

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

7th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a full and busy week! This week our school hall has been transformed into a Reception venue, a miniature city and a Space Mission Control Hub!

On **Tuesday** evening, St George's Church hosted the Licensing Service for the new Harwich Deanery Rural Missioner, Phillip Young. After the service, we hosted the refreshments reception in the school hall, with over 100 attendees! The service was led by the Bishop of Chelmsford and was attended by several members of the clergy, along with the churchwardens and parishioners from the nine parishes Phillip will be working with. It was a lovely service and I felt very proud to represent our school and host the reception.

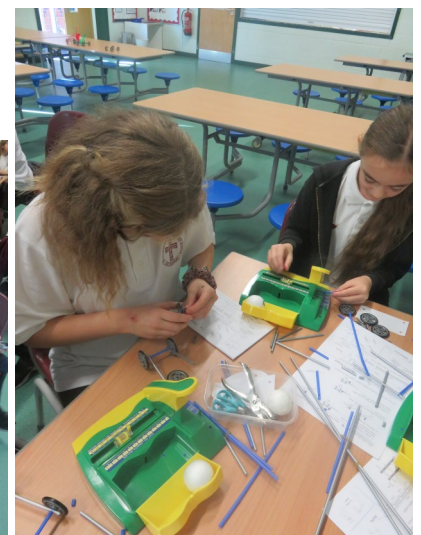
On **Wednesday** morning, the Hall was transformed into a fantastic role play space for the Explorers children, 'Little City'. The children had a wonderful time playing in the different areas, such as the Post Office, Hairdressers, Builders yard and Police Station. Child-led, imaginative role play is such an important part of young children's development and it was lovely to see them acting out their roles with such enthusiasm and enjoyment!



On **Thursday** the Hall became Mission Control room for an expedition to Mars! The Navigators children took part in a day of exciting and very challenging STEM activities which really stretched their thinking.

In these photos, the children are designing, building and testing wind-powered buggies.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Keitch



Children's Commissioner Report: Digital Childhoods



The Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, has published a report containing the findings of a survey of 2005 children aged 8-17 and their families. The survey focused on children's online experiences and found that **not enough is being done to protect young people online.**

I have uploaded the full report to the E-Safety page of the website here <https://www.st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk/e-safety/>.

Here are some of the main findings:

- ◇ **Underage use of social media platforms is widespread.** Across seven platforms surveyed, between 36%-79% of users aged 8-17 are under the minimum age in the terms of service. This is despite good awareness among children of the platforms' minimum age requirements.
- ◇ **Children are exposed to harmful content online.** 45% of children aged 8-17 have seen content they felt was inappropriate or made them worried or upset. Boys were more likely than girls to have seen harmful content.
- ◇ **Many children do not report harmful content they have seen.** 50% of children who saw harmful content reported it, older children and girls are less likely to report harmful content. 40% of children who didn't report harmful content told us they didn't report because they felt there was no point in doing so, while only 15% felt that the content didn't need to be reported.
- ◇ **Platforms often do not respond to children's reports of harmful content.** Of children who did report harmful content to the platforms, 25% saw no action on their reports and 10% weren't sure whether anything happened as a result of their report. Girls were less likely than boys to see action on a report of harmful content.

It is vital that school and home work together to ensure that children are well-informed about how to make sensible choices online and to give them the confidence to identify and report harmful content or experiences.

Please keep the lines of communication open with your child and share with us any concerns you have about their online experiences so we can follow this up in school.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival is taking place next Thursday 13th October at 9.30am in St George's Church and you are very welcome to join us.

Please can I remind you that we are collecting for the local foodbank and would be very grateful for any donations you are able to make.

The deadline for donations has been extended to Tuesday 11th



PTA Events :



Thank you to those who have already signed up for our new app, PTA Events. You have been sent another Parentmail this week with guidance on how to connect your account to your child - please do make sure you have signed up and followed these instructions!

We have another Bag2School collection scheduled for Monday 17th October 8.30-9.00am. Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second hand clothing: Men's, ladies' and children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts and accessories. (No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please).

All the bags will be weighed and the school will be paid for the total weight collected. The more we can collect the greater the benefit to our school.



Can you help us?

Extra-Curricular Clubs

This academic year, we continue to work hard to get school life back to 'normal' following the pandemic - or at least, a 'new normal'. An important part of this is building up our extra-curricular provision and for this we have always relied on the school and local community.

Do you have a talent / interest / hobby or passion which you would like to come and share with the children via a weekly after-school or lunchtime club?

Ideas may include:

Football (we'd like to re-establish a football team)
Netball
Rugby
Any other sporting activity
Gardening
Craft / Art
.....Or anything else you can offer!!

Forest School

Our Forest School sessions now take place on a Monday and Wednesday morning. Could you spare a few hours to support the children during these sessions? The more adults we have to support, the more space and activities the children can take part in during the sessions.

Please contact the School Office if you can help us out in any way!



Please note, there was no Celebration Assembly this week.

All certificates, including Forest School awards, will be presented next week.

Adventurers News

In Adventurers we have been designing our own symbols based upon what is important to us. This learning originated from our Religious Education lesson, identifying Christian symbols and their meanings.



The children really enjoyed creating an emblem/symbol that was important to them and I was very impressed with their unique designs and their explanations about what their designs represented.

Mrs Clyde Roberts

Book Fair

We have a Book Fair in school during the week beginning Monday 17th October.

The Book Fair will be set up in the Hall every day after school and during both Parent Consultation evenings (Monday 17th and Thursday 20th).

Please do come along and support our Book Fair - perhaps you could even do some early Christmas shopping! The more funds we raise, the more books we will be able to access for our school.

Thank you in advance for your support.



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.

Thursday 13th October 9.30am	Harvest Festival at St George's Church (parents invited)
Tuesday 11th October and Thursday 13th October	Explorers Parent Consultations - please contact the school office to book an appointment
Monday 17th- Friday 21st October	Book Fair in school
Monday 17th October	PTA Bag2School Collection
Monday 17th October and Thursday 20th October	Parent Consultations Pathfinders, Adventurers and Navigators - please contact the school office to book an appointment
Week Beginning Monday 24th October	Half Term
Monday 31st October	Non Pupil Day
Wednesday 2nd November	Reading workshop for Reception parents
w/b Monday 7th November	St George's Book Week
Wednesday 9th November	Reading workshop for Year One and Year Two parents
Wednesday 23rd November	Flu Immunisations
Friday 2nd December	PTA Christmas Fair
Wednesday 7th December	KS1 (Y1 and 2) Nativity performances (afternoon and evening - details to follow)
Wednesday 14th December	Reception Christmas Singalong
Friday 16th December 2pm	Carol Service at St George's Church
Tuesday 20th December	Last day of term

Jeans for Genes

Thank you to everybody who participated in our non-uniform day to raise funds for the Jeans for Genes charity.

I am please to say that we raised just over £116!

