

# FEBRUARY 2022

## NEWSLETTER



**St. George's**  
C of E School

NURTURE, LEARN, SUCCEED

Tel: 01562 824206

Email [office@stgprimary.org](mailto:office@stgprimary.org)

Website: [www.stgprimary.org](http://www.stgprimary.org)

Our value for the next Spring half term is 'Honesty'.

Some questions to ask your child:

- Why is it important to tell the truth?
- Why is honesty so difficult at times?
- At what times do you appreciate people being honest with you?

### Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful half term and it is lovely to see the children well rested, back at school and ready for their learning.

As a school, this half term our visible consistency will focus on 'Lovely Listening' and we ask that you support us with developing a good understanding of what good listening looks like at home and at school. We encourage all children to follow our listening rules at school and these are displayed in each classroom.

As some of you are aware, the Government guidance changed last week in relation to isolation procedures. If your child tests positive to covid-19, as long as they are fit and well they should attend school as normal. Obviously, if your child is feeling unwell, please contact the school office and their absence authorised. I am looking forward to seeing our whole school attendance figures improve this term. It is so important that children attend school each day, as good attendance impacts on academic, social and emotional wellbeing.

On Monday, I took the whole school assembly and it was lovely to be back in the hall. The school Vision statement was shared with the children and we are looking towards reviewing our school Vision and Values. Are they still appropriate for our school? Do our school Values drive forward our school vision? The children do love the message of '**Nurture, Learn, Succeed**' and we discussed the meaning of each word. As a staff, with the Governors and with the support of the Worcestershire Diocese, we will be reviewing our Vision and Values and we will be asking for your feedback too in the near future.

As a Trust, this half term we are planning an exciting STEM project. The theme this year is 'Saving Our Planet'. Each teacher has visited the Arboretum at Upper Arley and will be using this environment as a teaching resource. In the next few weeks, all the children will be designing a product to 'Save Our Planet' and will be making a prototype before they will be assembling their finished product. Please talk to your child about their STEM learning during the week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> March. We look forward to sharing their learning with you.

I am so proud of our school uniform and the majority of the children are looking really smart. Please support me in ensuring that your child arrives at school each day wearing their full school uniform. This should include a school tie, a cotton white shirt (and not a polo shirt) and sensible school shoes and not boots. It is important for all the uniform to be named as things are misplaced and they are able to be returned to the owner if the item of clothing has their name in it.

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March it is World Book Day and Mrs Short has written further details below. As we are in the process of introducing a new reading programme at school, all the books are being scanned to be included in the programme. We have a surplus supply of books that are pre-loved and we will be giving them away on the school playground after school on Thursday. There is no cost for these books, they just need to go to a good home to be read and enjoyed.

I look forward to seeing all the children dressed as their favourite book character on Thursday and thank you once again for continuing to support your child's learning journey.

Kind regards

Mrs Clare Snape

Headteacher

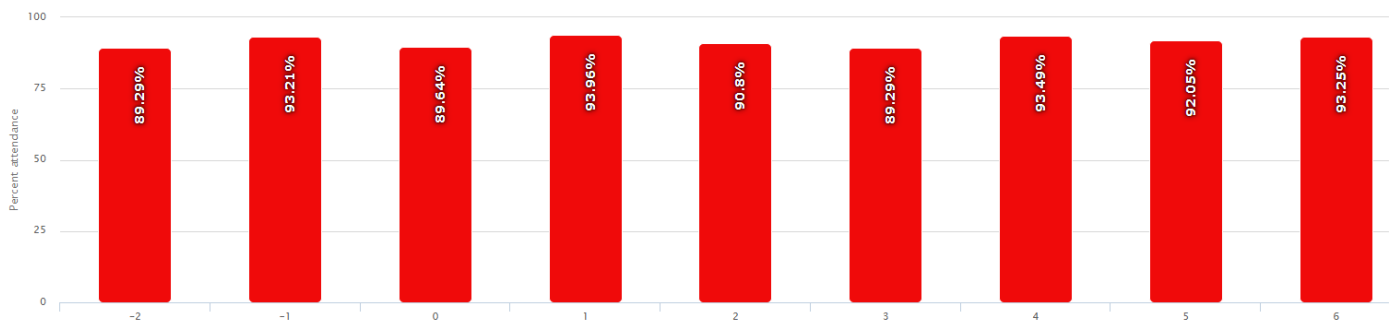
# Attendance FEBRUARY 2022

The target this year is to ensure all children have at least 96 % attendance.

