

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

12th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Navigators Residential Trip

Last week, our Year 5 and 6 children (Navigators Class) went on their Residential Trip to Birch Hall Adventures. They had a wonderful time, despite the rain. The Residential is an important milestone for children; for many it is their first time away from home and an opportunity to take part in activities which challenge them. We were



very impressed with how well they worked together on team challenges and encouraged each other to be brave. The younger children have enjoyed hearing all about it this week and have asked lots of questions!

Thank you to Mr Johnston, Mrs Sandell and Mrs Cullum for accompanying the children. See over the page for more photos.

Staffing Update

I am pleased to share with you that **Mr Glen Brunsdon** will be joining the teaching team at St George's in September, teaching our Year 3/4 class (Adventurers). Many of the children already know Mr Brunsdon as he completed a teaching placement with us in the 2023-24 academic year. He is really looking forward to joining us and will be in school to meet the children for transition sessions in July.

Non-uniform Day Friday 19th June

We are having one last non-uniform day on Friday 19th June in exchange for bottles and sweets for the Summer Fair, please. Donations should be brought into class, except any alcohol which should be brought to the School Office, please.

SEND Local Offer Roadshow



The termly Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows are for parents/carers of children with SEND to find out more about the range of services available in our local area. You can find out more about the Roadshows [here](#). The Summer term Roadshow will take place on **Monday 22nd June 9.30-12.30 at the Venture Centre in Lawford** and you can find out more about it [here](#).

Can You Help?

Do you have a children's table tennis table you no longer use? If so, we would be very grateful if you would consider donating it to the school. Please contact the School Office if you can help.



Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Keitch and the St George's Team

Flower Festival and Summer Fair

On **Friday 26th June**, the children will be performing presentations at the church as part of the St George's Church Flower Festival. You are very welcome to join us to watch the performances. The timings are as follows:

Explorers and Pathfinders (EYFS/KS1): 1.30pm

Adventurers and Navigators (KS2, including choir performance): 2.15pm

After school on the same day we are holding a joint school/church Summer Fair. Please do stay after the church performances to enjoy the refreshments and stalls in support of our village community. All proceeds will be shared between St George's Church and the school.

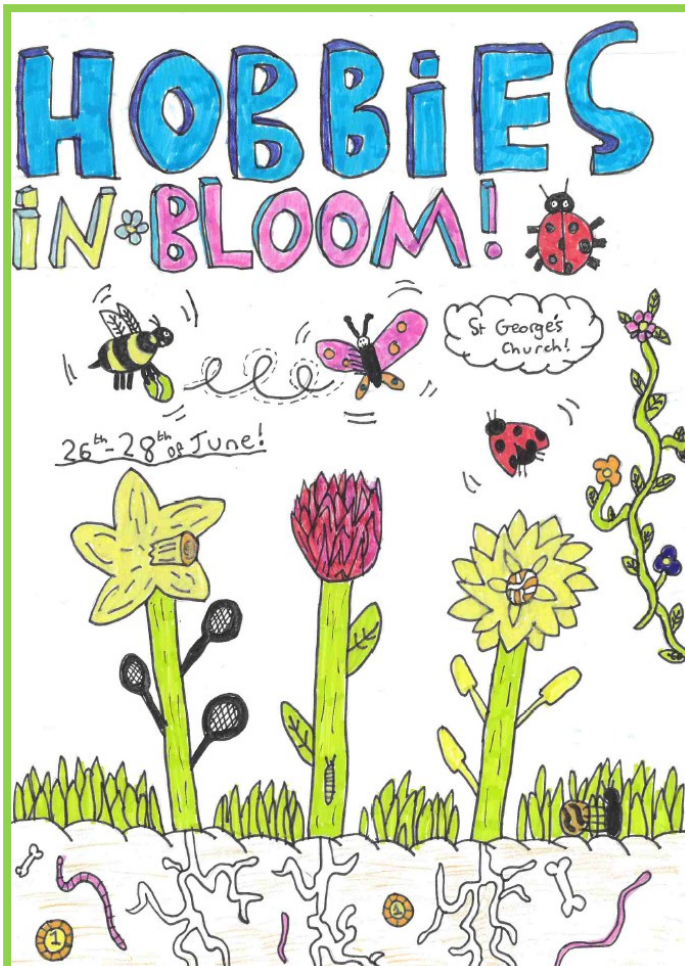
If you have any unused toys/games etc which could be used as prizes for the tombola, please bring them to the School Office. We have enough teddies and soft toys now, thank you!

Well done to Sienna in Navigators for winning the Flower Festival poster competition and to Eliza in Adventurers for designing the front cover for the programme.

We hope to see many of you there!

