FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



Tel: 01562 824206 Email office@stgprimary.org Website: www.stgprimary.org

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

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

The month of February has flown by and the children have really shone with their positive attitude towards their learning. They have enjoyed the topic 'Around The World', which has been driven by Geography, so we encourage you to ask them about what they have learned and what they can remember. This may be in relation to rivers, using mapping skills, the population of a country or even the climate. We are mindful that our aim is that knowledge 'sticks' so will need reactivating regularly.

The children continue to wear their smart school uniform with pride, but it would be helpful if you could encourage the children to wear their full school uniform, which includes a school tie. As the weather remains unsettled, we encourage the children to wear suitable black school shoes, so coloured shoes and trainers are not acceptable.

As part of our DT curriculum, we learn about healthy eating and having a balanced diet. Senior Leaders are on duty during lunchtimes and all staff monitor lunchtimes to ensure that the children are eating their hot meal or sandwich option. The fabulous school cook, Karen, encourages children to sample 'taster pots of food' which may introduce them to new foods. If your child has chosen to bring their own packed lunch in from home, can I ask that you check that the food items are healthy and nutritious. We discourage children bringing sweets and lollies for their lunch to school and as their morning snack. All children are offered a hot snack at morning break or a piece of fruit, so there is no need to bring in an extra snack, unless it is a healthy snack. Please continue to update the school if your child has any food intolerances or allergies.

We are hopeful that the weather will soon become warmer and so school summer dresses will be available to be purchased from school. Mrs Jones will be sending an email to parents/carers with further information.

We have an exciting few weeks remaining this half term, with lots of dates for your diaries. Please ensure you read the newsletter for an update. These dates include Parent's Evenings, non-school uniform days, the Easter raffle and the Easter Service.

It would be so helpful if you could support the school staff at the beginning and the end of the school day. A handful of children are entering the Forest, playing on the outdoor equipment and using bikes or scooters on the playground. The children are aware that they should only visit the Forest during school time with an adult, there is a rota for the use of the outdoor equipment, which is always supervised by a member of staff and the children know that scooters and bikes should not be ridden on the playground!

Finaly, we have received our Ofsted Inspection Report that has been checked for factual accuracy. We are so proud of our journey of school improvement and the progress and achievements of St George's CE School since the last inspection. Please take the time to read this report and share it with your child. The whole school community have all played their part in this successful outcome for the school.

Thank you for your continued support and have a restful and safe weekend.

Kind Regards

CM Snggto

Headteacher

Attendance FEBRUARY 2024

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

Attendance for the month of was 92.38%

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.

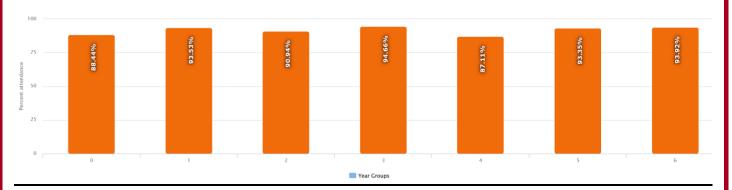
We would like to remind you that the classroom doors close at 8:50am, therefore if your child is late, you should take your child to the office where they will be marked in on the register.

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. 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!

Unfortunately, none of our classes have achieved our school target this month- let's focus on hitting the 96% target in March!



Please see below a table of attendance for each class in February:

	February Attendance %	Persistent Absence (under 90%)
Rec	88.44%	41.67%
1	93.53%	12.5%
2	90.94%	29.63%
3	94.66%	19.35%
4	87.11%	30.43%
5	93.35%	10.34%
6	93.92%	10%

Behaviour and Attitudes

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well.

We are a **caring school community**, whose values are built upon the **British values** of: Democracy; The rule of law; Individual liberty; Mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

The school behaviour policy is therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

Following our **values** in school helps create a respectful and conducive atmosphere to enable children to make the right choices. We encourage children to have a growth mindset towards everything they undertake at St George's, resilience and the courage to have a go are

FORGIVENESS COURAGE COMPASSION THANKFULNESS TRUST TRUTHFULNESS

important qualities we instil across the curriculum. This also allows children to understand that they can make mistakes and this is all part of the learning process. This approach is also encouraged in relation to how we behave in school and how our actions affect others.

