



St George's C of E School  
FRIDAY NEWS  
9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Depending on whether you are an 'old hand' or a new St George's parent, either welcome back or welcome to the start of another exciting school year.

It was lovely to see the children arriving on Monday morning with big smiles and exciting stories to tell of their adventures over the holiday. It seems as if many of you have had a lovely break, keeping busy and making the most of the wonderful weather.

I would like to extend an extra warm welcome to all our new families and children as we start our journey together. We welcome Orla into Year 1, and Oscar, Hattie, Camilla, Tabi, Huey, George, Kitty, Hanakah, Alfie, Archie, Noah, Ruby, Danny, Barnaby, Charlie, Theo, George, Rupert and Obi into Reception. We hope they will be very happy here at St George's School. We also welcome Mrs Tyler (Squirrels Class teacher), Mrs Monksummers and Mrs Rose (Teaching Assistants) and Mrs Goodman (Finance and Admin Officer) to our team.

We are only four days into the new school year as I sit to write this, yet everyone has already settled in brilliantly – our new Reception children have settled so well, it is like they have been here forever! They are currently playing outside my office window enjoying the outdoor space.

It has been truly wonderful to feel the school come alive with learning and laughter once again. The classes are already buzzing with curiosity, and the engagement of all the children in lessons this week has been really impressive. The children have been given the opportunity to apply for various pupil leadership roles this week, with the positions of House Captains being announced today. Our Year 5 and 6 children are hopefully busy writing their speeches ready for the school vote to decide our school council chair, vice chair and secretary roles next week. The class nominations and votes will then take place. This year we also continue with our wide range of pupil leadership opportunities: Play leaders, Junior librarians, light monitors (especially important with the energy price rises!) and our new Shining Lights assembly group.

As we focus on the year ahead, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support; we have fantastic children here and we look forward to working with you to help the children fulfil their potential and SHINE!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Jill



We at St George's are deeply saddened by the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Today we held a short assembly to offer our prayers to the Royal Family and give thanks for her dedication and service during her reign. Next week we will open a book of condolences in our reflection area for children, staff, parents and carers to add to if they wish. We will also hold assemblies next week to celebrate her service, and long life. Our sincere condolences go to the Royal family at this time.



## Birthdays

**Alexander (11) & Logan (6)**



Many Happy Returns

After School Clubs:

Please see the letter which was emailed home today regarding clubs on offer this term.

### NUT FREE SCHOOL

Please remember we are a NUT FREE school. Please ensure your child does not have any nut products in their lunchbox—this includes Chocolate/nut spread in sandwiches and cereal bars which contain nuts. We have children in school with severe Peanut Allergies.



### Attendance

#### Week ending 9.9.22

Hedgehogs – 100%

Squirrels – 100%

Badgers – 100%

Foxes – 99.2%

This week the winners are

**Hedgehogs, Squirrels & Badgers**



### House Point Scores

**Sandways**

**76**

**Chaffeymoor**

**61**

**Queen Oak**

**68**

## Achievements Out of School



Each week we celebrate the children's achievements outside of school. Please let us know if you would like a mention in the newsletter.

**Ethan (Y4)** - has earned the next belt (green) during his Martial Arts class. He has been promoted to the rank of 6<sup>th</sup> kyu.

**Harry F (Y4)** – had the opportunity in the holiday of training with the youth coach at Crystal Palace and then was a mascot during their game against Aston Villa.

**Kenan (Y5)** – has been crowned Carnival Prince for the Mere carnival – look out for him on the float.

**Percy (Y1)** – had a bumper crop of craft prizes (both first and second) at the Gillingham and Shaftesbury Show.

*Well done!*

### Car Park Reminders

The car park is for STAFF and Visitors parking only. As this is the main walkway through for our youngest children, please don't attempt to park in the car park.

**ALSO PLEASE DO NOT park near the BIG BLUE GATES or next to the grass bank next to the church.** There are solid white lines in the middle of the road and by parking here you are forcing other road users to cross the white lines to pass—causing a risk to other vehicles on the brow of the hill.

Please help us to keep our children safe!

### Dates for your Diary

12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Foxes Meet the Teacher
13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Badgers Meet the Teacher
14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Squirrels Meet the Teacher
15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Hedgehogs Meet the Teacher
16 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Achievement Assembly
21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	Open Afternoon 1:15 – 3pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	MacMillan Coffee Morning (Hall)
27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Badgers trip to the Roman Baths
24-28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	HALF TERM

**PE DAYS** Remember children need to come to school ready for PE on their PE Day

**Hedgehogs - Tuesday & Friday**

**Squirrels - Tuesday & Thursday**

**Badgers - Monday & Friday**

**Foxes - Monday & Wednesday**

### Have your details changed?

Our priority in school is to keep all our children safe whilst they are at school.