Attendance for the month of February was 91.7 %

Thank you to all Parents and Carers for ensuring that their child/ren attend school and are punctual for the start of the school day. Good attendance has a positive impact on your child's well-being and educational outcomes.

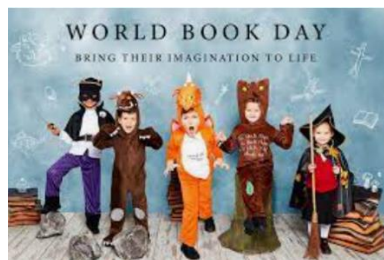
We do know that from time-to-time children are really too poorly to come to school. If this is the case, please ring the school office by 9.15am on 01562 824206 or email, if you prefer, [office@stgprimary.org](mailto:office@stgprimary.org). Phones are manned from 8.00am but an answerphone service is available before this time. It is important that you inform school if your child is unwell.



## Home Reading

Reading dates for your diary:

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March- World Book Day**



Children can celebrate **World Book Day** by dressing up as their favourite character from a book and by bringing a £1 donation so that we can purchase beautiful new books for our class libraries.

As we are in the process of changing our reading scheme in KS2, we have some books that need a new home. On World Book Day, look out for books under the shelters of your child's classroom that are **FREE** to a good home. Whilst these books will no longer be used as home readers, they will still be fabulous to enjoy at home with your child!

## Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March-Reading workshop for Year 1

Reading workshop for parents in Year 1 to take place 9:00-9:30. Workshops are tailored to the specific needs of different groups of children so invites will follow shortly!

Thank you,  
Mrs Short

# NURSERY & TOTS

Welcome to Tots and Nursery!

In Tots...

We have shared the story How to grow a Dinosaur the children enjoyed making their own Pegasus clipping pegs onto card using their pincer skills. They also found dinosaurs hiding in jelly and chocolate mousse. We went in a rocket to the moon like the bear in 'Whatever Next', the children helped to make a rocket, they used a colander for their space helmet made short bread stars and had a picnic on the moon. We have been learning to be more independent by peeling our own fruit and buttering our toast at snack time.

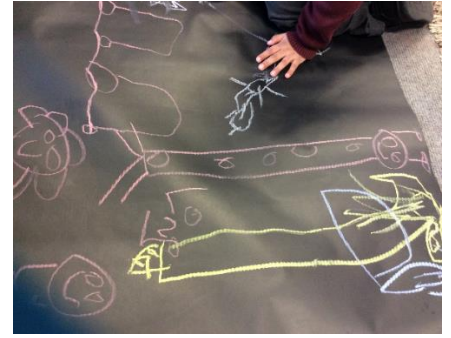
In Nursery...

We have been looking at pirates and reading 'Zoe and Beans Pirate Treasure' by Chloe and Mick Inkpen. We found gold coins made of chocolate! Children made treasure maps and used it to explore the outdoor classroom. This led to looking at the symbols on treasure maps and learning how to draw the X and arrows to help tell us which direction we should go we even had a go walking the plank! The children balanced beautifully as they walked across, many going 'arr' as they walked over. We even made a parrot with lots of different coloured feathers.



# RECEPTION

In Reception, we have been working super hard and having lots of fun! Following our topic of 'What's in my world?' we have been looking closely at stories about African Animals. We spent two weeks looking at the story 'Giraffes can't dance' by Giles Andreae. We created a class story map together, to help us re-tell the story with actions. The children loved re-telling the story together and came to know it so well! Some of the children created their own brilliant story maps to retell the story.



The children were really excited when a mysterious basket of fruit had been delivered to our classroom. There were tangerines, a pineapple, avocados, mangos and passionfruit in the basket, to name a few! It sparked some great predictions about who could have left the basket and where the fruit could have come from? This hooked us into our new focus text of Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne. The children were really looking forward to tasting the fruit and we talked about what they tasted like, together.

"sweet like chocolate"

"juicy"

"crunchy"

"soft"



The children then wrote some fantastic captions and simple sentences to describe what their favourite fruits tasted like.

