

# OCTOBER 2023

## NEWSLETTER

Tel: 01562 824206

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

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

“I can do all things through Christ because he gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13

### Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children returned to school well rested and ready to learn. A range of visitors have been on site during this week and have commented on the calmness within school and the marvellous manners that the children have been showing.

This half term, there will be a real focus on History driving our topic-My Place, My Time. The staff are preparing information to send home next week regarding the 'Sticky Knowledge' they have been taught last half term within a variety of subjects. This knowledge has been sent home to prompt a discussion between you and your child, so they are able to share their learning with you, but most importantly, enabling the children to 'know more and remember more'. This discussion will reactivate their knowledge.

We are really excited to be in the process of relaunching the opening of the school library. During the half term break, the library has been fitted with a new carpet, new displays and the books have been sorted and organised appropriately ready for the children to choose for their pleasure. Mr Harris has worked with the Reading Ambassadors to reorganise the school library and to decide on new furnishings, new incentives to promote the love of reading and they have even created a 'wish list' for new books! We look forward to re-opening the library for use either before or after school!

A huge thankyou to all the parents/carers who were able to attend their child's consultation evening. This was an opportunity to discuss your child with their new class teacher and share resources and targets for your child. If for any reason, you were unable to attend your consultation, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher via the school office and set up a new time to meet. It is a wonderful opportunity to share in your child's successes and discuss ways to support your child's learning.

Following our safeguarding policy at St George's, it is paramount that you keep us updated regarding your child's emergency contacts and the safe adults who you permit to collect your child after school. With this in mind, if a child is being collected by an adult, whether it is a family member, friend or neighbour, it is essential that you inform the school office before the end of the school day. I have asked the school staff to challenge any adult/s who are not on the child's emergency contact list, and they will only be handed to the adult when permission has been sought from the child's parent/carer. Please be respectful of the staff member if you are challenged to provide this information, as they are following the school's safeguarding policy and procedures.

Just a reminder that the weather is getting colder, so all children should arrive at school each day with a warm, waterproof coat. Also, please be mindful that PE is a core subject, part of the National Curriculum, so it essential that all children have their full PE kit in school each week. It is preferable that it stays in school for the duration of the half term, so it is not forgotten on PE day.

Regarding uniform, we have copious amounts of pre-loved uniform that has been washed and gifted to school when a child leaves. If you are interested in purchasing any item of pre-loved uniform, please contact the school office.

Finally, one word within our school 'Vision' is 'NURTURE'. We care about every member of our school community, so do not hesitate to contact us if you need any form of support or a listening ear! Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards



Mrs Clare Snape  
Headteacher

# Attendance October 2023

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

**Attendance for the month of October was 91.2%**

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.

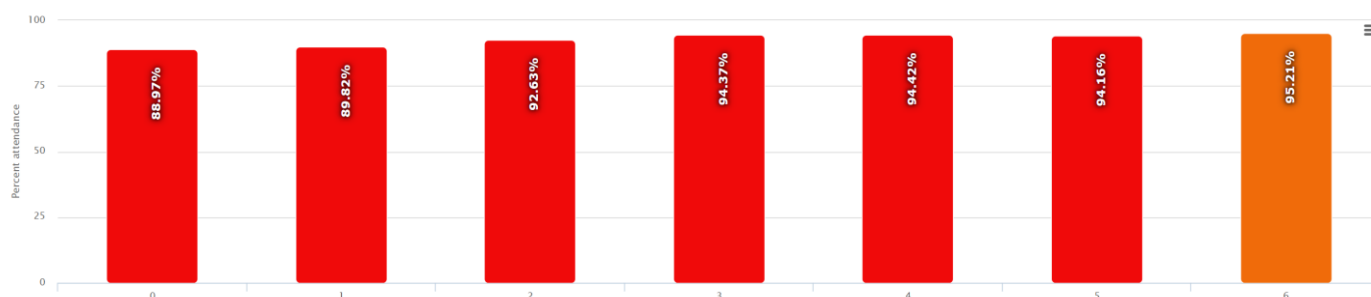
We do know that from time-to-time children are really too poorly to come to school. If this is the case, please ring the school office by 9.15am on 01562 824206 or email, if you prefer, [office@stgprimary.org](mailto:office@stgprimary.org). Phones are manned from 8.00am but an answerphone service is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

### What are we doing to reward good attendance?



We want to celebrate 100% attendance and good class attendance. As part of this, we are rewarding each class with a certificate for meeting our 96% or above target. We will display each class's weekly attendance on a display for the children to see every day in the school hall. We also have an exciting lucky dip that will take place every Friday for 2 children who have 100% attendance for that week at school. Let's aim for 100% attendance!