Therefore, please inform the office of your contact details, home time arrangements or if your child's medical needs have changed so we can update our records.



### Free School Meals

Please can I encourage parents to apply for Free School Meals, if you are eligible? You do not have to have the meals but eligibility may mean that some trips are significantly cheaper for these families, and children eligible for Free School Meals attract additional funding to the school (which is important at this time of budget cuts). This applies to all families even if you are currently receiving UIFSM (universal infant free school meals). Free School Meals can be awarded if parents/carers are in receipt of:

- \* Income Support                      \* Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- \* Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- \* Child Tax Credit (providing your annual income is less than £16,190)
- \* Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- \* Support Under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- \* Working Tax Credit 'run on'                      \* Universal Credit.

Please note, if you currently receive Working Tax Credit, you are not eligible to claim Free School Meals. However, if you become unemployed or reduce weekly working hours below 16, you can claim Free School Meals for a 4 week period after employment ceases or hours reduced.

### Open Afternoon

Is your child due to start school in September 2023? Please come along to see what our school has to offer during our Open Afternoon.  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 1:15pm – 3pm

### Class Email contact addresses

Please use these email addresses to contact the class teachers:

Hedgehogs — hedgehogs@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

Squirrels — squirrels@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

Badgers — badgersclass@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

Foxes — foxes@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

### Attendance matters

It is vital that children return to school for their educational progress, wellbeing, and wider development. School attendance is mandatory again from the beginning of this new academic year. For parents and carers of children of compulsory school age, this means that the legal duty on you as a parent to send your child to school regularly applies.

As in other years' holiday requests in term time will not be approved and you may be issued a fixed penalty notice by Dorset Council.

We are of course mindful that children are unwell from time to time and need to remain at home. If your child is unable to attend school as they are unwell please let Mrs Goodman in the office know before 9am.

### Thank you

The staff and I would like to say a big "Thank You" for all the lovely cards, messages and gifts we received at the end of the summer term.

### New School Year Reminders

Snacks for playtime should be healthy—fruit, vegetables, cheese. Crisps are not suitable.

School starts at 8:40am every morning when the gate is open.

Registration closes at 8:45am. If your child is late they will be marked as late in the register.

## Meet the Teacher Sessions

Next week we will be hosting a short "Meet the Teacher" session for each classroom. This is an opportunity for you to come into school to see the classroom and hear from the teacher the systems and procedures in place in that classroom. This is a classroom information session NOT an individual Parents Consultation time. If you would like to meet with your child's teacher to discuss something urgent please contact them to arrange a convenient time.

**Foxes - Monday 3:20-3:40pm**    **Badgers – Tuesday 3:20-3:40pm**

**Squirrels – Wednesday 3:20-3:40pm**

**Hedgehogs – Thursday 3:20-3:40pm**

We started the term off on Monday morning by attending St George's Church with a special assembly to welcome our new Reception children to school. Our Year 6 children welcomed their Reception buddies, introducing them to the whole school.

Achievement Assemblies start next Friday – all parents are welcome and a message will be sent out to the parents of those children who will be receiving an award.

## ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL PTFA HOSTS HORSE RACE NIGHT



**On Saturday 1st October**

**In aid of St George's School PTFA**

**First Race Starts at 7pm**

**At St George's School Hall, Bourton.**

**Tickets £10 includes hot meal**

**Sponsor a Race for £25 - and get guaranteed fame!**

**Contact Kim Munster for further details and tickets**

**[PTFA@bourton.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:PTFA@bourton.dorset.sch.uk) / 07745956987**



Introducing our House Captains: Karis, Coby, Noah, Hollie, Laila and Dexter.

We received 17 applications for House Captain this year so it was a very difficult decision to choose.

## Hedgehogs News

What a wonderful first week we have had! The Reception and Year 1 children have looked super smart in their uniform. The Year 1s are getting used to their new routine and setting a good example to the Receptions. We have been getting to know the environment, the rules and routines and making new friends. Receptions have started phonics by identifying pictures while in English the Year 1s have been drawing and writing about their holidays. In maths this week we have been focusing on matching and sorting objects. In the afternoons, Year 1 have had a lovely opportunity to go on the apparatus, they were very good at keeping safe and moving in different ways. For Art we loved talking about food! This gave us the opportunity to draw our favourite food out of shapes.

We hope you have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Ramage, Mrs Nicholls and Mrs Monksummers

## Squirrels News

Squirrels have had a lovely week settling back into the school routine. Our focus this week has been 'Squirrels' and we started with a story called 'The Squirrels Who Squabbled', but they did become good friends in the end! We used the story as a basis for our discussion about how we behave in class, who we are friends with and focussed our ideas to our golden rules - Stay Safe, Be Respectful and Try Your Best. We have been learning about our new routines and expectations in the classroom, getting used to where everything is and our new places. We had a very exciting PE lesson where we got all the equipment out and learnt how to use it safely. The children thoroughly enjoyed this session and were sad to pack it away!