The Zone Board

As a school we use the zone board as one of our behaviour management processes. This is based on choices and consequences and has been shown in research to have an impact on the behaviour in the classroom. Here are the zones and the behaviours associated with them:

Zone	What does it look like?
Gold	Exceptional achievement (work, play, behaviour)
	Consistently good behaviour
Silver	A super effort all of the time
	Being kind and considerate to others
	Doing voluntary jobs
_	Being polite and well mannered
Green	Follow instructions the first time of asking
	Work and play without hurting or disturbing others
	Listen without interruption, respecting others, their values and
	opinions
	Look after our school environment and everyone's property
	Move around school safely and stay in safe places
Amber	Frequently calling out
	Answering back / poor attitude
	Low level disruptions Compared to the property of the
	Unkind words (unless racist or bullying – repeated and targeted) Deliberate rupping in school.
	Deliberate running in schoolInappropriate shouting
	 Not following instructions first time
	Not staying in safe/appropriate place at break/lunchtimes
Red	Not staying in safe/appropriate place at break/ionichilines Swearing
Red	Walking out of class/lesson
	Refusing to complete work
	Defiance (any)
	• Throwing
	Physical violence
	Purposeful vandalism
	Online incidents
	Homophobic language
	Racial language

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of SLT if you want to talk about our behaviour policy or anything included within it. We want to ensure that your children feel safe, valued and are treated fairly with respect.

Online Safety



NURSERY

Nursery have been learning about why Christians make pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and had a go at making their own pancake sprinkling sugar and lemon juice on. We have also been learning about farms and that some farms have animals and others grow food. In our focus group we identified what the name of each animal was and what their babies are called eg cow and baby calf we then had to match the correct animals to the correct number eg 3 pigs on number 3 how many pigs do you have? Some children counted 1-2-3- others are beginning to subitise they don't need to count they can just see it is 3!

The children have also been playing lots of listening games. This is a fun way to encourage confidence with new words. Our other focus has been identifying rhyming words in the story 'Oi Frog' eg Frogs sit on logs, log cats sit on mats.

We have explored tuff trays to make our own farms and sing 'Old McDonald Had a Farm'.











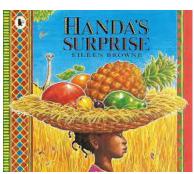


RECEPTION

Reception have done lots of lovely learning in February! In topic, the children have loved learning all about Africa and looking closely at the similarities and differences between Africa and where we live in Kidderminster. We looked at some traditional African homes and how these were the same or different to our houses.

The children also enjoyed reading the story of Handa's surprise and painting the fruits from the story. They especially enjoyed tasting some of the delicious fruit!









"It's sweet (mango)" "The passionfruit's a bit sour" "Juicy" "I just love it" "I don't like it – it's sour" "The pineapple is a little bit sweet"



In Art, the children also enjoyed exploring traditional African prints and the patterns and shapes they could see within them. The children then built upon their printing skills and had a go at designing and creating their own African print, using repeated patterns.

We would like to thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming parents evening.

From the Reception Team,

Miss Austin, Mrs Brettle, Mrs Hoult and Mrs Jahan 😊



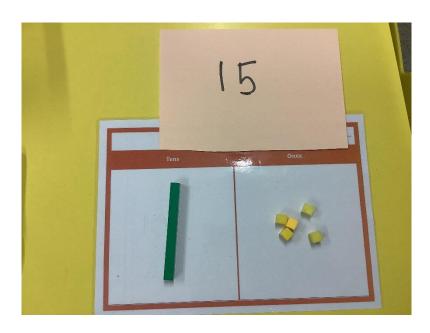
February has flown by and the children have done lots of super learning in Year 1!

I want to say a big 'thank you!' to everyone who attended the 'Phonics Screening Check' workshop. If you couldn't attend, you should now have received an information pack. Any questions you may have about the Phonics Screening Check or phonics in general, please feel free to speak to myself or Mr. Harris (Reading Lead).

The children have started their swimming lessons! I am so proud of how sensibly the children have been engaging with their swimming lessons and how sensible they have been around the water. Please ensure your child has their swimming costume or swimming trunks, a towel, a swimming hat and goggles (if you wish your child to have these) in school every Monday until the Easter holiday.

In Writing we have been learning the difference between fiction and non-fiction and writing non-chronological reports about penguins! The children hadn't written these before but they are impressing me so much with their writing! Please try and practise writing sentences at home with your child using finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. The children are working hard to use 'and' to join their ideas and to use a range of adjectives too.

In Maths we are moving onto place value. We are looking at tens and ones and representing numbers using these.



We are leading up to introducing our new topic 'those who came before us'. As part of our learning, we will be taking part in a history 'wow' day after Easter. Please look out for a letter with further information.

Please remember that the school expectation is that you read five times a week and that this is recorded in your child's home-school link book. Reading is so important, please try to read as much as possible!

Thank you so much for your support! Any questions or problems, please don't hesitate to contact me.



In Year 2, the children have been working super hard across the curriculum!

In Reading, the children have been pushing themselves to improve their fluency levels throughout each group. Children who have been in the comprehension group have been looking at how you can scan a text and pull out the information in a paragraph in order to answer a specific question.

In our Writing lessons, we spent lots of time focusing on the features of a non-chronological report where we explored both penguins and whales which was linked to the story, 'The Snail and the Whale'.

We have just started looking at the story, 'Wanted the Perfect Pet' where we have been looking at persuasive language features such as 'should' and 'could'. We then furthered this by building in conjunctions to combine simple sentences together to create expanded noun sentences.

In Maths we were looking at multiplication using base 10, numicon and number lines to work out a variety of sums to count on. We also looked at how when multiplying numbers, they can be moved around but the answer stays the same (commutivity).

We have just started looking at division and how this can be linked to multiplication. We have also learnt a variety of vocabulary linked to division such as 'sharing' to help us understand how the groups we share with need to be equal.

In PE, the children worked very maturely to use the gymnastics equipment where they worked together to carry mats, set up apparatus and use it effectively to complete the lesson's objective.

Many thanks, Mr Carrette & The Year 2 Team

The children have been very busy during February. In maths, the children have been enjoying learning about different multiplication and division methods and have been working really hard on their 8 times table in fluency.

In Reading, we have just finished looking at 'The Sheep Pig,' where the children were focusing on retrieving the information for their answers from the text. The children are getting much better at this and really enjoyed the book. We are now going to continue to read the text during DEAR time.

In our Writing lessons, the children have been looking at the text 'The Tunnel.' They have loved creating their sory maps and having a 'debate' linked to whether or not the sister should follow her brother through the tunnel. The children have also been building up their writing skills to be able to retell the story with a twist.

In Art, the children in year 3 have really enjoyed our printing unit. We have been looking closely at the work of William Morris. They have worked hard to create, draw and print their own designs and have successfully used rotation in their work too. Well done year 3!

Take a look at some of the amazing prints!







Many Thanks, Miss Powell, Mrs Stewart and Mrs Ashbourne 😊

Year 4 have continued to work hard during February and have shown a real love of learning in many of their lessons. In reading we have recently completed our book Journey to the centre of the Earth, which the children really enjoyed, and we are currently exploring a range of texts, which link to our Geography topic of volcanoes, before we begin a new book.

In English, we completed our lava monster descriptions, and we are now writing a letter to a friend telling them that we have managed to survive the eruption of Mount Vesuvius after reading the book escape from Pompeii. We are still exploring multiplication and division in our maths lessons and the children are starting to focus in on learning times tables in preparation for the test in the summer term.

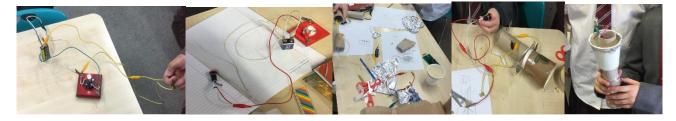
Volcanoes have been a huge driver in Year 4 this month and in Geography the children have really enjoyed learning all about them, their features and where they can be found in the world. Our lesson where we watched a volcano erupt was made even better by all your efforts at home in creating some fantastic volcanoes – Thank you again for all your efforts.

In Art we are continuing to look at creating a collage of an imagined landscape and I am really proud of how they are all engaging with their learning.

In French we have just completed our unit on calendars where we have learnt the days of the week and about birthdays and in RE, we completed our unit on what it was like to be a Hindu in Britain today.



In Science, the children have really impressed me with their eagerness to explore electricity and circuits where our final task was to create a torch that had a working switch. They worked well together to demonstrate their knowledge of circuits as well as conductors and insulators. A few had to really use their growth mindset during the construction of their torches and persevere to the end, which was good to see.



Please can you encourage your child to learn all of their times tables up to 12 x12 using whichever way they find the easiest to learn e.g. practise on purple mash or TT rockstars, writing them out, listening to them in songs. They all need to speed up their recall of answers to help them in their test. Please can all children have the correct PE kit in school and be reading at home at least five times a week. I would really love for Year 4 to have the highest percentage of readers each week and see their love of reading grow beyond the classroom.

Please remember to sign up for a time on the classroom door for the upcoming parent's evenings, I look forward to seeing you all face to face to discuss your child and their learning. In the meantime, if you do have any questions or queries, no matter how small, please come and see me at the start or end of the school day or contact me via the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.



Year 5 are continuing to make staggering progress in their learning throughout their KS2 journey.

In Writing, we have been learning about the story of Bling where a young man meets a new friend called the Chimichanga and he has a big decision to make that could change his life forever. Our key focus for our writing is using inverted commas to punctuate speech which will allow us to retell the story from the point of view of the Chimichanga.

For our current reading lessons, we have been looking at Kensuke's Kingdom which is a story by one of our Year 5 key authors Michael Morpurgo. We have enjoyed learning about Michael and how he came to be shipwrecked on an island with a mysterious man called Kensuke. In our DEAR time at the end of the day we have also been enjoying another story by Michael Morpurgo called My Friend Walter, which is all about the ghost of Sir Walter Raliegh. On a Tuesday afternoon, we go to the library to enjoy our class reading book and the children are also given the opportunity to take a book home to read in their own time.

In Maths, we have finished our fractions topic where we explored a variety of different fractions.

We have now started our new topic of multiplication and division where we will continue to experience the formal methods of calculation to solve multiplication and division questions.

During this topic, the class is going to continue to have lots of opportunities to explore solving word problems giving reasons for their methods and answers.

The class really enjoyed creating photomontages in the similar styles of Gary Hoang in our art lessons. We linked our artwork to our geography where we learnt all about natural disasters and the children created some amazing pieces of work.



Take a look at some of our work!

The children have continued to enjoy their violin lessons on a Tuesday afternoon having a go at learning to play a musical instrument.

Please ensure your child is reading **5 times a week** and their reading diary is signed and coming into school with them. Please can you ensure they are writing what book they have read as well as the pages that they have read.

Thank you for your continued support.

Continue to keep working hard Year 5! You are doing so well!

Miss Edwards, Miss Moraity and Mrs Wilcox 😉

We have had another exciting yet busy month in Year 6 and all the children are working very hard.

In our Maths lessons, we have been focussing on percentages, decimals and fractions. We have been using our knowledge of equivalency to compare, order and reason with them. In Writing, we have created a non-chronological report about climate change which linked to our geography topic. We have started to learn about the English Civil War in our history lessons and explore how monarchy and parliament have developed in our country. In PSHE, we have discussed the importance of looking after ourselves which includes how to keep safe online and the negative effects of alcohol.

The most exciting week in February was our trip to Llanrug and the Arete Outdoor Centre. The children had a fantastic time doing incredibly adventurous activities such as: gorge walking, exploring a slate mine; bouldering on the beach and other team building activities. I am very proud of the children and their determination (especially as it was very cold and wet) and their appreciation of the stunning scenery.