Thank you all for your continued support. It has been lovely to see parents continuing to engage with Tapestry and the home-school link books, to share what your child enjoys outside of school. Please could you ensure you are reading with your child at least three times a week and record this each time, in the home-school link book. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Reception team. Thank you 😊

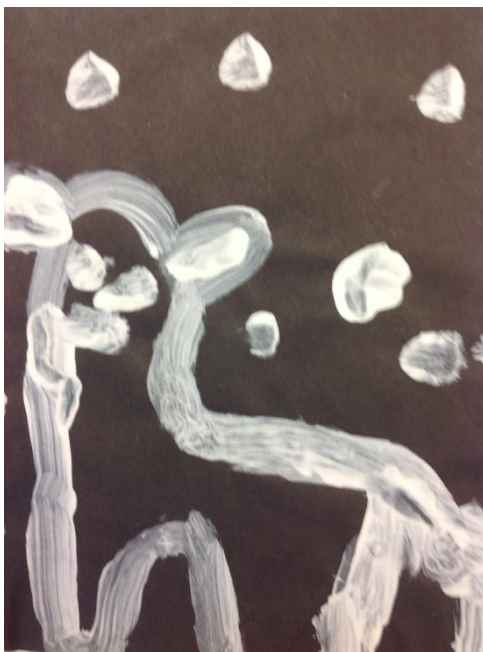
Miss Austin, Mrs Tidmarsh and Miss Grant

## YEAR 1

We have been doing lots of super learning in our writing! We have finished off our non-chronological reports on penguins and then did some fantastic letters to the whale from the book 'Storm Whale' by Benji Davies.

In maths we have been developing our place value skills! We have been looking at the value of bigger numbers and comparing them too!

In art we have looked at the work of Oliver Jeffers and used 'Austin's butterfly' technique to improve our work. At the end of our unit, we got to paint our Arctic animals from our sketches on black paper with white puffy paint. We have all done such a great job!



We are busy learning new sounds in phonics as well as lots of 'red words' and learning to read more speedily too! Please remember to read at least three times a week and record this in your child's diary!

If you would like to do some extra learning to do at home, please feel free to log on to Purple Mash as there are lots of activities that have been set as 'to dos'!

We can't wait to do some more super learning this half term!

Miss Mills, Mrs. Khan and Miss Davies.

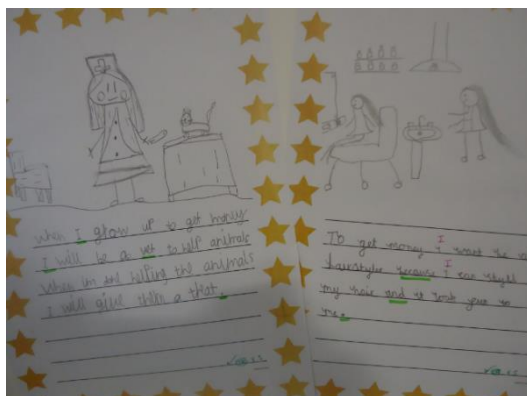
## YEAR 2

As artists, we have been busy making printing tiles. We used beads, string and PVA glue to create tiles so that when we dipped them in paint, they would leave a fabulous imprint behind. We looked at patterns that the aboriginal people had already created and these helped inspire us on how to create our designs.

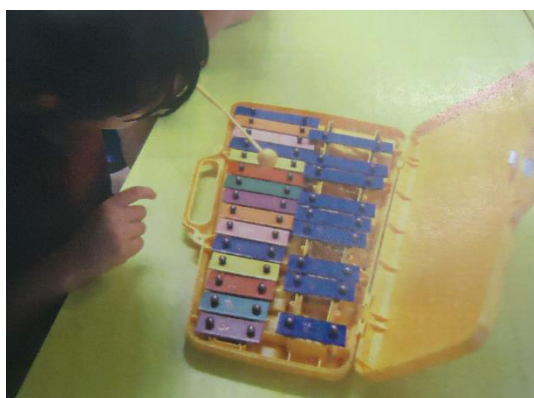


In RE, we explored the idea that Christians think of Easter as a new beginning and linked it to the season of spring, marking new life and new beginnings. We used water colours to create images of new beginnings.

In our PSHCE lessons, our topic was 'Money Matters'. We thought about where money comes from, how to keep it safe and the difference between spending money on what we **need** and what we **want**. We also shared our dreams of what jobs we might like to do when we are older.

