

St George's C of E Primary School

Learning for Life



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9th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school! I hope you all had a lovely summer and that you were able to enjoy the sunshine with family and friends. It is lovely to see all the children back in school, refreshed and ready for another school year. I have enjoyed hearing all their news this week and seeing them getting settled into their new classes and year groups.



Yesterday we learned the sad news of the death of our Queen, aged 96. In this morning's Collective Worship we celebrated the Queen's life by sharing this wonderful photo collage and singing our Platinum Jubilee Song, 'Here's to the Queen'. We also joined together in a special prayer from the Church of England:

"Gracious God, we give you thanks for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,

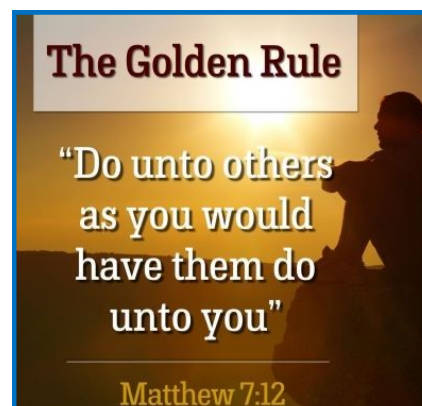
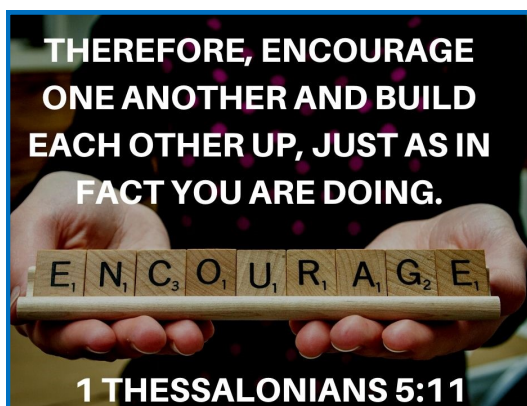
for her faith and her dedication to duty.

Bless our nation as we mourn her death and may her example continue to inspire us;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen"

In this week's Collective Worship, we have focused on looking ahead to the new school year and reminding ourselves of our school values. The children have listened beautifully and made some really thoughtful contributions. We looked at all the ways in which Jesus embodied our values of **Compassion, Friendship, Perseverance, Courage, Respect and Responsibility**, focusing on two key Bible verses we return to time and again with the children:



Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Keitch

Staff Updates

This term we welcome three new members of staff to St George's.



Mrs Pryer is the new Pathfinders teacher (Thursday and Friday).



Mrs Andrews and Mrs Firmin have joined our Learning Support team, supporting in Explorers in the first instance.

I'm sure you will join me in welcoming our new members of staff to the St George's team. We look forward to getting to know you!

We also have two members of staff leaving us.

Mrs Styles, LSA in Explorers, has worked with most of the children here at St George's and has been a fantastic support to our Reception children over the years. She will be sorely missed and we wish her all the very best for the future. Mrs Styles' last day at St George's will be Friday 16th September.

Miss Woods, KS2 LSA, will also be leaving us next week. She has been a great support to the children in Navigators and we wish her all the best.

Welcome to St George's!

This week we welcomed our new Reception intake to St George's. They have made a fantastic start to the term and have enjoyed getting to know each other, their teachers and their Big Friends.

Welcome to St George's - we look forward to getting to know our new children and families in the coming weeks and months.





Did your child complete the Essex Libraries Summer Reading Challenge this year?

Lots of children have already spoken to me about their summer reading challenge and some have shown me their certificates and medals.

If your child has completed the challenge, please can they **bring their certificate to school on Friday 16th September** so we can acknowledge their achievement in our Celebration Assembly.

Reading Volunteers

Thank you so much to those parents who have volunteered to come into school on a weekly basis to hear children read.

As you know, we place huge importance on reading here at St George's. As well as teaching children the 'mechanics' of reading, through our Read Write Inc Phonics programme, we also aim to foster a love of reading in all our children throughout the school. Time spent reading one to one with an adult, enjoying discussing a books, is invaluable.

If you are able to volunteer and have not yet contacted us, we would be very happy to hear from you!

Friday Celebration Assembly

I am so pleased to tell you that we are returning to our pre-Covid tradition of inviting parents to see their children receive awards in our weekly Celebration Assembly.

You will be contacted via Parentmail on Thursday lunchtime to inform you if your child is receiving an award the following morning. Of course we understand that work commitments may mean you are unable to attend. Please do not worry if this is the case - we will always make sure the children feel supported by school staff if you cannot be there. We are all working parents ourselves and we know it is not possible to attend every school event.

Safeguarding Information

There is now a dedicated Safeguarding page on our school website with lots of information regarding Safeguarding policy and processes at St George's. This can be found under the 'Key Information' tab on the Homepage and includes national and local guidance as well as lots of useful links.

<https://www.st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk/safeguarding-1/>

Safeguarding is a key part of our work and our duty of care to our children and families. All staff receive regular training and updates regarding the broad spectrum of Safeguarding issues, most recently on our Non Pupil Days last week.

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

PTA New Parents Tea Party followed by Whole School Fun Afternoon	2pm Tea Party 3-5pm Fun Afternoon
Thursday 13th October 9.30am	Harvest Festival at St George's Church (parents invited)
Week Beginning Monday 17th October	St George's Book Week Parent Consultations (details to follow)
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 November	KS1 (Y1 and 2) Nativity performances (afternoon and evening - details to follow)
Wednesday 14th November	Reception Christmas Singalong
Friday 16th December 2pm	Carol Service at St George's Church
Tuesday 20th December	Last day of term

Well done!

We are always keen to share and celebrate children's achievements outside of school - please do send any information to the school office.



Congratulations to Sienna W for her success at the Great Bentley Show. She entered 12 classes and won two cups! The smaller cup was for gaining the most points in her age range (non-resident of Great Bentley) and the larger cup for gaining the most points overall in the children's entries! A mixture of crafts and baking saw her win 7 First prizes and 3 Second prizes. Well done, Sienna!

Well done to Elsie in Adventurers who had a hair cut and donated her locks to the Little Princess Trust. The Trust provides real hair wigs, free of charge, to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment and other conditions. Elsie also raised £240 for the Trust. This is a wonderful act of charity and compassion, Elsie - well done! And we think your new haircut is really great too!



St. George's Church would like to invite you to our

JAM SESSION

(Jesus and Me)

Restarting on

Friday 16th September 2022

Between 3pm and 4pm

A time for toys, games, activities, refreshments and socialising.

Children must be accompanied by a Parent/Carer

Every Friday during term time.

Everyone Welcome.

Admission free.