### Well done to year 6 for having the best attendance for October!



Please see below a table of attendance for each class

	Autumn Term Attendance	Persistent Absence (under 90%)
Rec	88.97%	33%
1	89.82%	17%
2	92.63%	7%
3	94.37%	28%
4	94.42%	16%
5	94.16%	18%
6	95.21%	17%

## When is your child too poorly to attend school?

UK Health Security Agency

NHS

# Should I keep my child off school?



Yes	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

**No**  
but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

**Advice and guidance**  
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minftec>.

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## What are we doing to help you?

- Attendance Workshops
- Parent Meetings
- Parent Phonecalls
- Update Letters
- Discussing attendance in parents evening

**Mr Modley completed an attendance workshop on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October. If you would like a copy of the PowerPoint Slides for this workshop, then please contact the school office and we can email them out to you.**


# Safeguarding

## Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility

Thank you to the parents that attended Mr Modley's safeguarding parent workshop to share how we keep your child safe in school. If you would like a copy of the resources, then please contact the school office.

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**.

## Managing Tricky Behaviour

	PROVIDE COMFORT	DISTRACT	GIVE CHOICES	MAKE A GAME	WHEN ... THEN	TAKE A BREAK/ START OVER
	<b>Offer the child a favorite stuffed animal, give the child a hug, or speak to them with soothing words.</b>	<b>Use a toy, story, or song to distract the child's attention from something unpleasant.</b>	<b>Offer the child acceptable choices while still insisting on what needs to be done.</b>	<b>Turn something that needs to be done into a game.</b>	<b>Promise something the child wants to do after the child does something they do not want to do.</b>	<b>Have the child take a break by sitting in a chair or time without a toy for 1 minute of each year of the child's life.</b>
	Sophia, I'm sorry you had a bad dream. Let me tell you a story to help you fall back to sleep.	Sara, look at your favorite doll! She's dancing for you! Show me how you dance together.	Jacob, you need to give the ball back to your brother. Do you want me to hand it to him or would you like to?	Denzel, you pick up the toys on one side of the room and I'll pick up the toys on the other side and we'll see who gets done first.	Ella, when you put on your pajamas, then we'll read your favorite book.	Carlos, you need to take a break from playing with the car. (3 minutes later) Okay, let's start over.

## Teaching Consent

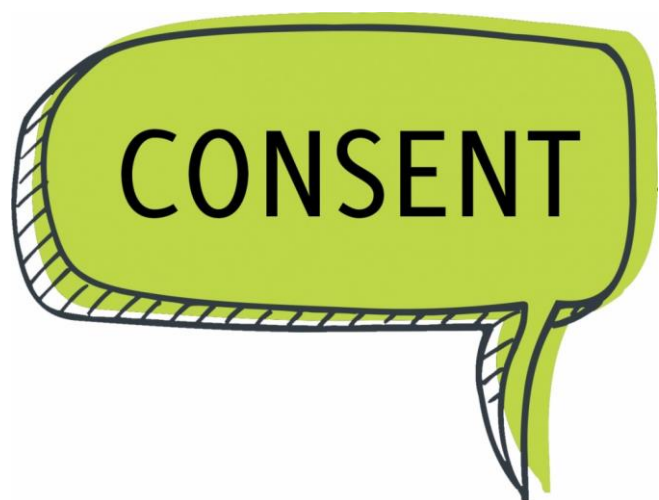
Talking to your kids about consent can be uncomfortable or overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be!

Kids who understand the importance of consent:

Feel empowered to confidently make decisions about their bodies

Feel comfortable talking to trusted adults about these topics

Know the importance of setting and respecting boundaries



## What is Consent?

Consent means giving someone a choice about touch or actions and respecting their answer. With children, we often use the language "asking for permission."

At this age, we want to lay the foundation for setting boundaries, making decisions about their bodies, asking for permission, and responding appropriately when someone says no to them.