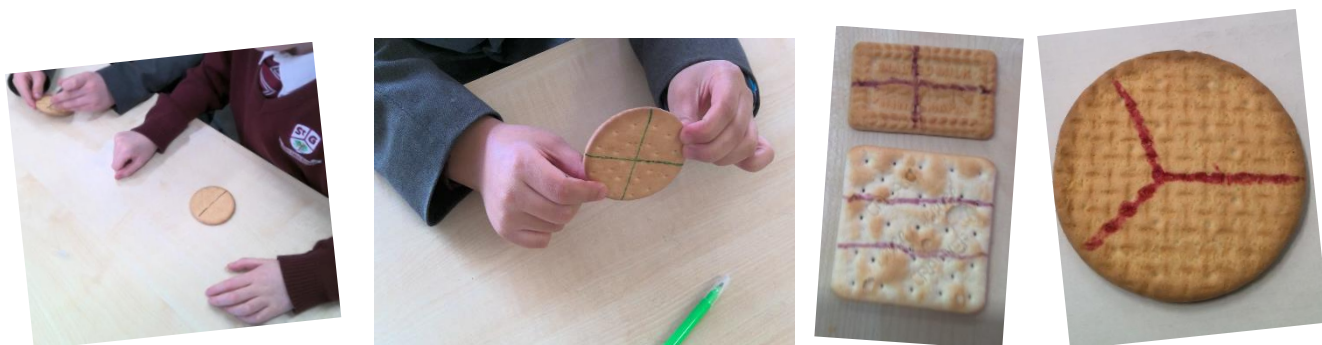


We have loved being musicians this term. We learned about tuned and untuned instruments and how to use the notes BA and G to play a simple tune on the xylophones. We also used percussion instruments to represent different weathers and even used the laptops during computing lessons to make and record our musical masterpieces!



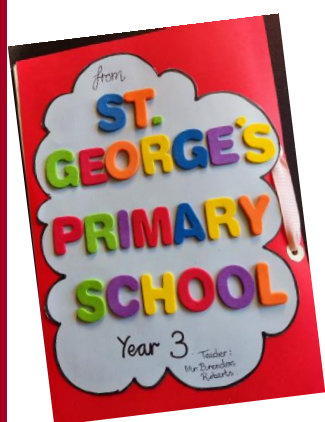
## YEAR 3

Year 3 have had another busy month with lots of learning both inside and outside of the classroom. In maths, we have moved on from our four formal operations, although we will constantly revisit them to keep them fresh in our minds, and we have started to look at fractions. Our first lesson was quite exciting as we reignited our learning using biscuits and edible pens which meant that we could eat our work at the end of the lesson if we wanted to.



In our reading lessons, we are back reading a book by one of our key authors in Year 3, The diary of a killer cat by Anne Fine and the children are using prompts in the text to read with expression as well as using our expert tips to search for clues to answer questions and make predictions about the story. We are starting to use our inference skills too to answer questions about the story. In English, we are using the picture book Journey by Aaron Becker to write and punctuate a piece of direct speech that might be spoken by the main character in a scene from the book. We are continuing to build up our skills in PE to be able to play ball games such as football and we are finishing off our work on coasts in Geography.

In French, we have learnt how to say colours and a few shapes before drawing our own shapes and colouring them in and in RE we continue to discuss how festivals and worship show what matters to a Muslim. In Art we are looking at the skill of printing and we have experimented with many different ways of printing while looking at the artist Lynn Bailey. While in PHSE, our thoughts about work in the community led us to a conversation about The Queen and the work that she does. This turned to a conversation about her platinum jubilee and a decision to send her a card from Year 3 to celebrate and thank her for her achievements and work to date. We cannot wait to see if we get a reply...



Finally, we have carried out a few experiments as well as been on a trip connected to our work in science, which has been all about plants. We have learnt about the different parts of a plant and a flower and then we investigated their requirements for life and growth by taking away one of

the needs that we thought plants needed to grow successfully. We were surprised by our results when seeds without light grew but they were not very healthy.

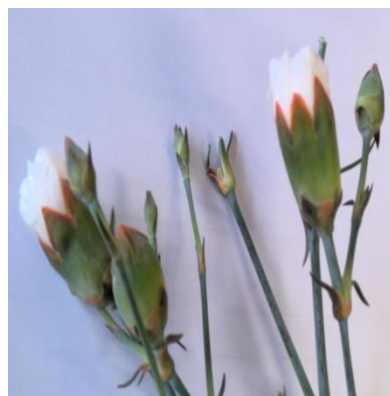
### Day 10



A few of us tried our control plants that had everything a plant needed to grow successfully and while we carried out this experiment, we watched a plant (we called Cynthia) grow and come into flower in our class and it filled the room with its scent, which was very nice to walk into each morning.



In our second experiment, we wanted to investigate how water is transported in plants and so we put some white flowers and celery into some water with food dye and observed what happened over the following days. We were really pleased to be able to see that the dyed water had been taken up the plant into the flower and leaves of the celery. We learnt that water is transported by special cells called xylem from the roots up the stem and into the flower and leaves.



To consolidate and extend our learning about plants, we went to a very soggy (to start) Martineau Gardens in Birmingham and carried out a Professor Plant workshop where we reminded ourselves about the different parts of the plants and how they get pollinated by insects such as bees and butterflies before we had a tour of the gardens looking for early signs of plant growth and identifying different trees by looking at their leaves. We also went into the herb area and tried some of the plants that were growing there before making our own scent bags using the plants, we found in the garden. At lunchtime we were able to play on the shipwreck and in the sandpit too, which was great fun!





As you can tell, we have been very busy, but we could not do it all without your help and support from home, so thank you. Please can you read **at least three times** with your child at home and sign their home link book, which is checked on a Friday. Homework is due every Wednesday and the spelling tests are alternate Friday's. Please ensure that PE kits are in school every Friday and violins every Tuesday.

Thank you again for your continued support and please speak to any adult from the class about any concerns or questions you may have, no matter how small or big they might be.

Regards the Year 3 Team

Mr Roberts, Mrs Wilcox and Miss Moriarty

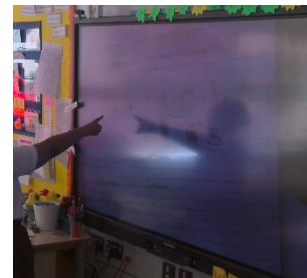
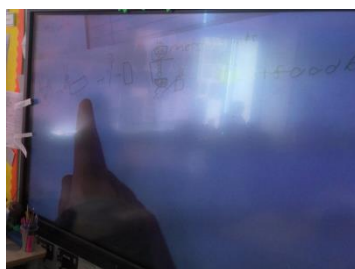
## YEAR 4

In Year 4, we have been working really hard on our teamwork skills, especially kindness. We have been helping one another to be creative which has allowed to make dens, shelters, dream catchers, bows and arrows, bird feeders and much, much more!



In Maths, we have moved on from measurement and area to fractions. We have been using our four operations to help us work out how we can add and subtract missing lengths as well as add the numerators together making sure we remember to keep the denominator the same. We have worked really hard to deepen our understanding of fractions and will soon be ready to move on to decimals.

In English, we have been looking at non-fiction and fiction text, where we focused on the book, 'Until I met Dudley'. We then looked at out we could design our own machine that would help us to catch a star. At first, we began with our fictional Idea and then we had to get creative and think about how we could actually make a grabbing machine that might help us. We then used talk for writing to discuss our steps and why ordering these in the right order is so important.



Please can you read **at least three times** with your child at home and sign their home link book, which is checked on a Friday. Please ensure that PE kits are in school and can be kept in until the half-term ends.

Thank you again for your continued support and please speak to any adult from the class about any concerns or questions you may have, no matter how small or big they might be.

Regards the Year 4 Team

Mr Carrette and Mrs Appleby

# YEAR 5

In Year 5, we have been working especially hard and applying the St George's school value of Perseverance to our work and our attitude to our learning has been exemplary.

In Reading, we have explored the fiction book Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo – which is one of our Year 5's authors. We have been using our Comprehension Express Expert Tips and 'Think Alouds' to understand the text and answer questions using evidence from the text.

In Maths, we have been focusing on Multiplication and Division using our written formal methods. Ready to move on to fractions this week.

In Writing, we have written with the Purpose: To Entertain. We have used inspiration from the John Lewis advert 'the man on the moon'. We have used a range of Year 5 key features including relative clauses, fronted adverbials and the first person to write a diary entry as the man.

In Science, we have continued to explore Space. In the last few weeks, we have explored and created different Mnemonics to remember the order of the planets. Here are some of our favourites...

**M**y **V**ery **E**vil **M**aid **J**ust **S**wep**T** **U**p **N**ecklaces!

**M**y **V**ery **E**asy **M**nemonic **J**ust **S**aves **U**p **N**othing!

**M**y **V**ery **E**xci**T**ed **M**onkey **J**ust **S**uck**E**d **U**p **N**oodles!

(Remember: We don't talk about Pluto...to...to...to)

In PE, we have applied our new hockey skills in our Year 5 hockey tournament. We were split into four teams and played against everyone across two pitches. Everyone worked together brilliantly, and some fantastic goals were scored. Well done Year 5!

