

MAY 2022

NEWSLETTER

Tel: 01562 824206

Email office@stgprimary.org

Website: www.stgprimary.org

Our value for the next half term is Reflective

Our Visible Consistency is Celebrating Success

Some questions to ask your child:

- **Why is it important to be self-reflective?**
- **Do you consider yourself to be a reflective person? If so, give an example to a family member.**

Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have come to the end of a very busy and successful half term. All the children have been enjoying their learning and challenging themselves to do their very best in lessons. The number of visitors to school recently have commented positively on the children's smart appearance and their excellent behaviour in school.

The Year 2 and Year 6 children have completed their statutory assessments and tried their very best and after half term the Year 1 phonic screening will begin during the first week back to school. It is imperative that all the Year 1 children are at school to complete their phonic screening assessments. Following this, the Year 4 children will complete their statutory times table assessments from Monday 6th June through to 24th June.

Most of the children have completed their STEM project and thoroughly enjoyed using their DT and Science knowledge and skills to complete their prototype and final product. The Year 5 and 6 children will be visiting the Arboretum for STEM after half term.

We had an amazing day on Thursday 26th May. All the children from St George's and Upper Arley came together for their Platinum Jubilee celebrations. I was immensely proud of all the children and how the older children buddied up with younger children, to model good behaviour and high expectations for road safety. A member of the public posted a wonderful comment on Facebook yesterday. The lady in question was travelling on the Severn Valley Railway and noticed how well behaved the pupils were during their trip and how well organised the staff were. A huge thankyou to all the staff for their care, vigilance and high expectations for ensuring all the children had an enjoyable and most importantly, safe trip. (I will share some of the photographs below and I'm sure we will be able to share further photographs on our Facebook page and the school website. A huge thankyou to the Black Pear Trust for presenting a Jubilee gift of a commemorative coin for all the children and staff across the Trust. Please ensure that your child had their coin yesterday and keeps it safe for the future.

There is some exciting news in relation to staffing for September. With Mrs Low being appointed as the permanent Headteacher at Upper Arley school, we advertised for a Deputy Headteacher. We appointed not one but two Deputy Headteachers! This is such an exciting position, and the expectation is that the two Deputy Headteachers will have teaching commitments at St George's but also support Leadership at St George's and Upper Arley school.

As the only two church schools in the Trust to date, and being in proximity, Upper Arley and St George's have plans to continue to work collaboratively. This collaboration will be at all levels and the children, and all the staff team will be involved. We are very much looking forward to this exciting opportunity. The two successful candidates have written some information to share with you and to introduce themselves. Please see the information below.

Please have a really wonderful relaxing half term break and enjoy your family time together. Hopefully the sun will shine for us all.

Kind regards



Mrs Clare Snape
Headteacher

New Appointments for September 2022

Mr Tom Harris-Deputy Headteacher



I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to join St George's CofE and Upper Arley CofE Schools in September and look forward to working with all of the pupils, staff and families. As an experienced primary educator, having worked across the age range, I aspire to add to the fantastic ethos already present at these wonderful schools. Sport is a passion of mine and I play rugby and cricket for local teams – I truly believe extracurricular opportunities should be encouraged and I hope to find out about the hobbies and interests of our community. Have a wonderful summer; I am excited to meet you all in the autumn term.

Mr Matt Modley-Deputy Headteacher

Hello, I am Mr Modley and I am very excited to be starting my new role as Deputy Headteacher at both St George's and Upper Arley. After teaching for over 10 years, and taking on a variety of leadership roles- at St George's CE School and St Nicholas Middle School- I cannot wait to start my new journey as I help to guide your children through theirs.