**Besides consent**, kids need to learn that they can set boundaries and limits on when and how their bodies are touched and by whom. Some tips regarding boundaries follow.

**Conversations around consent should be ongoing. Here's how you can incorporate consent into everyday conversations with your child.**

### Ways to ask your child for consent:

- "Do you want a hug goodbye today? We could also wave or high five."
- "Can I sit beside you while we read this book?"
- "Can I tell your teacher that your grandma died?"



### Ways to model consent:

- "Do you need a break from tickling, or are tickles still okay with you?"
- "It's OK if you don't want a goodnight hug."
- "Can I help you put your jacket on?"

### Ways to teach your child to ask for consent with other children:

- "Do you want to play with the red or the blue car?"
- "Do you want to hold hands when we walk to lunch?"
- "Can I sit next to you on the bus?"

### Teach Your Child:

- Your body belongs to you
- You get to decide what happens to your body
- No one should touch you without permission
- Telling someone not to touch you is NOT rude
- Consent means always choosing to respect others' boundaries
- Respecting someone's boundaries shows that you care about them

Here is a link to help you out at home: [Teaching Consent | Safe Secure Kids](#)

## Speak Out, Stay Safe

- Every child has the right to speak out and stay safe.
- Making a child feel sad, scared or worried is never OK and is never their fault.
- If they're ever worried about anything they should tell an adult they trust.
- Whatever their worry, they can always call Childline on 0800 1111 or visit [childline.org.uk/kids](http://childline.org.uk/kids).



### Why learning to speak out is important



In the average primary school class, at least 2 children have suffered abuse or neglect.



1 in 3 children sexually abused by an adult did not tell anyone what had happened to them.



On average, a child contacts Childline every 25 seconds. We're here when no one else is listening.

Please find a link from the NSPCC with some activities that you can access at home to reinforce the messages above.

[Activities for kids at home | NSPCC](#)

## 3/4-YEAR-OLD NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE

We currently have spaces available in our 3/4-year-old Nursery class. If you have a child who you wish to start with us please contact the school office on 01562 824206 to arrange a visit.

We would love to welcome your child into the family of St George's.

# Harvest

We had an amazing Harvest Service at St. George's Church! The children read loud and proud, and the singing was simply beautiful! We thought about how best to distribute the food collected this year and the worship committee decided to share the food within the local community. The parent/carers were asked to nominate people in the community and children from across the school delivered the boxes, older children supporting the younger children within the family of St. George's.



# Remembrance Service

Today we held our Remembrance Service. The children sang a special Poppy Day song and learnt about why we celebrate Remembrance. As part of the service we held a two minute silence and the children were an absolute credit as they were silent and respectful throughout. All classes this week have also completed some tasks linked to Remembrance but also to our value of courage. Each child made a poppy which were collated into a class wreath and the wreaths were laid at the alter as part of the service.

We also had an Agape element to the service where we thought about how love and food are intertwined. We each ate a jammy biscuit which was chosen due to the red of the jam being the same colour as a poppy and also the heart shape in the middle. The children learnt that we were not eating because we were hungry but it was special to share food together.



Miss Mills

# NURSERY & TOTS

Welcome to Tots and Nursery!

In Tots and Nursery, we have been sharing lots of stories about families. We have shared our likes and dislikes by tasting crisps and smelling different scents also we have looked at what foods are healthy and not healthy. We have introduced a rolling snack the children can choose when they would like to have their bagel, fruit and milk and when the children have finished, they are encouraged to wash their own plate and cup up. The Nursery children have settled into the routine well and are beginning to anticipate what is coming next beginning to have a sense of time.

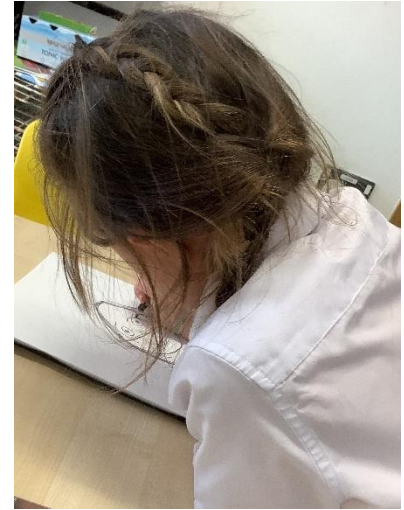
This week we have shared the story the Tiger who came to Tea the children have made repeating patterns explored different media to make tea for the tiger. On Thursday Nursery made cakes and invited their grown-ups in for tea and cake, it was so lovely to see so many parents join us.