We are extremely lucky in Year 5, we have some wonderful activities in place for Spring 2.

- Swimming will continue as usual Monday afternoons.
- Thursday afternoons (starting from 3<sup>rd</sup> March) we will be joined by the Worcester Football Harriers for our PE lessons. Please ensure appropriate clothing and equipment is given to the children including long socks – shin pads will be provided to tuck into these.
- Friday afternoons (starting from 4<sup>th</sup> March) we will have forest school which is a unique way of building independence and self-esteem in young children. A letter including what clothing needs to be worn will be sent out w/c 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Well done for working so hard Year 5! Let's remember to keep practising our times tables at home and reading at least 3 times per week.

Miss Wellman 😊

## YEAR 6

Last half term, Year 6 went on a trip to the Arete Outdoor Educational Centre in Llanrug. They had a fantastic time taking part in a variety of activities that pushed them out of their comfort zone, encouraged them to work safely as a team and, also, share an experience that will stay with them for life.

The children took part in a brilliant day underground in the mines where they did a variety of activities by torchlight. They ziplined across a cavern, climbed a waterfall, abseiled into a cavern, and had lunch by candlelight. They learnt about the uses of slate and how the slate trade impacted the local area fulfilling the geographical skills they need.

Another outstanding day included a daring trip on the Menai Straits where the children canoed down the river; it was hard work and tough in the current, but the children succeeded! This was followed by an afternoon of rock climbing up Lion Rock where the children took part in a series of climbs to get to the top of a huge rock face- the big challenge was finding their foot placement and using their upper body strength. Once at the top, the children had to abseil down in pairs- there were some worried teachers faces!!!

The children took part in a whole variety of other activities from a visit to the beach and gorge walking, all of which were hits with the kids.

Overall, the children were fantastic and really enjoyed the trip- they gained so many skills that supported their independence!



## IMPORTANT DATES and REMINDERS

**TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH** – PARENTS EVENING 3.15pm – 5.45pm

**WEDNESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> MARCH**- PARENTS EVENING 3.15pm – 5.45pm

**TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL** – EASTER SERVICE – ST GEORGE'S CHURCH – EVERYONE WELCOME-8.45am

**FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup> APRIL** – TED DAY- CHILDREN NOT REQUIRED IN SCHOOL

## Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility

If you feel a child is at risk of immediate harm and needs immediate protection phone the police and the Family Front Door on **01905 822666**.

## School Term Dates September 2021 to July 2022

**Please note the change to the school dates. Due to our extra bank holiday, we will be closing the school on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July not Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022.**

<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>SCHOOL CLOSURES ON</u>	<u>SCHOOL TED DAYS</u>	<u>SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON</u>
<b>EASTER</b>	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> April 22	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 22	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 22
<b>SUMMER HALF TERM</b>	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 22	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 22	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 22
<b>END OF SUMMER TERM</b>	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 22	N/A	N/A



We are offering an '**after school provision**' throughout the week at St George's for the **all the children**. Your child/children will have the opportunity to do some **creative and engaging activities** and will be provided with a **hot snack** if they choose to stay for the **later slot**.

- After school club starts at **3.00pm**.
- There will be two slots available for the '**Little Pears**'.
- The first slot will run from **3.00pm-4.30pm** at a cost of **£5.00**.
- The second slot available is from **3.00pm-5.45pm** at a cost of **£6.50**.
- If your child is staying until **5.45pm**, they will be provided with a hot snack. Hot snacks e.g., 'beans or cheese' on toast.

If you would like your child/children to attend '**Little Pears**' after school club, please contact [office@stgprimary.org](mailto:office@stgprimary.org) or ring on 01562 824206.

Please contact us as soon as possible, so we can ensure that we can facilitate your wishes.

**Well done for our Foodie Friday competition winner!**



**March competition**

March Foodie Friday!

For Foodie Friday this month, we would like to challenge you to design your own spring dish!

Think about the fresh ingredients that are available at this time of year and how you could use them to create a meal. Once you have created your meal, take some photos to share with us. You could even share the recipe for others to give it a go!

The STEM ambassadors will judge all entries and the winner will be announced in next month's Foodie Friday bulletin.

Have fun cooking, we look forward to hearing all about your new spring creations!