# MARCH/APRIL 2025 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 Head**

Dear Parents/Carers

Another half term has come to an end and all the children should be proud of their achievements. This half term our subject driver has been History as the children have enjoyed the topic 'Those Who Came Before Us'. A huge thankyou to you for supporting your child's home learning to launch the topic. The teachers have displayed all the children's models, artwork and research on displays outside the classrooms and they have been admired by all the staff, children and visitors to school.

The children have been marvellous at supporting their school community and beyond. For Comic Relief Day, the cake sale raised £134.00 and a group of children supported a cake sale at St George's church. Raffle tickets for the Easter Raffle have sold well and the Easter Egg Raffle will be drawn on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April.

We have submitted our application for the 'Church School Partnership Award' and we will let you know the outcome. It has been a pleasure this academic year to have built this strong partnership and unite in serving our school community. When you visit the church, you will see a school display which focuses on bible stories that reflect our school values. The children in Key Stage 2 should be proud of their beautiful artwork.

As one of our Visible Consistencies is Pride and Presentation, we are having a huge push on wearing our correct school uniform. This includes correct white shirts being worn and appropriate black school shoes (not trainers). The wearing of jewellery to school is not permitted apart from small studs as earrings. We are seeing a small minority of children wearing rings and bracelets. These are not appropriate for school and should be kept safely at home, to be worn during leisure time after school.

As the weather gets warmer, children can wear grey, school shorts and short sleeved white shirts to school. Mrs Jones has already sent some information out about the sale of school summer dresses. If you need any further information regarding school uniform, please contact the school office.

Mr Harris has been supporting schools across the Trust this academic year as well as being part of the St George's team. After Easter and for the following academic year he will be on secondment at Hollymount school in Worcester as Deputy Headteacher. I would like to thank him for all his care, support and hard work and wish him the very best. We will continue to work alongside him within the Trust.

We are pleased to share some exciting news on the safe arrival of Mrs Hoult's baby. Congratulations and best wishes to her and her family.

I would like to thank the staff team for all their dedication and hard work throughout this busy half term and the children too. As a family, we strive to support each other and will continue to do so. Please do not hesitate with contacting a member of staff if you need any further advice or support.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing Easter break and hope you enjoy some well-deserved time with your friends and family.

MSnato

Kind Regards Headteacher

# ATTENDANCE March

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

Attendance for February and March was 95.26%. This is marginally below the 96% target but an amazing improvement from last year!

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, <a href="mailto:office@stgprimary.org">office@stgprimary.org</a>. 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.

Don't forget that we have prizes to give away at the end of the academic year.

# Well done to Year 2 for the best attendance in FEBRUARY and MARCH!

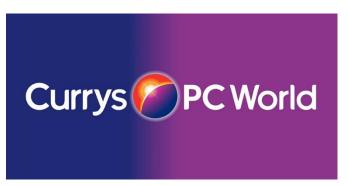
#### February and March Attendance



Please see below a table of attendance for each class for the school year so far:

	Overall Attendance	Persistent Absence (under 90%)
Nursery	91.89%	38.10%
Rec	92.92%	23.08%
1	94.26%	24%
2	96.14%	8.7%
3	94.58%	13.79%
4	95.86%	6.67%
5	94.79%	16.67%
6	95.93%	9.68%

### **ONLINE SAFETY**



On Saturday April 19th, Currys will be holding a drop-in session where you can attend to ask any questions you may have or seek advice about **keeping your children safe online.** They will cover topics such as tracking children's phones, parental controls, online safety and security, along with any other questions you may have. They will have colleagues available throughout the day from 11am to 4 pm. This is a significant

topic, especially following the release of Adolescence on Netflix, and we aim to support the people in our local community during this time.

# **PARENT WORKSHOPS**





midwives and health visitors



speech and language



support with feeding your baby



groups, courses and programmes for parents/ carers



baby groups



support with health and wellbeing

worcestershire.gov.uk/familyhubs













# MATHS IN SCHOOLS



# OR PARENTS & CARERS















# **Your Turn to Learn - FREE!**

Want to know what your child does in English and Math in school?

Come and join us on our Family Learning Online courses!

**Maths** in school online for Parents and Carers, starting after Easter on Tuesday mornings 9.30am – 11.30am online via Teams

Maths online - Book here

**English** in school online for Parents and Carers, starting after Easter on Thursday afternoons 12.45 – 2.45pm online via Teams

English online - Book here

















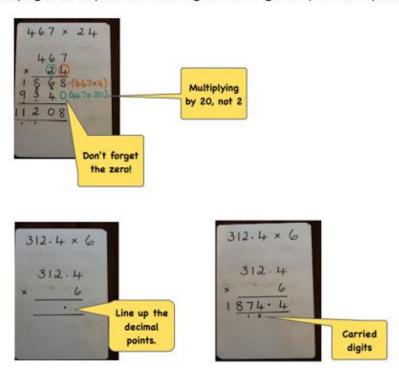
#### **MATHS**

# Multiplication

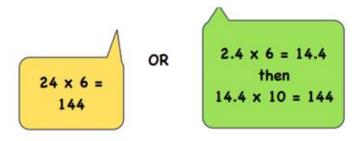
Multiplication is taught in the following stages:

#### 1) Column Multiplication

Children will recap on multiplication of larger numbers with single digit numbers (e.g.  $372 \times 4$ ) before moving on to long multiplication (as below).



Children should be taught to use their knowledge of place value to help when multiplying decimal numbers by multiples of 10. For example,  $2.4 \times 60$  could be solved as:



Maths in Y5&6 can become quite tricky. Calculation is an important part of KS2 maths and we would love you to support your child at home. Here is some support for you to help your child to multiply using formal methods.

# **History VR Experience**

The children in key stage two had an amazing VR experience workshop as part of their history topic. Year 3 immersed themselves in Ancient Egypt where they explored the pyramids and tombs. Year 4 were transported to Mayan ruins. Year 5 explored the Vikings and Year 6 were taken back to the time of Europe in the 1940s during the Second World War. The experience meant that the children could better understand the content they had learned in their history lessons by seeing it virtual reality. This includes understanding just how immense the Egyptian pyramids are.

#### Feedback from the children was incredible!

"We were learning something and having fun at the same time!" – Felicity (Year 4)

"We were really immersed into the Mayan civilization!" – Aston (Year 4)



"My favourite part was seeing the longships and the designs on them!" – Eva Fox (Year 5)

"It felt like real life because it was so realistic!" – Parsa (Year 5)

# **NURSERY**

We have had a busy time in Nursery this term leaning all about Spring. Oreo and Daisy came to visit and the children were able to feed them their milk







We invited our special grown ups in and sang 'Jasper's Beanstalk',' I Have a Little Turtle and a poem about "Our Mummy".



A group of children had the opportunity to make pizza at the 'The Manor House of Whittington. The children added their own toppings and then it was cooked in a clay oven. The pizza was delicious!







The children have been learning about why Christians celebrate Easter by making cards, decorating a cross with flowers, chocolate nests, Easter egg hunt and an Easter bonnet parade.

#### **RECEPTION**

Reception have been very busy this spring term! The children have loved learning about what happens to our rubbish, where it goes and how it can be repurposed into new things. The children really enjoyed a visit from the refuse collectors in their lorry, as well as learning about how rubbish can be sorted into different bins.







We then explored how we can use recycable materials to make something new through reading the story 'Somebody swallowed Stanley' by Sarah Roberts. This story then inspired our DT project, whereby we explored which recyable materials we could use to make a kite.





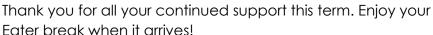






The children then shared the process of making their creations with their friends and really enjoyed testing out their kites; evaluating if the material they used was suitable or not!







The Reception Team

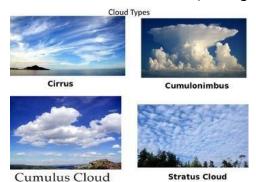
Miss Austin, Miss Such, Miss Webb and Mrs Lavelle 😊



In writing we have been writing our own diary entries based on 'Sophie Scott Goes South'. We are working super hard at joining our ideas using 'and, because so' and remembering to use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces too. We have started to think about using question marks and exclamation marks as well!

In maths we have been learning about place value to 50 and now we have started our new topic on money! You can help us learn about money by helping us to pay small amounts in a shop by selecting the right coins. HSBC are also coming in to work with us to help develop our understanding of money after half term!

In science we are learning all about the seasons and different weather! One of our favourite activities has been cloud spotting! I wonder what clouds you can spot over half term?



The phonics screening check is fast approaching! Thank you once again to all the parents who attended the phonics workshops. Please make sure you are practising the phonics book sent home with your child and the video links that have been sent home. Please also remember the importance of reading at home! The expectation is that you read at home at least five times a week and this is recorded in your child's home-school link book. Reading is so important as it underpins all learning, so we really value your support with this.

Don't forget that our PE days are Mondays (indoor) and Fridays (outdoors). It is really important that all children have their correct PE kit in school every day. We currently have many children who do not have their full PE kit in school. If you are not sure what your child needs, please feel free to speak to me or a member of the office team who will be able to support you.

Thank you once again for all your support!

Have a lovely Easter break!

Miss Edwards and the Year 1 team 😉

Year Two have worked really hard this Term and I am so happy with the individual progress they have all made. Their hard work across all subjects has been so lovely to see especially within some of the amazing pieces of home learning related to our History topic 'Those Who Came Before Us'.

In Writing the children have been exploring the book "Wanted: The Perfect Pet" by Fiona Roberton. Through this story, they have delved into themes of friendship and acceptance. The children have been busy crafting their own narratives, focusing on character development and descriptive writing.



In Math our children have been developing their understanding of all the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) to solve a variety of calculations. They have been engaging in problem-solving activities, learning to approach challenges with confidence and persistence. Through interactive lessons and hands-on activities, they have developed a stronger foundation with mathematical concepts.

In Reading our reading sessions have been filled with excitement as children explore a variety of texts. They have been using their skills in retrieving information and making inferences. By engaging with different genres and styles, they are learning to ask insightful questions and draw connections between stories.

In History we have explored Nurses in the past looking at Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell. We have explored their lives on a timeline and compared them to one another. We also looked at what has changed from the past to the present, where hospitals now have multiple beds and are more hygienic.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication our Year 2 children have shown this term. Their enthusiasm for learning is inspiring and we look forward to seeing their continued growth and success.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Mr Carrette and Miss Steward

It has been another busy period in Year 3 and the children continue to work hard as we move towards the well-deserved Easter break. In maths we have explored fractions and looked at unit and non-unit fractions and adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator. In English we have completed a persuasive poster to entice the reader to look at booking a holiday to Egypt and we have completed a non-chronological report about the gods and goddesses in Ancient Egypt to link to our work in history where we have studied the Ancient Egyptians.

The children have loved learning about Jewish festivals in RE and being creative in our art sculpture unit using clay to create our own canopic jars, again linking to our studies in history. We created pinch pots and coil pots before creating our final sculpture which was a hybrid of these pots to create a canopic jar.



In reading, we completed our book about the girl who stole an elephant, and the children liked the few plot twists in the story. We have also increased our exposure to non-fiction texts by reading the secret life of rocks in our comprehension lessons and looking at features as well as answering retrieval questions on this book and comparing it to others.

In MFL the children have been looking at items in the classroom and they have remembered the vocabulary very well, constructing basic sentences in French to describe what they have in their bag. In DT, the children are coming towards the end of the unit where they are creating a grabber for Shad fry in the River Severn. The children were so pleased to have parents in to help and I would like to thank all parents for attending this and your lovely feedback, it was so nice seeing everyone working together to make designs come to life, problem solving along the way.



Finally in science we have been investigating light and shadows this half term and the children have explored their own shadow and investigated shadows which are created when an opaque object prevents light from passing through.

Thank you for all of your continued support, if you have any issues, please feel free to see us at the classroom door or speak to us via the school office. Please continue to read (at least 5 times a week) as well as practise times tables and spellings.

Mr Roberts and the Year 3 team 😊

It's been a busy time in Year 4! In maths, we have finished our unit on fractions and have applied them to a variety of question types. More recently, we have learnt about decimals including tenths and hundredths and have applied this knowledge to money and statistic problems using addition and subtraction.



In writing, we have used an animation called 'The Lighthouse' to create a dramatic setting description using fronted adverbials, subordinating clauses and similes. The children have been working hard with improving their handwriting and they are proud of the work they produce!

In our D.T lessons, we have started to explore the ways in which we can create a warning system for a volcanic eruption! We are designing a solid structure, and we will create these after the Easter holiday. We will also be applying our science knowledge of circuits to create a light and buzzer!

The children have loved our history unit with the Ancient Mayans and have enjoyed learning about their gods and how they influenced their daily lives and buildings. They thoroughly enjoyed the VR experience where they were transported back to Ancient Maya!









The children have also had two workshops delivered the WEST team which focussed on understanding the 'Fizz'. They learnt strategies to recognise when they are becoming dysregulated and what they can do to help themselves. They also explored the difference between fact and opinion.

The children loved World Book Day in March and they enjoyed dressing up or wearing their pyjamas! There was a real buzz and excitement about reading which we want to foster and keep all year long as reading is so important!

Thank you so much for your continued support and we hope you all have a lovely Easter break.

Mr Atkinson and the Year 4 Team

During March and April, Year 5 have been actively engaged in a variety of enriching activities. The children took great pleasure in creating Mother's Day and Easter cards, demonstrating both creativity and thoughtfulness. A particular highlight was World Book Day, during which pupils and staff arrived at school dressed as their favourite book characters or in pyjamas to celebrate the joy of reading. Throughout the day, they participated in a range of literary-themed activities, including designing their own bookmarks and book covers. Additionally, they took part in a stimulating online lesson that encouraged them to reflect on and describe their ideal reading experience.







In Mathematics, the children have been exploring the concepts of area and perimeter across a variety of shapes. Although they found some aspects of the topic challenging, we are incredibly proud of their perseverance and determination. Currently, the class is thoroughly enjoying our topic on statistics, where they are learning how to construct line graphs and interpret data in a range of meaningful ways. Following the Easter break, we will be moving on to our next topic: Shape.

In Writing, the children thoroughly enjoyed the recent unit focused on persuasive writing. They engaged in designing, planning, and publishing persuasive leaflets for their very own theme parks. The level of creativity, effort, and attention to detail shown in their final pieces has been impressive, and we are incredibly proud of their hard work and enthusiasm throughout the unit.









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

Thank you so much for your support and have a lovely Easter break!

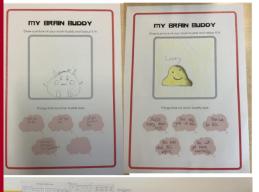
Miss Powell, Mrs Stewart and Mrs Smith 😉



It has been another busy and productive month for Year 6, with the children continuing to work really hard, particularly in preparation for their upcoming SATs.

At the beginning of the month, we celebrated World Book Day. Students participated by dressing up as their favourite book characters or opting for a comfortable day in their pyjamas. Throughout the day, the children engaged with the BBC live lesson and the live reading session, which connected them with other schools across the country. As part of the day, the children also took on the role of 'library detectives' and were delighted by a visit from author Peter Cooper. To conclude the day, several parents joined us to read with the children, an experience that was enjoyable for all involved.

In addition to our regular PE lessons, Year 6 students have had the opportunity to participate in cricket sessions led by expert coaches. They have been learning and



practising essential skills, such as proper bowling techniques and batting, and have demonstrated outstanding teamwork and enthusiasm throughout their lessons and mini matches.