# RECEPTION

What a busy October we have had in Reception! The children have continued to settle well into their classroom and routines. In our topic, the children really enjoyed our Art week, exploring their features closely with a mirror and drawing a self-portrait.



We also learnt lots about each other's families and how they might look different. The children shared who lives in their house and their extended family as well. The children enjoyed reading the story 'A handful of buttons' by Carmen Parets Luque and loved how the buttons were used to create people. They then used buttons to create their own button families.



The children have been working really hard in Phonics and we are really proud of the progress they are continuing to make! They are working hard to learn their single-letter set 1 sounds and recognise these sounds in words to read simple words, such as cat, mud, tin, pot etc. Please continue to practise recognising those single-letter sounds at home and reading simple words, which can be found within the sound-blending books we send home with your child.

If you have any questions or queries with supporting your child with reading at home (or with regards to anything else) please do talk to Miss Austin or a member of the Reception Team on the door in the morning or after school – we are always happy to help!

I would also like to take this time to thank those of you who are reading with your child at home and recording this in their Home-School Link Book each week. Please remember the expectation at St George's is to read at least 5 times a week.

## The Reception Team

Miss Austin, Mrs Brettle, Mrs Hoult and Mrs Jahan

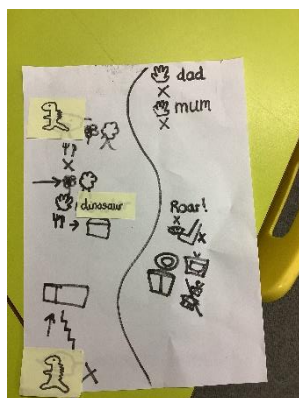
# YEAR 1

## We had a great October in Year 1!

We have been learning all about shape in maths! We learnt the names of lots of shapes as well as about their properties and we learnt about patterns too! Here is a picture of us sorting shapes together of shapes with four sides and shapes that don't have four sides although you can't read the labels very well in this picture!



We used 'Not Now Bernard!' by David McKee as our writing stimulus. We mapped out the story together and learnt the story with actions. Then, we changed the story and instead of a monster there was a dinosaur!



We have been enjoying our topic work too about our local area and we are now moving on to learn about the history of the high street and toys. Please look out for a letter in the coming days about our trip to the Black Country Living Museum!

Please remember that the expectation is that you now read with your child at least five times a week and this should be recorded in their home-school link book. The children are also taking a book for pleasure home which is often above their reading level but is a story that can be shared at home by a child and a grown-up together.

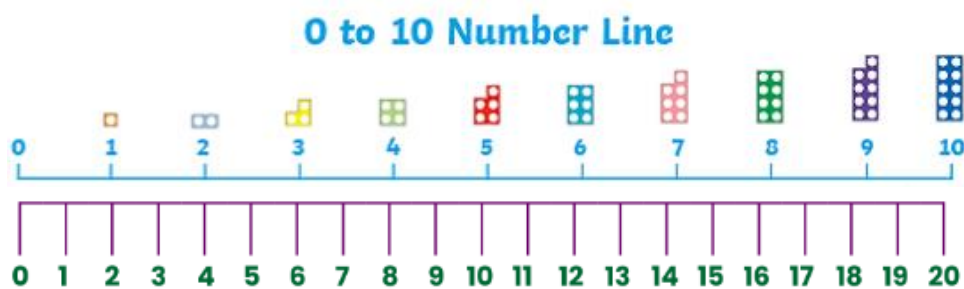
Any worries or questions please don't hesitate to contact myself or one of the Year 1 team.

Miss Mills 😊

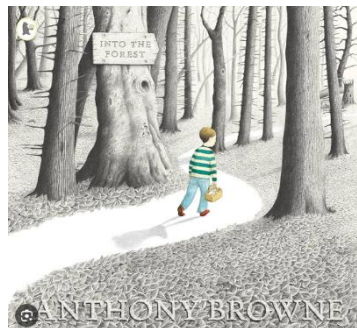
# YEAR 2

Year 2 have been working super hard this half term where we have been deepening our understanding of topics across the curriculum. The children are showing a great maturity with their transition from Year 1 to Year 2.

In Maths we have started looking at the unit 'subtraction' where we have been using number lines to count backwards from a 2-digit number. It has been brilliant to see that the children are starting to use their knowledge of addition to help them problem solve. We have focused on 10 more and 10 less as well as 1 more and 1 less but now we will see if the children can make the connection when we need to find 11 more and 11 less.



In writing we have started looking at the book 'Into the Forest' where the boy (the main character) has been trying to rush to Grandma's house. We have spotted that there are lots of stories that we are familiar with, such as, Goldilocks, Hansel and Gretel and Little Red Riding Hood. We used a venn diagram to find the similarities and differences between the different stories.



Thank you to all those parents that came to parents evening to talk to me about your child. If you do have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to talk to me at the start or end of the day or contact me via the school office. We want to say a big thank you for all of your support.

From Mr Carrette and the Year 2 team



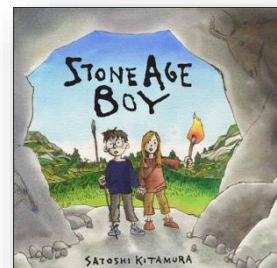
# YEAR 3

What a busy month October has been!

Year Three have been working hard on their independence and this is something we will continue to focus on.

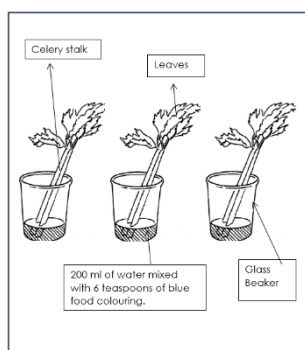
In English, we have enjoyed exploring traditional tales to look at speech. Although it is very tricky, the children have tried really hard to understand the rules of speech punctuation particularly looking at the role of the inverted commas and when other punctuation and capital letters are needed. The children also challenged themselves to explore speech verbs and chose well matched verbs to support the characterisation.

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be exploring the text, 'Stone Age Boy', as an introduction into our history topic.



In Maths, we have completed our first unit of Place Value, where the children have developed a good understanding of hundreds, tens and ones. The children have used place value grids and base ten to support them with their calculations.

In Science, the children have enjoyed their unit on plants and were really excited to carry out some investigations in which the children explored the role of the stem. The children were fascinated by the changes in colour to our flowers and celery! Another favourite was the cress investigation where the children observed over time to see the impact of water and sunlight.



The children are enjoying their violin lessons, and we look forward to seeing their skills develop.

Thank you for your continued support- it was great to have appointments with many of you for our structured conversations just before half term. If you haven't yet been able to see me, please do not hesitate to see me to arrange a more convenient time.

Important Reminders:

- Please remember our school target of reading 5 times a week.
- Please ensure the children have their PE kits in school every day.
- Swimming will take place on a Monday.

We are all very much looking forward to a busy, but fun run up to Christmas!

Thank you!

The Year Three Team

## YEAR 4

October has continued to be busy in Year 4, and all children continued to work hard before heading off for half term and a well-deserved rest.

In English, we have started our unit looking at innovating the story of the papaya that spoke. The children have liked the talk for writing approach, and they know the story, with actions, very well which will help them when they come to write their own version of the story. In maths, we completed our Place value unit, and we are now moving on to addition and subtraction with our formal written methods that have been shared with you during parents evening. In reading, we are continuing to use our expert tips working our way through a range of texts in our comprehension express books before we move on to study texts in more detail. Please ensure your child is reading at home to help unlock areas in their learning at all levels.

In science, we have studied the human digestive system which included a super investigation where children experienced the digestive system in all its glory. We used equipment to represent the organs involved in digestion from start to finish which caused a range of reactions from the children while making it very real and enjoyable.



In PE, we have all enjoyed going swimming for the first half term and it was great to see children growing in confidence in the water compared to the first week and refining their techniques. In geography, we have completed our unit on hills and mountains where the children have learnt the difference between a hill and a mountain as well as the location of mountains in the UK and the Alps in Europe and their key features. Our visit to Malvern hills consolidated their understanding of what a hill looks like and how big a mountain must be, and they all enjoyed the experience of going by train too. Although the weather was not on our side the children were well behaved and it was great to get them learning outside the classroom.