Life is busy but I always love to spend time with my family: my fiancé, Clare, and my nine-month-old son, Kit. Together with the family, I enjoy taking walks in the countryside (especially Kinver Edge) and taking Kit swimming. One of my favourite hobbies is playing darts; an activity that I love to watch too. I also collect darts memorabilia such as pin badges, shirts and players darts. When I am not playing darts, I love to watch Kidderminster Harriers and Tottenham Hotspur play football. I am also a keen cricket fan and love to watch all forms of it as well as a keep an eye out for what's happening in the NFL. As you can tell I love sport, but I also love the theatre where I try to go to London to watch a show at least three times a year- my favourite so far is 'Come from Away'. If I am not on the dartboard or in the theatre, you can find me with a drill and a screwdriver doing some DIY (badly!) or watching a good Netflix series. There is so much more to me so, when you see me, please say "Hi" and you can get to know me more.



Attendance - MAY 2022

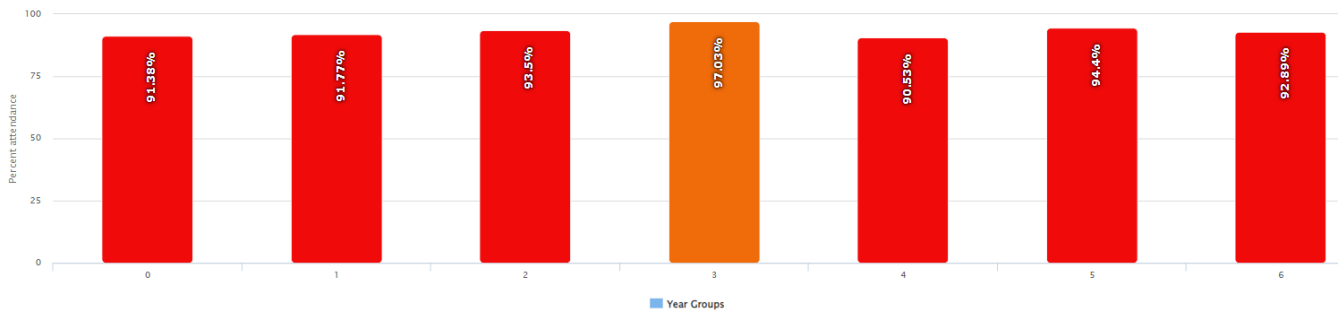
The target this year is to ensure all children have at least 96 % attendance.

Attendance for the month of May was 92%

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 press option 1, give your child's name, class and reason for absence, or if you prefer email office@stgprimary.org.

It is important that you inform school if your child is unwell.



Home Reading

Year 1 Phonics

Recently packs were sent home to parents/carers in Year 1 to support children with their upcoming Phonics Screening test. All Year 1 children will be tested across the country on their ability to identify and blend sounds in words. These tests will take place the first week back after half term- the week commencing 6th June. Any extra practice you are able to do at home over half term will be fantastic!

NURSERY & TOTS

Welcome to Tots and Nursery!

In Tots...

Tots have been learning all about mini beasts. Our favourite story this term has been Bumble Bear. The children have made honey biscuits and an edible wormery. We have made mini beasts using loose parts and a bug house with the wooden blocks. We have explored cornflour and water this was very gooey! One morning they came in and the mini beasts were hidden inside jelly they had great fun squashing the jelly to find spiders ants and caterpillars hidden inside.

In our nursey garden we planted flower seeds for the bees as we learnt bees collect nectar to make into honey.



RECEPTION

Reception have had lots of fun this term learning all about what lives at the bottom of the garden! We had a class minibeast hunt in our outdoor area and the children found lots of different minibeasts, such as woodlice, beetles, ants, worms, slugs and cranefly. The children have then enjoyed going on their own minibeast hunts in Forest School, looking under logs, branches and in the soil to find the insects and identify them.



The children were so excited when some live caterpillars arrived in our classroom! We have been watching them grow and get longer and bigger across the past few weeks. Now our caterpillars are in their cocoons, ready to turn into beautiful butterflies. The children have written some fantastic writing about the caterpillars.



Following our theme of 'what lives at the bottom of my garden', the children have been making some fantastic 3D sculptures of minibeasts. Over the past few weeks, the children have been learning and refining

their skills to make insect sculptures from playdough and plasticine, practicing their rolling, pushing, pinching and smoothing. We then moved on to using those skills to make our sculptures out of clay. The finished results look brilliant!

Thank you for all of your continued support this half term, as we make our way into the final half term of Reception! We have lots of exciting things planned for the next half term, as we prepare the children for the transition into Year 1. We wish you a lovely, restful half term break. If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us.



The Reception Team 😊



YEAR 1

We have been doing some super learning in Year 1!

In English we have been writing our own stories based on 'Little Wise Wolf' by Gijs van der Hammen. We used lots of super adjectives and thought carefully about how our own little wise characters could help the king with another problem.

In Maths we have been learning all about fractions! We have learnt that a half is one of two equal parts and that a quarter is one of four equal parts. We have even done a maths investigation! Ask your child about it! 😊

In Art we have been making owls out of clay as we learnt that Florence Nightingale had a pet owl called 'Athena'. We have done such a super job!



Don't forget! It's the Year 1 phonic screening check the week we get back from half term. Please continue to practise reading green and alien words using 'Special Friends, 'Fred Talk', read the word.' Thank you for your continuing support you are giving your child/ren with this!

Have a fantastic half term!

Miss Mills 😊

YEAR 2

We are super proud of our Y2 children this term. They have now completed their Y2 SATS and every single one of them tried their very best. Well done Y2!

In this half term, we have also completed more work on our Fire of London topic. The children have really enjoyed finding out about how the fire started, how it was put out and generally what life in London was like during that time.

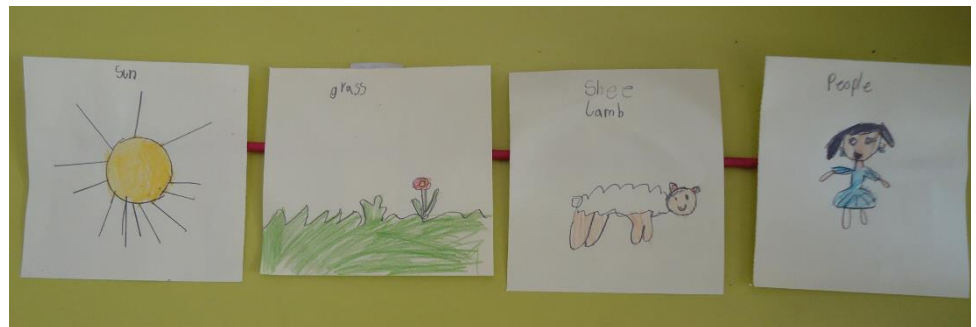
In Art, we used pastels, charcoal and sugar paper to create pictures of the fire of London.



In Science, we have explored animals and their habitats. We have found out about all different types of animal homes, even those that belong to very small creatures like minibeasts. We found out how every living creature depends on each other in order to survive.



We made food chains to show how where each of the living creatures get their energy from.



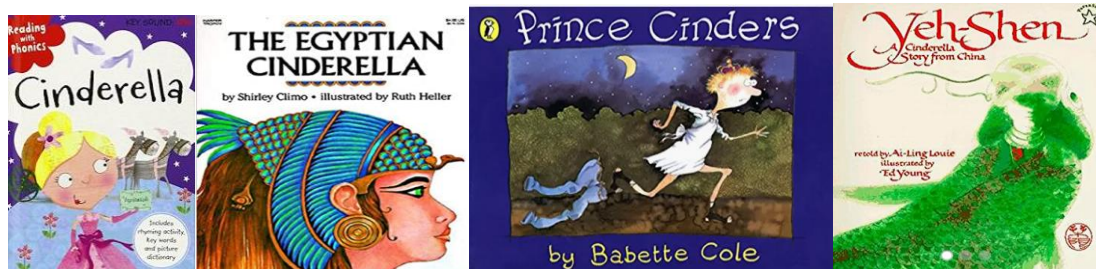
YEAR 3

Year 3 continue to enjoy learning about the Ancient Egyptians following our history Wow Day at the start of this term. During our Wow Day we mummified some apples, we looked at three after one week and left the final two for another two weeks. As you can see from the pictures, it worked well, and our apples were lots smaller after three weeks, which amazed the children.



In reading, we have finished our book (The Queens Nose) by our key author, Dick King-Smith and we have moved on to strengthening our retrieval skills looking at the non-fiction text How to be an Ancient Egyptian in 13 easy stages. This will help to increase our exposure to the different types of books and the different skills that are needed to be a great reader. Unfortunately, our home reading numbers continue to be disappointing, and we ask that you read with your child at least three times a week and sign their home link book, which is checked on a Friday. Hopefully the launch of our accelerated reader programme will help boost the reading at home in Year 3.

In English, we have read Cinderella and three other versions of the fairy tale including the Egyptian Cinderella.



We have learnt The Egyptian Cinderella version of the fairy tale, to link with our history topic, by creating a story map as well as freeze frames of the different parts of the story. We are currently writing our own innovated story of this tale where she loses a necklace or bracelet rather than the traditional slipper.

In Maths, we are just completing our unit on measure where we have been measuring and calculating the perimeter of 2D shapes, see pictures below. After half term we will be moving on to money and time so any practise at home would be appreciated as some children can find this, time especially, hard to understand.



In Science, we have started to look at forces and magnets by first looking what a force is. We explored how we can overcome a force, such as gravity, using various toys (see pictures below). We will investigate different forces and how objects move on different surfaces as well as how magnets attract and repel each other and why they only attract certain materials and not others.



In Art, the children have started to look at famous sculptures and they are looking forward to creating their own canopic jars out of clay. The children continue to enjoy forest school each week and they have enjoyed their time with Camilla doing Dance in PE.

After half term, we have many things to look forward to including two educational visits. One is the on the Severn Valley Railway on the 9th June and second is to the Royal Three Counties show in Malvern on the 17th June. It is great to take the children out of the classroom to a different learning environment and see them learning in a way that cannot be recreated in the classroom. Thank you for getting the reply slips back in good time and supporting us in this valuable experience.

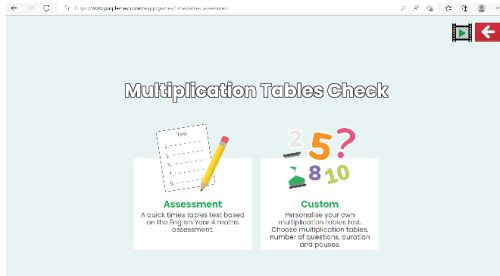
Thank you again for your continued support. If you do have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us or call the school office.

Have a great Half term break, from Mr Roberts, Miss Moriaty and Mrs Wilcox



YEAR 4

In Year 4, we have been working so hard in our maths looking at both decimals as well as our times tables. We have been preparing for the times tables test which begins on the 6th June where the children have been practising this activity using the Purple Mash assessments where they have six seconds to enter the answer before the next begins.



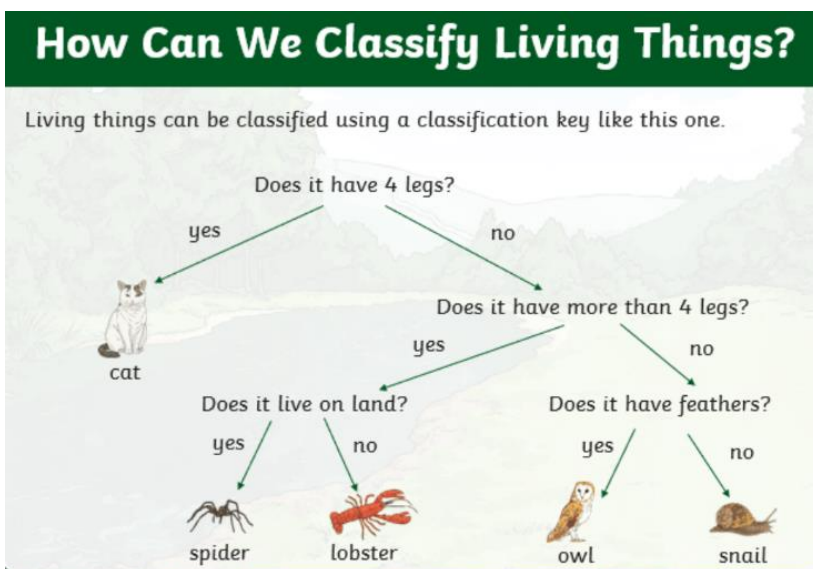
In reading, we have finished our book Theseus and the Minotaur where the children have worked on their retrieval skills looking at finding where information could be, inferring what the meaning is as well as why we think the author chose certain language.