Our SATs meeting on Monday 26th was very well attended and we hope you gained a good understanding of your child's impending tests. If you have any questions regarding the SATs, please do not hesitate to ask.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming parents evening.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 6 Team

IMPORTANT DATES and REMINDERS

Friday 1st March 2024 - Non-school uniform day for Easter Raffle

Thursday 7th March 2024 – World Book Day

Friday 15th March 2024 – Red Nose Day

Tuesday 19th March & Wednesday 20th March 2024 – Parents Evening 3.25pm - 5.55pm (Nurs,Rec,Y1,Y2,Y4,Y5 and Y6)

Thursday 7th March & Wednesday 20th March 2024 – Parents Evening 3.25pm - 5.55pm (Y3)

Wednesday 20th March 2024 – Non-school uniform day for Easter Raffle

Thursday 21st March 2024 – Easter Service St George's Church 9.00am

All welcome

Friday 22nd March 2024 – TED Day- children not required to attend

Monday 8th April – Children return to school for the Summer Term

Monday 8th April – History Wow Day for Y1, Y3 &Y4 (see letter for details).

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.

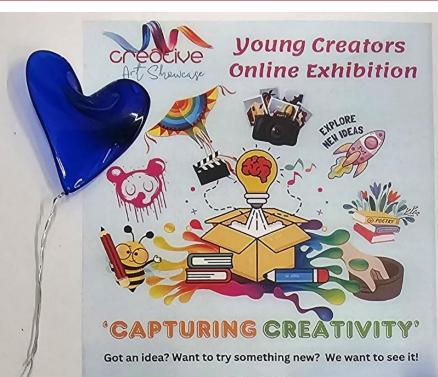
- After school club starts at 3.15pm.
- There will be two slots available for the 'Little Pears'.
- The first slot will run from 3.15pm-4.30pm at a cost of £5.00.
- The second slot available is from **3.00pm-5.30pm** at a cost of £6.50.
- If your child is staying until **5.30pm**, they will be provided 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@staprimary.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 September 2023 to July 2024

HOLIDAY	SCHOOL CLOSES ON	SCHOOL TED DAYS	SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON
EASTER	Thursday 21st March	Friday 22 nd March	Monday 8 th April
MAY DAY	Monday 6 th May		Tuesday 7 th May
SUMMER HALF TERM	Friday 24 th May		Monday 3 rd June
END OF SUMMER TERM	Friday 19 th July	Monday 22 nd July	N/A



Enter Young Creators Online Exhibition. Winner Prizes for each age category. Enter your artwork via our website: www.creativeartshowcase.org

Scan for more Info.



Closing date 30th April 2024

Creative Art Showcase (CAS) is a registered charity - Registration No. 1980SS
Our mission is mobing Creativity, in all its diverse forms accessible to all our communities

Creative Art Showcase is excited to announce the launch of our new online exhibition called 'Capturing Creativity', this is open to your widest interpretation.

Whether you are a budding painter, sculptor, photographer, or digital artist we welcome submissions in all mediums. Do push the boundaries of traditional art forms and explore new and exciting ways of expressing yourself.

Create your masterpiece at home or come along to one of our workshops, see our website for details.

Open to all under 18's and split into age categories: -

Preschool & under, 5-7, 8-10, 11-13, 14-16 and 17-18.

Independent Judges will choose a winner and runner-up for each category. Winners will receive a £25 voucher and runners-up a £15 voucher plus free family tickets for Showcase 24.

Winning original artworks will be showcased in the 'Capturing Creativity' exhibition at Showcase 24 on 26th & 27th October 2024, alongside regional artists.

Children and young people have amazing imaginations and endiess potential, let's all celebrate and showcase Midlands talent.

Young Creators Online Exhibition timeline: -

- February 30th April 2024 Creative phase, submit entries to www.creativeartshowcase.org
- 1st June 30th June Online Exhibition displayed on www.creativeartshowcase.org
- 7th July Winners announced.
- 31st July Original winning artwork to be with Creative Art Showcase.
- 26th & 27th October Winners original artwork exhibited in the 'Capturing Creativity' exhibition at Showcase 24.

For more information see the event on our website: -

www.creativeartshowcase.org

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