unihoc Tournament

Izzy, Amelia, Freddie, Zach, Rosie and Hugo all participated in this year's Harwich Sports Association Unihoc tournament.

There were two leagues, each including four schools. St George's played three rounds in the group stages. We won two and drew one. The referee then counted up the points and we had scored seven points in total.

St George's got through to the semi-finals and we won that round too! We then got through to the Finals, the only match we lost.

We won Silver medals and were rewarded with silver chocolate coins!

Thank you to Ms Mitchell for taking us. We had a great time and are proud of our achievement!

Quote of the week:

"I'm more chuffed about the children doing so well in the hockey than I would be if England won the World Cup!"

Mr R Johnston, Navigators teacher



Explorers News

This week in Explorers we have been learning more about the season 'Winter'. On Monday we talked about 'Signs of Winter' and what clothing is suitable for the Winter months. We made snowflakes for our 'Winter is Here' window display.



In Maths our Reception children have been using our Numberblock counters. We have been splitting them into two parts to begin to understand the concept of adding two parts to make a whole number.



Both Reception and Year 1 children have been learning 'The Christmas Story' in our Literacy and RE lessons this week. The children have been sequencing pictures from the story and drawing pictures and writing name labels of the important people in the story.



Christmas has arrived in Explorers classroom! Our classroom is covered in Christmas decorations, the children are having lots of fun finding our Elf every morning, we have a role play Post Office set up and many fun Christmas themed tuff tray activities for the children to enjoy!

Tendring Police Giving Tree Appeal: Thank You!



Thank you to all who contributed gifts for the Essex Police Christmas Giving Tree Appeal. There have been so many donations, we have filled the table twice over!

Thank you for your generosity. The gifts will be taken to Clacton Police Station and will then be distributed to vulnerable families across the Tendring area.



Our Stars of the Week this week are:

★ Explorers

★ Freddie - for always being ready to learn and for working hard in Maths

★ Alicia - for your amazing singing in the Christmas performance rehearsals



★ Pathfinders

★ Darcy - for enthusiasm and engagement with all your learning



★ Adventurers

★ Melody - for working hard in Maths and trying all of the challenges

★ Caleb - for use of descriptive vocabulary within your writing. You have

improved significantly over the last academic year!



★ Navigators

★ Fred - for wonderful creativity and collaboration with your creative writing and artwork

★ Sienna - for showing courage and confidence, trying new things in Maths and contributing in class



★ Lunchtime Awards go to:

★ Explorers

★ Velvet - for working well as part of a team



★ Pathfinders

★ Ella-Rose - for always being polite and well-mannered to lunchtime

staff

★ Adventurers

★ Layla - for always playing nicely - all round great lunchtime behaviour!

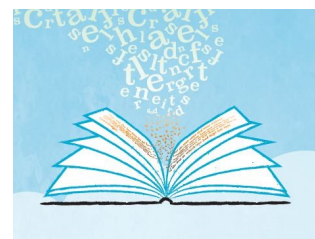
★ Navigators

★ Zoe - for being a good friend

★ Reader of the Week Awards go to:

★ Explorers

★ Tom - for working hard on your blending in Phonics



★ Pathfinders

★ Holly - for working hard to share your reading with others

★ Adventurers

★ Nixon - for excellent efforts when working on the Oxford Reading Buddy

★ Navigators

★ Connor - for showing a keen interest in classroom topics and doing background reading to learn more!