Unfortunately, when looking at the children home reading, not all the children are reading three times a week. After half term, there will be rewards in place for your child if they can read this amount or more.

We ask that you read with your child at least three times a week and sign their home link book, which is checked on a Friday. If you cannot read with your child, they can read and sign their own book themselves (you could test them on what they read). Hopefully the launch of our accelerated reader programme will help boost the reading at home in Year 4.

In our English writing, we have been looking at setting the scene and how we can use a variety of language features to bring their story to life. We have looked at the five senses, prepositions, simile's, metaphors and much much more! From this we looked at linking this to our book 'How To Train Your Dragon', where we in the first person meet a dragon in our chosen setting!

In Science, we have started to look at living things and their habitats and we can successfully classify living things using a system of questions. We explored what defines something as 'living' (MRS NERG) and where they may live in a habitat.



Thank you again for your continued support. If you do have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us or call the school office.

Have a great Half term break, from Mr Carrette, Mrs Appleby and Mrs Smith.



YEAR 5

Wow! What a great half term! I am so proud of how hard Year 5 have worked over the last few weeks.

In Writing, we have been developing our purpose to entertain using suspense. As a hook, we used the short story video clip about a reckless teenager called Francis Brandywine, who disappears after deciding to row out to a middle of a lake in the middle of the night. The children have used some fantastic examples of figurative language and interesting adjectives to create spooky setting descriptions and narratives.

In Maths, we have finished our topic of fractions and moved on to decimals and percentages. To aid our understanding, we have been using number lines, place value charts and numicon to help us round decimals, order and compare decimals and to write decimals as fractions.

In Reading, linking with our Francis topic. We have been exploring suspense stories. We have read *The Giant's necklace* by Michael Morpurgo, where we meet the character Cherry and explore the tragic incident she faces whilst trying to build a necklace from cowrie shells.

In history, we have continued to explore the topic of Ancient Mayans.

In Science, we have explored our new topic about properties. The children had to close their eyes and were given numerous different materials/household items. They had to explore it with only their hands and had to guess what it was and describe it using important scientific vocabulary such as 'insulating'.

In PE, we have been focusing on both tennis and athletics. In tennis we have started to develop our serve and our forehand swing. In athletics, we have been focusing on our power and agility and applying it to using the hurdles.

Thank you for another fantastic half term. Please continue to support the children at home with their homework and their reading. Also, please ensure that the children have their PE kits in school at all times.

Miss Wellman, Mrs Williams and Mrs Parsons. 😊



YEAR 6

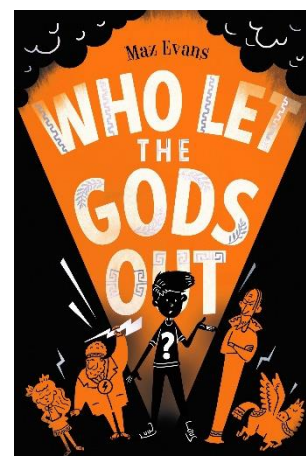
What a half term it has been! SATs are over and we could not be any prouder of them than we are. They tackled every day of the SATs with a smile and attacked ever paper with enthusiasm and the want to do the best they could. Breakfast club was a success as all of the children were ready to take on the day ahead with a hearty breakfast of cereals, croissants, pain au chocolate and bacon sarnies! Once the children finished their SATs, they had a well-deserved trip to the park where they had milkshakes, played football and generally relaxed.

