



St George's C of E Primary School

Learning for Life



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28th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has flown by, with lots of exciting learning taking place at St George's. On Tuesday, the Adventurers children enjoyed an Ancient Greek experience day - you can see some photos on p.3 of the newsletter. On Thursday, the Navigators children began working on a new project called 'Spoken Word Power'. This project is being delivered by the Essex Book Festival and the Essex Children's University and involves working with a Poet Educator from the University of Essex to develop and perform poetry. The first of two workshops took place this week and the project will culminate in a live 'Poetry Slam' event at Essex University in March. The children thoroughly enjoyed their first session with Marina on Thursday. Marina works with lots of schools and commented on how engaged and enthusiastic our pupils are. Navigators also had a wonderful time at their first Forest School session with Nicky Nightingale on Monday. Nicky was very impressed with the children's enthusiasm for Forest School - they demonstrated respectful behaviour and great teamwork.

As National Covid restrictions begin to ease, we are thinking about ways to reunite our school community and support the children to see themselves as part of the whole school again. In this week's Collective Worship, we have been practising our St George's School Song and thinking about what makes our school special. Each class had a discussion using the sentence starter '**At St George's we.....**' and shared their ideas about how members of the St George's school community should act, behave and conduct themselves. I have collated these ideas and you can see them on p.4 of this newsletter. On Monday, we will join together for a whole school Collective Worship and I will share these ideas with the children then. We are very much looking forward to being together as a whole school again.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Keitch

Online Safety Update

Reminder: Parent Workshop with the Two Johns (EST ESafety)

Date: Thursday 3rd February

Time: 6pm

Please visit the EST ESafety Facebook page for further information



New resources added to our E-Safety website page

Two new links have been added to the E-Safety page on our website <https://www.st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk/e-safety/>

- 1) [The UK Safer Internet Centre \(UKSIC\)](#) have put together some simple, useful tips for parents to strike up conversations with children aged 3-11.
- 2) [Internet Matters](#) have a great page with information and resources for parents to discuss tackling fake news with their children.

Explorers News

Explorers class took part in a Philosophy for Children (P4C) session this week. P4C is an approach to teaching and learning, in which children take part in philosophical enquiry. It enhances thinking and communication skills, boosts confidence and self-esteem, and improves well-being.



We always begin these sessions with a game called 'catch my clap' whereby the children have to concentrate and clap straight after the teacher claps.

This week's session was based on 'strength' and the big question was - "Do you need big muscles to be strong?"

We use video clips from the CBeebies programme 'What's the big idea?' to ask age-appropriate questions to the children. The little boy Hugo in the video explores different viewpoints of big questions. In the strength video he presented the idea that ants do not have big muscles but they can lift big crumbs. It definitely got the children thinking.



Once the children have watched the clip, they take part in 'think-pair-share' and speak to a partner to say if they agree or disagree. The children are always keen to share their ideas and thoughts in the group. There is never a right or wrong answer.

The children learn to listen carefully to each other, to explore differences of opinion respectfully, and to value the ideas of others.

Adventurers News

On Tuesday, the Year Three and Four children came to school dressed as Greek Gods, Goddesses and mythical creatures, ready for their Ancient Greece workshop as part of their topic studies.

The children had a fantastic workshop learning all about different Greek myths and acting them out. They continued to build their understanding of how the ancient Greeks lived. The children had an opportunity to write their own myths and create their very own Greek names.



Are active

Like variety

Include everyone

*Enjoy outdoor
activities*

Share

*Listen to each
other*

*Use our
manners*

*Persevere and
never give up*

*Enjoy outdoor
activities*

*Learn from our
mistakes*



*Use kind voices
and words*

Work hard

At St George's we.....

*Respect each
other*

Love learning

*Are patient and
helpful*

*Listen to each
other*

*Care for each
other*

Are proud

Play together

Are good friends

*Always try our
best*

Help each other

Forest School 'Nightingale' Awards

Zoe - for showing a keen interest in bird watching

Reuben, Raff and Jake - for fantastic teamwork and problem solving skills with peers, to transport water.

Taylor - for mastering a new skill; being successful in throwing a rope over a high branch, to secure his shelter.

Bailey - for setting himself challenges today - putting up a hammock and climbing trees. Well done!

Eliza - for sharing her knowledge about hedgehogs and being interested to learn more.

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 3rd March	World Book Day (with dressing up!)
Week Beginning 14th March	Parent Consultations (details to follow - please do not try to book your appointment yet!)
Week Beginning 21st March	Navigators Residential Trip to Bawdsey Manor
Thursday 31st March	Easter Service at St George's Church 2pm
Friday 1st April	Last day of term
Tuesday 19th April	Return to school
Monday 6th June	Non Pupil Day



**SAFER
GREENER
HEALTHIER**

Sign up for a free adult cycling training session.

Whether you're a beginner or just want to boost your confidence, our qualified instructors can help.

Sign up at
<https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/registerinterest/registerselectcoursetype>
or for more details, email
SaferEssexRoads@essexhighways.org



Training sessions will run until 31st March 2022 and are available across Essex.



Essex County Council

We have been made aware of this new adult cycling training from Essex County Council.

To find out more and to book a place, please visit

<https://saferessexroads.org/road-users/cycling/> and scroll down to the Training for Adults section.

