

St George's C of E Primary School

Learning for Life



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30th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all who attended Friday's New Parent Tea Party and Fun Afternoon. The weather was kind to us and the children had a great time on the inflatables!

Thank you very much to the PTA for organising and running this event and to school staff for supervising the inflatables. It is not a fundraiser, rather an opportunity for the school community to get together and have some fun at the beginning of the new school year. However, it takes a great deal of planning and thought which is very much appreciated.

Congratulations to Michelle Worn, the winner of the Hundred Board competition. Michelle very kindly donated some of her winnings back to the PTA.



Last term, the PTA ran a cake-baking competition as part of the summer fete event. A winner was chosen from each Key Stage: Alice (KS1) and Isla W (KS2).

On Friday, the girls were presented with their prizes: a special St George's Star Baker apron and some lovely St George's biscuits (made by Mrs Duffield - thank you!). Here they are, wearing their aprons to serve scones and biscuits to those who attended the New Parents' Tea Party last week.

Well done, Alice and Isla, both for your baking skills and for being fantastic hosts!

Parent Consultations

The Autumn term parent consultations will take place in October and you are now able to phone the school office to book a ten minute appointment with your child's teacher. Please note these will be face-to-face consultations in school.

Explorers (Mrs Crouch and Mrs Whitfield): Tuesday 11th October and Thursday 13th October

Pathfinders, Adventurers and Navigators: Monday 17th October and Thursday 20th October

These consultations are an opportunity to find out how your child is settling into the new school year and about their learning in class. Please note, teachers can only allocate ten minutes per pupil.

Have a lovely weekend,

Updates from the School Office

Parent Pay



We hope you are all managing to access and use the new ParentPay app. There have been a few teething problems so thank you for your patience and perseverance! If you are experiencing any problems with the system, please contact us and we will help you to resolve them.

Please note, once ParentPay is well-established and running smoothly, we will be moving to a completely cash-free system at St George's.

Please note, you were sent the sign-up details at the end of the summer term (or September for new parents); if you require another copy, please let us know.

Pre-Loved Uniform

If you are thinking about buying school uniform for the coming winter, please drop us a line before heading to the shops - we have a large selection of pre-loved items in a range of sizes, all priced at £1.00 per item.

We cannot accept any additional items at the moment as we have so many already. We would really like to see them going to a good home - all clothing is in very good condition with plenty of life left in it. Give us a call or send us an email with details of what you need and we will get it ready for you!

Thank you,

Mrs Marsh and Mrs Thorington



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

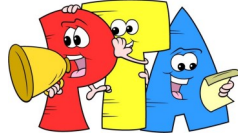
.....Or anything else you can offer!!



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!



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!



Our PTA Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday 7th October at 3.00pm. Please come along and join us if you can - it is a chance to hear about our work over the past year and our plans for the coming year. As per the letter you received via Parentmail, **we are looking for a new Secretary and Grants Secretary** so please do let us know if you would be interested in taking up either of these positions. Alternatively, we are always happy to hear from parents who are able to help out at our events throughout the year.



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.

Tendring Junior Ambassador Project

This term, the Navigators children are taking part in a project run by Tendring District Council called 'Tendring Junior Ambassador'. We have been involved in this programme in previous years and know it to be enjoyable and educational for the children. The focus of the project is on promoting an understanding and acceptance of diversity, difference and community.

Last week, the children took part in the introductory talk led by Teresa from Tendring District Council and Olivia from Colchester United's Community Team.

Here, Barnaby and William provide a short report of their experiences:

On Thursday 22nd September, Navigators had some visitors from Tendring District Council and Colchester United FC to teach us about extremism and prejudice.

We learned about types of extremism and how prejudice is affecting our world. They enlightened us with videos about people showing kindness to others regardless of their race, culture, faith or disability but also people being mean and cruel to those who are different. We also played a game of 'Have I ever?' where we had to think about whether we have ever pre-judged somebody or made an opinion before knowing the full story.

We are looking forward to taking part in the rest of the project. We will be learning about African art, Chinese Calligraphy, Bollywood dancing and also working with an author.

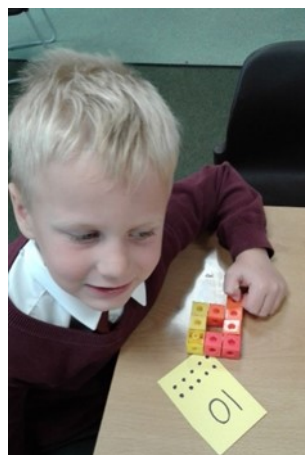
Pathfinders News

This week has been a very busy week in Pathfinders; our current Dimensions topic 'Inter-Nation Media Station' has allowed the children to explore the history of radio and TV. We have spent lots of time talking about our favourite TV shows and sharing why we like them. We have role played 'news round ups' and interviews and have practiced how to ask questions.

We linked this with our work in English on the story 'Look Up!' - we practiced these skills acting as the 'press' interviewing our main character 'Rocket'. We loved using the microphone and having our special 'PRESS' badges for this job. We wondered what kinds of questions the press would ask Rocket. We thought of some great questions and practiced asking them. We used our press badges and our microphone to perform our conference.



In our Maths learning, we have been working on the place value of numbers. Year 1 have been concentrating on numbers up to 10 and understanding what 1 more and 1 less means. We have used our counters, tens frames and dice to help us use these skills practically. In Year 2, we have been concentrating on larger two digit numbers. We made the number using the base 10 and then practiced partitioning it using our part whole models. We explored the different ways we could partition the same number.



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.

Wednesday 5th October	Explorers Little City visit
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 October	PTA Bag2School Collection
Monday 17th October and Thursday 20th October	St George's Book Week 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 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

Forest School 'Nightingale' Awards

Nikita - For an excellent first session at Forest Schools, paying attention to a knot tying demonstration and copying the knot to put up a rope swing. Well done, Nikita!

Charlie - For bug hunting with interest and fascination, discovering unknown insects and being a fantastic helper at tidy up time.

Konon - For using your prior knowledge of knots to tie a 'Log Dog', to move a heavy log around the forest area and for being a role model, showing your peers how to move longer logs safely.

Alice - For your enthusiasm to put up your own rope swing, persevering in throwing the rope over a high branch, and being helpful at the end of the session by taking it down.



Our Stars of the Week this week are:

★ **Explorers**

★ Tom - for always listening well and trying your best

★ Harry - for excellent effort in Maths this week

★

★ **Pathfinders**

★ Byron - for trying your hardest even when it is tricky

★ Jack - for increasing your independence skills and working hard

★

★ **Adventurers**

★ Lilly J - for excellent determination when using the formal method for addition

★ Elsie - for being able to work through Maths addition problems independently

★

★ **Navigators**

★ Riley - for making real progress in the classroom and taking up responsibilities around the school

★ Aimee - for showing a great attitude and real determination with your Maths

★

★ **Lunchtime Awards go to:**

★ **Explorers**

★ Jenson - for being a good friend at lunchtime

★

★ **Pathfinders**

★ Jude - for playing really nicely with your friends

★

★ **Adventurers**

★ Caleb - for consistently tucking in your shirt without being asked!

★

★ **Navigators**

★ Hollie - for being a superb shed monitor/prefect

★

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

★ **Explorers**

★ Sophie - for working hard in Phonics

★

★ **Pathfinders**

★ Eliza - for putting 100% effort into your reading since starting Pathfinders

★

★ **Adventurers**

★ Alfie M - for excellent engagement in your reading

★

★ **Navigators**

★ Ben - for amazing research about your space rocket.

★

★

