

St George's C of E Primary School

Learning for Life

18th September
2026



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Children's Parliament

On Monday, our Children's Parliament MPs, **Alice** and **Alexander**, visited County Hall in Chelmsford to take part in a training day in preparation for their debate in the House of Commons in October. It was a very interesting and informative day. The event took place in the Council Chambers and was led by an ex-MP in the role of Speaker of the House. She told the children all about the rules, protocols and traditions associated with parliamentary debate and led them in a practice debate about ice cream vs lentils! There was also some media training by Sharon Evans, a former news presenter who has interviewed some very important people. We also listened to an important speech about supporting young people leaving the care system, delivered by former Olympic athlete Fatima Whitbread.



On Wednesday, Alice and Alexander led an assembly all about their experiences. The next step is to gather the children's views from across the school in preparation for the October debate. The topic of this debate is: How can schools better hear and respond to the voices of children with disabilities? On Monday, the MPs will lead their first MP's surgery, discussing this topic with each class and recording their ideas to build into their speeches. It would be wonderful if you could talk to your child about this topic over the weekend to help them think about it ahead of their session with Alice and Alexander on Monday.

Harvest Festival

Our annual Harvest Festival takes place on **Wednesday 30th September at 2.00pm** at St George's Church. As always, parents are very welcome to attend. The children are enjoying practising our Harvest songs and the church will be decorated for Harvest.

At Harvest time, we encourage the children to think of those who struggle to provide food for their families in these difficult economic times. We invite you to bring food and household items to be donated to the local Foodbank, run by The Trussell Trust. Next week, the children will be told all about this initiative and will find out about the work of food banks and the difference their donations can make.

Urgently needed food items

tinned fruit
tinned & packet custard
Longlife Milk
UHT Fruit Juice
Instant Mash
tinned sponge puddings
small jar/packet instant coffee
hot chocolate powder

We've got plenty of

baked beans
soup
pasta
rice
cereal

Please bring donations to the School Office by **Friday 2nd October**.

Thank you for your support

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Mrs Keitch and the St George's Team

Explorers News

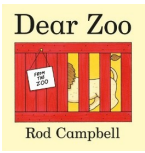
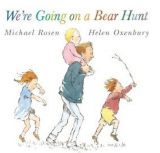
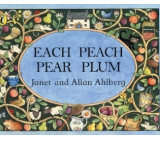
What a fantastic start our new children have made. Our Year 1's have been the perfect role models, teaching their younger peers our classroom routines, expectations and learning behaviours.

Many of our new children came from different nurseries and we have focused our first few weeks on forming new relationships and friendships. The children have played games to learn each others names and spent time exploring both the indoor and outdoor environments, playing alongside each other.

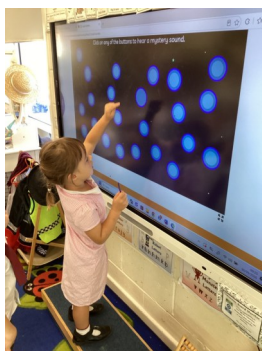


This week, we have introduced the 'Fantastic Five'. Each half term we will be choosing five books which will be read to the class on the same day each week. We will then be adding these stories into our Reading Book Area where the children can access the books independently and retell them using the repeated refrains and story language. Our first five stories are:



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 Dear Zoo Rod Campbell	 We're Going on a Bear Hunt Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury	 The Colour Monster Anna D'Amico	 Invisible String Fannie Karp	 Each Peach Pear Plum Janet and Allan Ahlberg

To begin our Phonics journey, we have been focussing on Phonological Awareness. This week, we identified sounds and went on a listening walk around school. We heard birds and traffic, as well as the I-Rock musicians and chattering voices. We have also been making Silly Soup, and listening for initial sounds in words.



This week's Stars of the Week

Explorers

Leyton—for impressing us with your 'can-do' attitude and giving activities a go!



Pathfinders

Scarlett and **Nola**—for rising to the challenge in Maths!



Adventurers

Darcy—for the effort you put in to managing your behaviour and the effort you put into all areas of learning

Rosie—for being helpful and a great role model to others



Navigators

Isabella—for showing wonderful positivity, and being a very bright sun

Alexander—for showing strong leadership and excellent space knowledge



DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR PARENTMAIL EMAILS - IF YOUR CHILD IS BEING AWARDED STAR OF THE WEEK, YOU WILL BE INFORMED THE DAY BEFORE (THURSDAY) SO YOU CAN ATTEND THE ASSEMBLY IF YOU ARE ABLE TO. PLEASE DON'T WORRY IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND; WE UNDERSTAND IT IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE.

Pupil Achievements

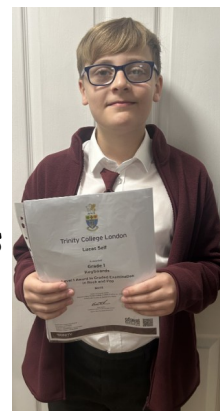


Well done to Nala (Navigators) for her achievement with the Great Bentley Girls Softball team. Nala was awarded Great Bentley Cricket Club Softball All Rounder in the girls category. Congratulations, Nala!



Congratulations to **Jonathan** (Adventurers) who took part in the Dedham 3k run at the weekend. He did really well, running the whole route without stopping with a great sprint to the finish line! Jonathan decided to fundraise for Blood Cancer UK in memory of his Grandad and so far has raised £385. What a wonderful achievement, Jonathan—well done. If you would like to donate, you can do so via this [Just Giving site](#).

Well done to **Lucas** (Navigators) who has achieved his Grade 1 Keyboard exam with a Merit. We all know what a talented pianist Lucas is and it is wonderful to see him having the confidence to take an exam. Keep going, Lucas!



Dates for your Diary

Please make a note of the dates below.

Wednesday 30th September	2.00pm Harvest Festival Service in Church Parents welcome to attend
Tuesday 20th October	Flu Immunisations You will be contacted directly by the NHS
Monday 2nd November	Non-Pupil Day
Wednesday 4th November	School Photographs (individual)
Friday 13th November	Children In Need Day—details to follow
Monday 16th and Wednesday 18th November	Parent Consultations We will let you know when bookings open
Thursday 3rd December	2.00pm Reception children Christmas Singalong performance—details to follow
Friday 4th December	Christmas Discos—details to follow
Tuesday 8th December	6.00pm Year One and Two Nativity performance Details to follow
Tuesday 15th December	2.00pm Christmas Carol Service in Church Parents welcome to attend
Friday 18th December	Last day of term
Monday 4th January	Non Pupil Day
Mon 15th-Fri 19th Feb	February Half Term
Friday 25th March	Last day of Spring term

NIGHTINGALE FOREST SCHOOL AWARDS

Freddie H — For excellent hands on learning at the mud kitchen, filling and pouring. It was lovely to see!

Elsie — For your imagination when 'cooking', using natural materials in your restaurant.

Tom, Archie and Keelan — For creative shelter building and imaginative play.