

St George's C of E Primary School

Learning for Life

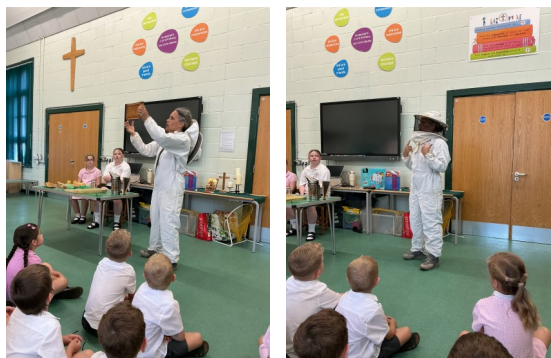


CONTACT US:
01206 230305
admin@st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk
www.st-georges-pri.essex.sch.uk

10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday morning, we welcomed Sarah, a local beekeeper, to talk to us all about honey bees. The children were a captive audience as Sarah showed us her beekeeper's suit and asked us lots of thoughtful questions. She told us about the different jobs of the bees in the hive and how the honey and wax is collected and used. We were very impressed by what the children already knew about bees, but we certainly all went away knowing much more!



Fun Facts

- There are over 200 different types of bee!
- Each honey bee in the hive makes just 1g of wax in its lifetime
- The smallest bee in the world is the size of the biggest bee's eye!

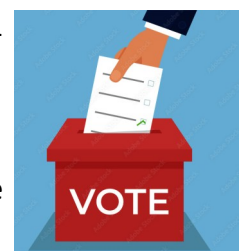
Eco Council Assembly

On Wednesday, our Year 5 Eco Councillors gave an assembly about eating lunch outside. They had prepared a PowerPoint to prompt them with key points to discuss with the rest of the school, such as litter and wasps. The children were very excited to sit together in the shaded areas to enjoy a picnic style lunch and even the school dinner children took their trays outside! This will continue for the rest of the term.



Children's Parliament Elections

On Wednesday, we will be holding our very own St George's Election! Pupils in Years 3-5 have been given opportunity to nominate themselves as candidates to become MPs for the Children's Parliament, a national initiative for Primary aged children established by the late Essex MP David Amess. We were very impressed with all the applications we received so all will be presenting their speeches to the school next week! Well done to: Imogen A, Alicia, Poppy, Bella, Ella-Rose, Alice, Lily W, Evie, Alexander, Jonathan and Tom. The whole school will listen to the speeches and then the children in Years 2-6 will take part in a ballot to elect two MPs to represent the school. We're looking forward to it!



Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

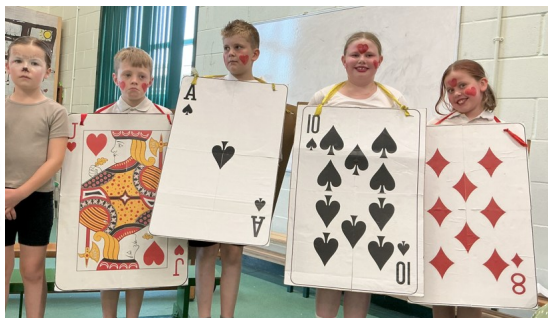
Mrs Keitch and the St George's Team

Alice in Wonderland



On Thursday, the Navigators children performed their show, 'Alice In Wonderland'. The whole school watched in the afternoon and the parents watched in the evening. The children did a fantastic job and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it!

It takes a huge amount of time, effort and energy to put on a production like this. Thank you to Mr Johnston for his unwavering commitment to supporting the children to put on a fantastic show. Well done, Navigators!



Carnival Time!

Kiyra (Pathfinders) and Darcy (Explorers) took part in the Great Bentley Carnival with their Rainbows group.

Well done, girls, it looks like you had a great time!



Well done, Scarlett!

Scarlett (Pathfinders) performed on stage at the Mercury Theatre in Colchester last weekend with her performing arts school. Well done, Scarlett, what a fantastic experience!



Gold Award!



Congratulations to Ella-Rose (Navigators) and Eliza (Adventurers) for being the first ever Brownies at their unit to receive their Gold Award. They have worked very hard to achieve this. Well done girls!

Well done, Elsie

Congratulations to Elsie (Pathfinders) who competed in her first Gymnastics competition and came 1st in her group. Well done, Elsie what a fantastic achievement!



Online Safety Updates

Article - Why is Turning Off Screens So Hard for Children?

Many online activities that children enjoy, such as games, YouTube and (in particular) social media are designed to be engaging, persuasive and grab attention and this is what makes it so difficult for children to come off the screen when asked. If this is something you experience in your household, you may be interested to read [this article](#) which gives parents some options to consider.



Ask About Games

AskAboutGames is an online platform full of useful information, tips and advice for parents around children's online gaming. Please do take a look. There are two recently-added resources:

- [The Power-Up Pact](#) - which is all about starting conversations around safe gameplay so that video games can fit into family life
- [Conversation guide](#) - as well as video games in the Power-Up Pact, this guide helps parents keep the conversations going by asking about apps, websites and online spaces children use every day.

Pathfinders News

Over the last few weeks in Pathfinders, we have been extremely busy and have enjoyed lots of exciting learning opportunities.

We have been finishing our work on the book *Meerkat Mail*, which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. This story has provided wonderful opportunities to explore postcard and letter writing, and many of the children have chosen to use their 'Get Busy Time' to write their own letters and postcards. We have also created a new message centre in the classroom, and the children have loved using this space to develop their writing and communication skills.



Our work on *Meerkat Mail* has linked beautifully with our Dimensions learning, where we have begun exploring animal habitats and adaptations. Once again, the children have used their 'Get Busy Time' creatively, building amazing 'carpet kingdoms'. They carefully designed a variety of small-world habitats, thinking about which animals would live in each environment and why.

In Maths, we have been learning to tell the time. The children really enjoyed investigating how quickly different activities can be completed by exploring seconds, minutes and hours. We made our own clocks, learning about the order of the numbers around the clock face and the roles of the hour hand and minute hand. Using our clocks, we have practised telling the time to o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to.



It has been another fantastic half term of learning, and we are incredibly proud of all the children's hard work, enthusiasm and achievements throughout the whole year!

Mrs Elliott

This week's Stars of the Week

On Thursday morning, the children spent the morning in their new classes with the adults that will be teaching and supporting them next academic year. All the teachers were very impressed with how sensible and enthusiastic the children were during this session. Those who are remaining in the same class proved themselves to be positive role models to the younger children and those moving to the next class were confident and eager to impress.

The teachers decided, therefore, to award each year group their own Star of the Week award this week, in recognition of a positive and successful transition morning.

There will be another transition morning on Monday 13th July.

Class meetings will take place early in the new term. The dates for these meetings will be shared in next week's newsletter.



Dates for your Diary

Monday 13th July	Whole school transition morning
Tuesday 14th July	PTA Penny Race Fundraiser
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	First day of term
Monday 2nd November	Non-Pupil Day
Friday 18th December	Last day of term

Penny Race Fundraiser

REMINDER: Don't forget to bring in your loose change in time for Tuesday's Penny Race Fundraiser! Coins are being collected in each classroom and classes will compete to see who can create the longest line of coins.