Thank you to all those parents that came to talk to me about their child during our structured conversations, it was a great opportunity to find out a little more about your child as they settle into year 4 and introduce myself. If you do have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to talk to me at the start or end of the day or contact me via the school office. Thank you for your continued support as we head towards Christmas and further busy times.

From Mr Roberts and the Year 4 team 😊

## YEAR 5

Term one has been a very busy start to Year 5 for the class. The children have been working really hard in all of their lessons and have had a really good first term.

In English we have started our narrative writing topic where we have been studying a clip of Bilbo and Smaug from The Lord of the Rings. The children have enjoyed watching the clip and pulling apart the different key points of the story plot as well as looking at the characters emotions and how they change throughout the story. The class have been learning how to identify and use subordinate clauses within their writing to improve their sentence structures.



In reading, we are continuing to use our expert tips working our way through a range of texts in our comprehension express books. The class really enjoyed our text all about digging up the past as we were able to link this to our history topic of the Romans by looking at ancient artefacts and what they tell us about how the Romans used to live.

In Geography we have been looking at natural disasters and studying flooding local to us in Bewdley. Later in this topic we practiced our map reading skills and use of 4-figure grid references. We explored our school grounds using a map to follow a trail of coordinates that led us to a secret code that was hidden outside.



As a Year 5 team, we are really looking forward to another busy and exciting term with the children and seeing their continued development.

From Miss Edwards, Miss Moraity and Mrs Wilcox 😊

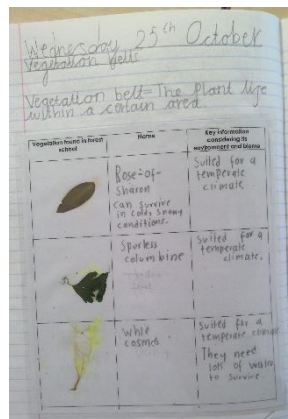
## YEAR 6

We have had another busy month this term and all the children have worked very hard.

In our writing lessons, we have focused on writing a narrative to entertain. We read the book called 'Dragon Slayer' which tells the story of a 12-year-old girl who needed to defeat a dragon. We used subordinating clauses to create multiclausal sentences and inverted commas for speech.

In maths, we have applied our formal methods of addition and subtraction to a range of questions across the maths curriculum. This includes statistics, perimeter and finding angles. We have been reactivating our fraction knowledge, including finding fraction of shape and amount.

In our geography, we have explored the different biomes across the world and compared them to our own temperate climate. We looked at vegetation belts and researched our own local plant life. We have also explored map work including reactivating OS symbols and 6-grid references. We finally looked at contour lines and how they show where there are hills and mountains.



In science, we completed our work on the circulatory system, and we researched the function of the heart and blood. We looked at why our heartbeat increases when we exercise and the importance of drinking water and keeping hydrated. We explored how what we put in our bodies will have an effect on us and discussed the ways smoking and vaping have negative effects on our health.

## IMPORTANT DATES and REMINDERS

**THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 1.30pm** - New Reception Intake Tour for Sept 2024

**THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 10.00am** - New Reception Intake Tour for Sept 2024

**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER** - Early Years and KS1 **Christmas Production**

**AM- 9.15am and PM-6.00pm**

**THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER** - CHRISTMAS SERVICE - **ST GEORGE'S CHURCH**

**THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER** - FREE CHRISTMAS LUNCH (All Children on roll)



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.



## School Term Dates November 2023 to July 2024

<b>CHRISTMAS</b>	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December		Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2024
<b>SPRING HALF TERM</b>	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>EASTER</b>	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>MAY DAY</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May		Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May
<b>SUMMER HALF TERM</b>	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May		Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
<b>END OF SUMMER TERM</b>	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	N/A

## School Clubs

Tuesday – Tag Rugby 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Tuesday – Story Club 3.15pm – 4.00pm

Tuesday – Lego/Games Club 3.15pm – 4.00pm

Wednesday - Wellbeing Club 3.15pm – 4.00pm (by invitation only)

Wednesday – Handbell Ringing Club 3.15pm – 4.00pm

Thursday – Harriers Football Club 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Thursday – Choir 3.15pm – 4.00pm