We were also fortunate to have the WEST team visit, where they conducted a workshop focused on managing SATs-related stress and anxiety. The children learned about the physical and emotional effects of stress, its potential causes, and various techniques to manage it effectively. They also created 'brain buddies,' who will support them in transforming worries into positive thoughts. The session was a great success, with students actively engaging, sharing their thoughts, and offering

one another support.

Overall, this month we have seen continuous perseverance and commitment from the class.

Please remember that the school's expectation is that you read five times a week and that this is recorded in your reading diary.

We thank you for your continued support and we wish you a safe and happy Easter!

Miss Edwards, Miss Moraity and Miss Timms 😊



# **Church & School Partnership**

#### **Comic Relief Bake Sales**

The collaboration between St George's Church and School is having such a fantastic impact and not just within our local community but the wider community too!

Thank you all for the overwhelming support you showed at our after-school bake sale. Along with the bake sale held at St George's Church coffee morning, which a group of pupils proudly ran, we have been able to donate £134 to Comic Relief, which is a fantastic amount.

I would also like to say a big thank you to all of the staff, as without their cake donations the afterschool event would not have been possible. Finally, a big thank you goes to our super school catering team, who very kindly made several batches of cupcakes and delicious cookies, which went down a treat at the Church bake sale.

#### **Easter Service**

Thank you for attending another successful church service. The children and staff all work really hard to produce the services and as always, I am extremely proud of our St George's family. The children shared their work with pride and read the Easter Scenes with great confidence. Following on from their success at the last service in church, I was really excited when the bell ringing afterschool club approached me to participate in the service again and what a fantastic job they did! The accompanying rhymes were cleverly created by Reverend David and I thought

Years One, Two and Three did a great job performing these too. Lastly, a big thank you goes to our wonderful dancers and Miss Timms, who made their debut performance dancing beautifully to one of our Easter songs. The children have been working hard this half term with Miss Timms and I am very excited for the next collaboration!





#### **Our Value Artwork**

Hopefully in Church this morning, you noticed our wonderful artwork as you walked in. Groups of Year Six children have used different materials to collage scenes of our chosen key Bible stories, which beautifully depict our school values. A big thank you to Miss Moraity for overseeing this project. We will continue to develop a special space in St George's Church and will keep you updated.

#### Our Key Bible Stories:

- Courage- David and Goliath
- Trust- Jesus Calm the Storm
- Forgiveness-The Prodigal Son
- Compassion- The Good Samaritan
- Thankfulness- Healing of the 10 Lepers
- Truthfulness- Daniel in the Lion's Den (because he refused to deny God)



#### The Church and School Partnership Award

A group of Year One and Year Five pupils had the pleasure of visiting the residents of a local care home this half term. They all thoroughly enjoyed being able to give their time to participate in a service led by Reverend David, as well as share their favourite story book.

Year Three had a busy afternoon litter picking in the grounds of St George's Church in order to look after our local environment and did a brilliant job!

Finally, we are extremely proud to announce that the Church and School Partnership Silver Award has now been submitted, and we are eagerly awaiting the result of our application. We hope to be able to update you shortly.

In the meantime, if you have any suggestions regarding how we can further support the local and wider community then please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter.

Mrs Stewart



# **IMPORTANT DATES and REMINDERS**

Thursday 10th April – Children Break up for Easter Holidays

Friday 11th April – TED Day (School closed)

Friday 11th April - Sunday 27th April - Easter Holidays (School closed)

**Monday 28th April** – Children return to school

Monday 5th May – May Day (School closed)

**Thursday 8th May** – VE Day Children to wear red, white and blue

Monday 12th to Friday 16th May – Year 6 SATs Tests Week

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – TED Day (School closed)

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June – Whitson Week (School closed)

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** – Children return to school