We have our 'Meet the Teacher' session next Wednesday at 3.20pm and I look forward to seeing all of those parents who can make it. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Toy and Mrs Tyler 😊



The Application process is now open for applying for School places for September 2022. If you have a child due to transfer to secondary school or if you have a 3/4 year old due to start school please check the website of your home County for details.

## Badgers News

It has been wonderful to welcome Badgers back this week. They have been so excited to see each other and have been very enthusiastic in lessons too. They have been fantastic getting used to new routines. In English, we looked at Roald Dahl characters and had great fun reading about Mr and Mrs Twit and Mrs Trunchball. They then wrote their own character descriptions of a 'bad' character. Some of them were truly revolting!

Our science topic starts off the new year in Badgers focusing on diet and nutrition and our first lesson looked at the different food groups: protein, fats and oils, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals and which foods belong in to each group. All of Badgers took home a food diary to complete for a week to record our meals so we can explore what foods we like to eat as a class. We also enjoyed our first football lesson with Mr Betts from Premier sports, and focused on dribbling a ball.

We hope you all have a great weekend. No doubt many of our Badgers will be very tired but we look forward to next week already.

Mrs Shears and Mrs Welshman

PS: There are a lot of snack boxes left over this week, so Mrs Welshman will bring them to the playground for parents to collect and name please.

## Foxes News

Welcome to Foxes! It has been a great first week in Foxes. The children have returned with great enthusiasm and on Monday our Year 6s enjoyed meeting their buddies again. In class the children have started their new topic of "Transatlantic Travels" and have been looking closely at the continent of South America. After revising the continents and oceans of the world, the children used an atlas to locate the countries in South America before plotting their capital cities. They then researched their chosen country finding out key information such as: the currency, the area, the population, the language and their flag. They then created fact files which will be displayed around the school.

In their first session of Forest School with Ms Rankin, the children discussed our Golden Rules of Being Respectful, Staying Safe and always Trying our Best, and how they apply to Forest School. They also revised using tools, before they each made a disk out of wood with a key message on to display in the Forest School area.

Mr Abbott



### Uniform

The children are looking very smart in their uniform, could I please remind everyone that PE kits need to be in school every day and that the children do need to bring a coat to school every day.

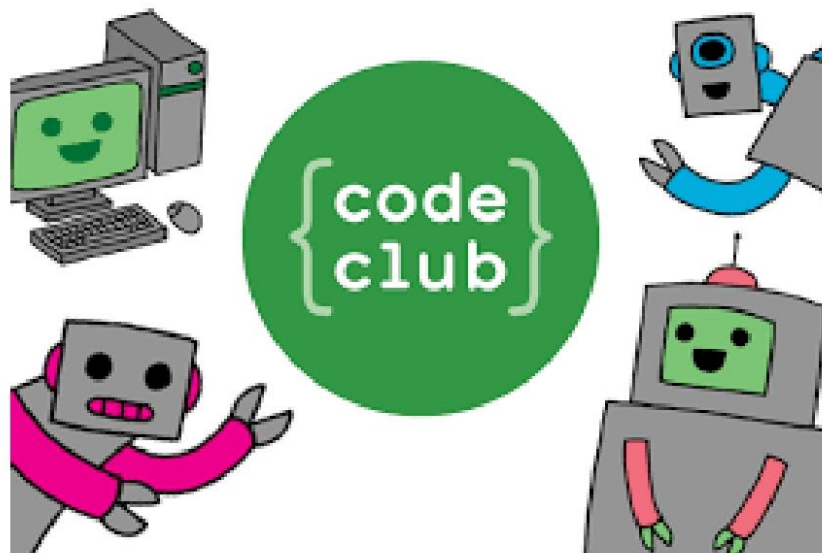
We like to get the children outside in all weathers for playtime and lunchtime and if they don't have a coat they will not be allowed outside if it's wet or cold.

Also a gentle reminder that trainers are only to be worn for PE as they are not part of our every day school uniform.

Jewellery should not be worn for PE and only small stud earrings should be worn at school. As always, please make sure everything your child brings to school has their name on it!

# Code Club

Code Club is a fun and creative way for children aged 9-11 to learn the basics of computer programming!



**Gillingham Library**

**Every Tuesday during Term Time  
3:45pm - 4:45pm**

Spaces are strictly limited so booking is essential on:

**For more information**  **01747 822180**

Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent or carer.



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[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries)