

# St George's C of E Primary School

## Learning for Life



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Dear Parents and Carers,

This Monday's assembly was all about the power of words. I challenged the children to think about how we can use our words for good and the times when we can hurt or upset others by what we say to them. We looked at this Bible verse, from James, about the impact and potential consequences of careless or unkind words. We also revisited the Bible's 'Golden Rule' from Matthew - 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you'. This is something we regularly revisit and discuss with the children as it underpins all we do here at St George's.

**James 3:5**  
So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire!



This was followed up on Thursday by an assembly all about Respect, one of our Core Values. Again, the children were challenged to think about how they treat others and the importance of showing respect. We also talked about the importance of showing self-respect.

As a staff, we have been doing lots of work over the past six months to review and clarify our approach to behaviour management. There will be a revised policy published later this term and I will share the principles of our approach with you in due course.

### Parent Survey

Thank you very much to everyone who completed the Parent Survey in December. I am now working through the responses, summarising the results and planning next steps. I will share the findings with you in the next few weeks. I am pleased to say that the feedback was largely very positive.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Keitch

## Winter Reading Challenge



Well done to Lily in Pathfinders who has already completed the Essex Libraries Winter Reading Challenge!

We are so pleased to see Lily enjoying her reading.

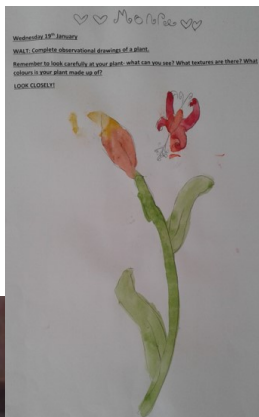
Please do let us know if your child has completed the Winter Reading Challenge too - it runs until February 19th so there is still plenty of time to take part.



# Pathfinders News

Over the past two weeks, Pathfinders have been looking at important places within our community. We walked over to our church to meet Mrs. Nicholls who has been a very influential and important member of our local community. Mrs. Nicholls showed us the very special church 'crib' which was used to help celebrate the story of Christmas. She also shared with us some special stories surrounding our church in Great Bromley, including the story behind the church's main stained glass window that was replaced in the 1950s after it was destroyed by a nearby explosion in World War II!

On Monday we had a Science day in school. Our science topic this half term is plants, and we spent the day learning all about plants and how they grow. The children conducted a cress seed experiment to find out what is essential for a seed to germinate and grow. We also made Gruffalo foodchains, made labelled plant models, watercolour flower paintings and went on a virtual nature walk to spot plants throughout the school! It was a lot of fun and made us all excited for Spring.



# Navigators News

Navigators Class has been very busy this week. Given the start of the new year, we thought it fitting to celebrate the passing of seasons by each writing a haiku for spring, summer, autumn and winter. The resulting poetry has been lovely, and the children have put a huge amount of effort and imagination into the decoration of their work.

We have also wrapped up our 'You're not invited' Dimensions topic sequence with rousing Viking war songs, powerful speeches and a set of brilliant invasion timelines. This has been a time of creativity and confidence-building.

Next week, we are due to begin our next Dimensions topic sequence, 'Go with the flow', which is all about the circulatory system and the way human bodies work.



## Reading Books

**Do you have any school reading books at home?**

Please take a look at home to see if you have any school reading books - several have gone missing in recent weeks, particularly in Explorers and Pathfinders.

Our reading books are tightly aligned to our Phonics scheme and are a very precious resource. Please return any books you find to the class teacher or the office- no questions asked!



## Dates for your Diary

You may wish to make a note if 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

## ACL Free Family Learning Courses

I have attached to the email details of ACL's Family Learning courses and workshops for the rest of this half term. There is a really good range of workshops available which address some common worries and issues we all have as parents, such as: First Aid, Anxiety, Growth Mindset and Managing Emotions.

All sessions are FREE and held virtually. Here is the link to the [ACL website](#).

All the details regarding session timings and joining instructions can be found on the attached document.





★ **Our Stars of the Week this week are:**



★ **Explorers**

★ Harriet - for completing an excellent story map in English this week

★ Zachary - for your enthusiasm in Phonics

★ **Pathfinders**

★ Ella-Rose - for continuously setting an example with your attitude to learning

★ Monroe - for working hard and persevering in Maths

★ **Adventurers**

★ Isla A - for your excellent listening skills and attention to detail. Well done!

★ Aimee - for your hard work and superb focus!

★ **Navigators**

★ Zoe - for wonderful supportive teamwork and courage taking the lead

★ Zach - for using your initiative in a helpful and considerate way

★ **Lunchtime Awards go to:**

★ **Explorers**

★ Chloe W - for doing up your coat buttons independently - you have been working so hard on it!

★ **Pathfinders**

★ Meredel - for sitting nicely while eating your lunch and for playing well



★ **Adventurers**

★ Isabella - for helping to pack away the play equipment and being polite and kind to everyone

★ **Navigators**

★ Freddie - for helping to put away the equipment in the shed without being asked

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

★ **Explorers**

★ Imogen - for working hard in Read, Write, Inc Phonics sessions



★ **Pathfinders**

★ Holly - for working hard in Read, Write, Inc Phonics

★ **Adventurers**

★ Charlie - for excellent dedication to your reading. We are very impressed with your efforts.

★ **Navigators**

★ Izzy - for showing confidence in public speaking and for great historical research.