Thursday 19th June – Redditch Gotta Sing

Friday 20th June - Rec & Year 6 Weston Super Mare Trip

**24**th **June** – Year 6 Leavers Photos

30th June to 4th July – Holy Trinity and King Charles Transition Week Year 6

7th to 9th July – Wolverley High School Transition Days Year 6

**Monday 7th July** – Nursery Sports Day

**Tuesday 8th July** – Reception, Y1 and Y2 Sports Day

**Wednesday 9th July** – KS2 Sports Day

Friday 11th July – School Summer Fayre

**Friday 18th July** – We break up for the summer holidays

#### **Parish News**

#### Holy Week Services and Events in the Parish

#### Maundy Thursday (17th April)

10:00am Holy Communion

Christian Passover Meal 6:30pm

Good Friday (18<sup>th</sup> April)

> 10:30am All-age reflective service

2:00pm Hour at the Cross

Easter Sunday (20<sup>th</sup> April)

> 9:30am Holy Communion 9:45am Holy Communion 11:00am Holy Communion 11:00am Holy Communion

**Evening Worship** 6:30pm



St Cecilia's St Chad's

St George's

St Chad's

St Chad's St Cecilia's

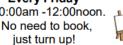
St George's

St Mary's, Stone

St George's

#### St George's Coffee Shop

(Including Art Table) **Every Friday** 10:00am -12:00noon



Please Note: There will be NO coffee shop on Good Friday 18th April. We will be open again at our regular time, on **Friday 25**<sup>th</sup> **April**. *Thank you* 

#### Lent Lunches at St George's

We shall be serving a simple soup, bread and cheese lunch at St George's on Wednesday 16th April, 12:00noon till 2:00pm.

No charge, but donations welcome.

No Lent Lunch on 9th April

#### **KEP Parish Children's Club - Easter Special**

The Easter Special event of the Children's Club will take place on Thursday 24th and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April (9:30am – 1:30pm). A place for each child MUST be booked by emailing Karen on ChurchClub@kidderminstereast.org.uk by midday Thursday 17th April, at the very latest. Places need to be secured, as spaces are limited, and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis so, no quarantee can be given even if your booking is received in time. This is because we need to ensure that we have food and materials available for each child.

In addition, if we haven't already received one for this year, an enrolment / consent form must be completed for each child. The form is available to download here from the parish website. Alternatively, you can request a form from Karen by emailing her on ChurchClub@kidderminstereast.org.uk.

The Children's Club is a fun and friendly club for children aged 6 to 11 years (we can be slightly flexible on ages please enquire). Children enjoy games, music, craft, stories, drama plus a meal & refreshments at every session, and all in a safe and friendly environment.



All events are provided free of charge. Staff are fully safeguarding trained and have DBS clearance.

The dates of the next few events, after the Easter event, for 2025 are:

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May (5.00 – 7.30pm) - bookings by midday Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June (5.00 – 7.30pm) - bookings by midday Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July (5.00 – 7.30pm) - bookings by midday Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July.

All meetings are at St Chad's Church, Burcher Green, Kidderminster, DY10 3AY Please see the flyer in church for further dates.

#### Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter

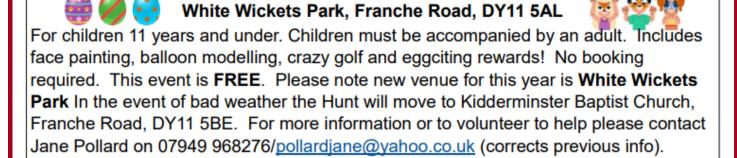


**Palm Sunday** (13<sup>th</sup> April) sees the start of **Holy Week**, a week when we focus in on the climax of the earthly life and ministry of Jesus. It begins with the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on a donkey, and it ends with the shocking empty tomb of **Easter Day** after his resurrection.

Please make use of the services (described elsewhere in this newsletter) to journey with Jesus to the depths of his self-offering which come between these two high points on the Sundays. Take these last few days of Lent to prepare for the amazing celebration of Easter.



# Easter Hunt Trail Saturday 19th April 10:30am - 12:00noon



# 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 £6.00.
- The second slot available is from **3.15pm-5.30pm** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Friday **3.15pm-5.15pm** at a cost of **£7.50**.
- 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@stgprimary.org or ring on 01562 824206.

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