Moving on to the next half term, our topic is centred around the Ancient Greeks and also Evolution. We will also attempt to make solar lights for our STEM project ready for our exciting trip to Arley Arboretum (please make sure you gave returned the letters). On the 14th June, we have an exciting opportunity to go to the Fire Station to take part in Young Citizen's Challenge where the children will take part in activities from road safety, fire safety and much more. We have lots more to look forward to over the next half term as well because of a school project to redesign our reflection garden- a challenge for the Year 6s as a leaving gift to the school!

Reading, next term, is a book called Who Let the Gods Out by Maz Evans. This is an exciting book bringing Greek Mythology into modern day life. It is worth a read!

In Science, we will be looking at creating our own hybrid animal and identify how it is adapted to a variety of environments. I'm sure that the children will love this task.

As part of our Jubilee Celebrations, our children have been sketching the queen. This is a great way to see the progression of art skills across the school- please see some examples below:



By Elli-721



Our Celebrations of the Queen's Jubilee-Thursday 26th May



Foodie Fridays

For our final Foodie Friday challenge, we would like you to create a fine dining menu fit for the Queen! You could design a menu or cook it yourself! Once you have, take some photos to share with us. The STEM ambassadors will judge all entries and the winner will be announced before the end of term. Have fun cooking, we look forward to hearing all about your new royal creations!

IMPORTANT DATES and REMINDERS

FRIDAY 27th MAY – TED DAY- CHILDREN NOT REQUIRED IN SCHOOL

MONDAY 30th MAY – FRIDAY 3rd JUNE – HALF TERM

MONDAY 6th JUNE – ALL CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL

THURSDAY 9th JUNE – YEAR 6 LEAVERS PHOTOS

THURSDAY 9th JUNE – Y3 SEVERN VALLEY VISIT

FRIDAY 10th JUNE – Y Rec HEIGHTS & WEIGHTS

FRIDAY 10th JUNE – Y5 & Y6 VISIT ARLEY ARBORETUM

TUESDAY 14th JUNE – Y6 Young Citizen's CHALLENGE at WYRE FOREST FIRE STATION

FRIDAY 17th JUNE – Y3 VISIT TO MALVERN 3 COUNTIES SHOW

MONDAY 4th JULY – Y6 LONDON TRIP

FRIDAY 8th July – Y6 HEIGHTS & WEIGHTS

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**.



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 or ring on 01562 824206.

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

School Term Dates MAY 2022 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 21st July not Friday 22nd July 2022.

<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>SCHOOL CLOSSES ON</u>	<u>SCHOOL TED DAYS</u>	<u>SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON</u>
SUMMER HALF TERM	Thursday 26 th May	Friday 27 th May	Monday 6 th June
END OF SUMMER TERM	Thursday 21 st July	N/A	N/A

School Term Dates September 2022 to July 2023

<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>SCHOOL CLOSSES ON</u>	<u>SCHOOL TED DAYS</u>	<u>SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON</u>
AUTUMN TERM 2022	N/A	Monday 5 th September	Tuesday 6 th September
AUTUMN HALF TERM	Thursday 20 th October	Friday 21 st October	Monday 31 st October
CHRISTMAS	Friday 16 th December	Tuesday 3 rd January 2023	Wednesday 4 th Jan 2023
SPRING HALF TERM	Thursday 16 th February	Friday 17 th February	Monday 27 th February
EASTER	Thursday 30 th March	Friday 31 st March	Monday 17 th April
MAY DAY	Monday 1 st May		Tuesday 2 nd May
SUMMER HALF TERM	Friday 26 th May		Monday 5 th June
END OF SUMMER TERM	Friday 21 st July	Monday 24 th July Tuesday 25 th July	N/A