



St George's C of E School
FRIDAY NEWS
10th September 2021

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 enjoying the lifting of restrictions.

I would like to extend an extra warm welcome to all our new families and children as we start our journey together. We welcome Finley into Year 1, Lydia into Year 5, Isabelle and Jessica into Year 4 and Logan, Lilly, Percy, Hector, Evie, Felicity, Imogen, Maddie, Tabitha, Jasmine, Michael, Harry, Luke, Halle, Milo, Charlie, and Lucy into Reception. We hope they will be very happy here at St George's School. We also welcome Mrs Ramage (Hedgehogs Class teacher), Mr Oxton and Miss Gregory (Teaching Assistants) to our team.

We are only four days into the new school year, yet everyone has already settled in brilliantly – our new Reception children and our new children in other year groups have settled so well, it is like they have been here forever! Well done to you all.

It has been truly wonderful to feel the school come alive with learning and laughter. 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.

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 Farndale

We started the term off on Monday morning by attending St George's Church – what a wonderful feeling having everyone together under one roof! Our Year 6 children welcomed their Reception buddies and all the new children to school then lit a candle and placed it on the altar. This week we have also enjoyed whole school assemblies in the hall – it's been far too long since we were able to do this. It was most definitely a "goose bump" moment having the school singing together. Achievement Assemblies start next Friday – parents are welcome and a message will be sent out to the parents of those children who will be receiving an award.



Birthdays

**Mrs Cuff, Alexander (10), Logan (5),
Chloe (9) and Miss K**



Many Happy Returns

Spaces are still available for **Archery Club** after school. Please visit <https://primesportscoaching.class4kids.co.uk> to book your place

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 Nut Allergies.



Attendance

Week ending 10.9.21

Hedgehogs - 100%

Squirrels – 96.2%

Badgers – 98.8%

Foxes – 99.1%

This week the winners are

Hedgehogs



House Point Scores

Sandways

171

Chaffeymoor

159

Queen Oak

170

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.



Dolly (Y3) – was invited to try out for the development squad at Port Regis gymnastics club over the holidays and was successful in getting into the squad.

Well done!

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.

ONE
KIND
WORD
Can Change
Someone's
Entire Day

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!

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

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

Hedgehogs - Wednesday & Friday

Squirrels - Wednesday & Friday

Badgers - Monday & Friday

Foxes - Monday & Thursday

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.

Farewell and Thank you

During the holidays Ms Dickinson decided leave her role of Teaching Assistant at St George's. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work over the years.

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. Please also take into account the Covid quarantine restrictions on self-isolating when returning from some countries.

We are of course mindful that children are unwell from time to time and need to remain at home. Moreover, children may be unable to attend in line with public health advice because they are self-isolating due to a positive coronavirus (COVID-19) test result or due to having symptoms. If your child is unable to attend for this reason, you MUST contact school.

If a child presents with COVID-19 symptoms during the school day parents will be contacted and asked to collect the children within 30 minutes.

New School Year Reminders

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

School starts at 8:45am every morning when the gate is open.

Registration closes at 8:55am. If your child is late they will be marked as late in the register.

Hedgehogs News

This week has been all about getting to know each other as well as learning about the new routines and expectations in the classroom.

Our new Hedgehogs have settled beautifully and have had fun exploring their classroom as well as making new friends. The Year 1 Hedgehogs have been amazing role models for the younger children.

The children all enjoyed spending time in our Forest School area yesterday with Ms Rankin.

They have joined us in assembly and made the most of the lovely sunshine we've had by playing outside.

Our 'Meet the Teacher' session is on Thursday at 3.20pm and Mrs Ramage is looking forward to seeing all of those parents who can make it and showing them the classroom environment.

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 about Cyril and Pat, who became good friends. We used the story as a basis for our discussion about how we behave in class and focussed our ideas to our new golden rules - Stay Safe, Be Respectful and Try Your Best.

We have been learning about our new routines and expectations in the classroom and getting used to the new layout. It has been especially exciting to be back in the hall with the whole school for assemblies.

Our topic of toys begins next week, so this week the children had a chance to explore the areas in the classroom and the whole of the outdoor area along with Hedgehogs.

We have our 'Meet the Teacher' session on 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 Cuff 😊

Badgers News

It has been great to welcome back all our Badgers this week. We have spent time getting used to the new layout in the classroom and establishing our new school Golden Rules. As a hook to our class topic, Invaders and Settlers, we became Anglo-Saxon tribes and played a game involving taking over different regions in England. We also wrote some special Anglo-Saxon poems called kennings by making noun-verb phrases and had great fun trying to work-out what people were describing. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to our classroom for the Meet the Teacher session on Tuesday at 3.20pm.

Have a good weekend
Mrs Shears and Mrs Welshman

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 “Reach for the Stars” and have begun researching the planets in our solar system. They have found out lots of interesting facts and next week will use these to create fact files and posters. On Wednesday, the children were ‘Teamwork Tigers’ and worked together to make space Mosaics – the outcomes were amazing!

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 were tasked with making a new sign for the Forest School area using natural materials. Mr Abbott



ALL CHILDREN WILL NEED PE KITS IN SCHOOL ON A MONDAY AS WE START PROJECT TOUCHLINE RUGBY WITH EACH CLASS. Attached to this email you will find a consent form to be completed if you would like your child to be included in the presentation.

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.



This year we are re - launching our Junior Librarians as we can now open the library without bubble restrictions.

The role includes opening up and manning the library each lunchtime for children to come and change books or simply sit and read a book.

Our Junior Librarians will have the important task of recommending books for others to read and keeping the books tidy on the shelves. If you are in Year 3 – 6 and would like to be a young librarian, please hand a book review to Mrs Toy explaining why it is your favourite book. These will be displayed in the library.

Closing date Wednesday 15th September

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!



FREE gardening equipment for your school

Do you shop at Morrison's??? Could you help our school??? Here's how.....

From September to October 2021, when you spend £10 spent in store or online, you'll get one Grow Token (for every £10 you spend) that school can then redeem for a wide range of gardening and growing equipment.

You will need to download the MyMorrisons app today to take part.

For more information check out :
<https://www.itsgoodtogrow.co.uk>

Dates for your Diary

13 th Sept	Foxes Meet the Teacher
14 th Sept	Badgers Meet the Teacher
15 th Sept	Squirrels Meet the Teacher
16 th Sept	Hedgehogs Meet the Teacher
17 th Sept	House Challenge

Music Lessons

Piano - lessons started this week

Violin – lessons start 15th Sept

Woodwind/Brass – lessons start 23rd Sept

Guitar – lessons start 24th Sept