Left: Sienna's winning poster

Below: Eliza's winning programme cover



Birch Hall Residential

This year, the whole of Navigators Class journeyed to Birch Hall Adventures for an amazing few days on the stunning coastal region of Kirby Creek. The farm venue was charmingly rustic in nature, complete with rabbit warrens, mother ducks with their ducklings waddling across the green, peacocks and peahens in the courtyard and seal colonies off beyond the salt marshes. The behaviour and positive attitude of the children was a credit to St. George's, with many taking part in activities they never thought they would while respecting the staff, the site and the local wildlife. Some of the most popular activities included kayaking, boating out to see the seals (including a mother and her pup), building camps and fires and cooking sausages, archery and bouldering. Regarding the enjoyment factor, the photos speak for themselves, and even the odd rain shower couldn't come close to dampening spirits. Everything came together and everything clicked, and the children, doubtless, will be telling and retelling stories about their Birch Hall residential for a long time to come.



Key Stage One Football Tournament

Just before half term, Mrs Marsh and Mrs Lock took a group of children to the Key Stage 1 Football Festival at Clacton Leisure Centre. This was a mix of football skills, drills and a mini 5-a-side tournament. St George's played two games - we won one and lost one. Every child took part in the games and Mrs Marsh was really impressed with their courage to overcome nerves and play matches against other schools. They all showed resilience and perseverance throughout the afternoon. Thank you to the parents who came along and supported us, and for the drinks runs and cheering!



Well done, Rosie!



A big well done to Rosie (Pathfinders) for completing her Level 2 in Swimming and moving on with confidence to the big pool.

Congratulations Rosie and keep up the good work!

NIGHTINGALE FOREST SCHOOL AWARDS

This term, we are running a 'Wild Wellbeing' Forest School group on Monday mornings for a group of children and their parents. We're having a fantastic time, getting to know each other and sharing our knowledge and skills.

Dovas, and Mum Brigita - for sharing their Lithuanian heritage of egg dying with the group. Dovas was keen to supervise the fire while the eggs were cooking and it was lovely to see you taking ownership of our learning. Thank you both!



Leila 'Ladybird' - for your concentration and enthusiasm when Nordic weaving with a friend.



Pathfinders News

The last few weeks in Pathfinders have been filled with lots of new and exciting learning.



In Maths, we have introduced the children to fractions. We began by exploring whether things were equal, with the children working hard to understand what is fair. They particularly enjoyed sharing cakes and chocolate—although some children were very cheeky and tried to give themselves a bigger slice than Mrs Elliott! We then moved on to finding half of a shape, learning that half means one equal part out of two, and using some fantastic key vocabulary. It has been lovely to see this understanding being applied independently in our playdough area during continuous provision. More recently, we have started to explore finding

half of a number, using counters to support our learning.

In English, we have finished our unit on instruction writing. The children wrote their own instructions and then made their own jam sandwiches. It was wonderful to see them gather everything they needed from their written lists and carefully follow their own step-by-step instructions to create their sandwiches.



In Dimensions, we have begun our exciting new unit, *Going Wild!*, where we are exploring the animal kingdom. This has really captured the children's imagination. It has been fantastic to see them engaging with our



non-fiction books and using these to create their own non-fiction texts during continuous provision. The children are also becoming increasingly confident at editing their independent writing, remembering to include capital letters and full stops. During our continuous provision, the class worked together to complete a 300 piece puzzle using their knowledge of the continents around the world and the animals which live in them. **To enhance this learning even further, we are very much looking forward to our visit to Colchester Zoo on Monday. We can't wait to explore and see lots of amazing animals!**

Dates for your Diary

Monday 15th June	Pathfinders Class- Colchester Zoo trip
Friday 26th June	Flower Festival at St George's Church: 'Hobbies in Bloom'. After School: School/church joint Summer Fair Please see Parentmail and newsletter p.2 for details.
Tuesday 30th June pm	Sports Day—see letter for details
Thursday 9th July	Whole school transition morning
Thursday 9th July 6pm	Navigators production of 'Alice in Wonderland' performance to parents
Monday 13th July	Whole school transition morning
Friday 17th July	Last day of term (Monday 20th July is a Non Pupil Day)
Friday 17th July 1.30pm	Year Six Leavers' Assembly
Tuesday 1st September	Non Pupil Day (staff training)
Wednesday 2nd September	Frist day of term



Supporting the online lives of children with additional needs

Internet Matters have released a new report exploring the online experiences of children aged 9-16 with additional needs. The report states the following:

"As children with additional needs stand to gain - and lose - more from the time they spend online, it is critical that they are supported effectively by all those who are responsible for their online safety and wellbeing."

The report sets out recommendations for the Government and online platforms.

This image sets out the key findings; the full report is attached to the newsletter email and can also be found on our [school website](#).

A snapshot of the online lives of children with additional needs



online per week –
5 more than their peers



play games online



use AI chatbots



Two-thirds say
being online makes
them happy



say being online
is important to meet
people who become
good friends



Three-quarters say that
being online helps them
to participate in activities
and events that are
important to them



struggle to control
how much time they
spend online



Four out of five have
experienced harm online



They are **twice as likely**
as their peers to be
bullied online



Four in five children turn
to a parent when something
goes wrong online



Parents of children with additional
needs are **twice as likely** to reach
out to someone for help