

FEBRUARY 2026



St. George's
C of E School
NURTURE, LEARN, SUCCEED

Tel: 01562 824206

Email office@stgprimary.org

Website: www.stgprimary.org

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

The month of February has flown by, and we continue to be immensely proud of the positive energy across the school and the many ways our pupils are living out our vision: **Nurture, Learn, Succeed**. This month brings exciting developments in our curriculum and school environment that we are delighted to share with you.

For our current topic, **History** is our subject driver as we explore the theme **“Those Who Came Before.”** Children are developing a broader understanding of global history, learning how different civilisations, cultures, and communities have shaped the world we live in today. Through enquiry, discussion, and hands-on learning, pupils are discovering how the past connects to the present—building curiosity, empathy and respect for people across time and around the world

We are thrilled to announce the launch of **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)** across the school. This long-term development programme supports schools in transforming the quality of outdoor play, and we are looking forward to seeing the benefits.



OPAL encourages **creative, active and collaborative outdoor experiences**, helping children develop:

- **Resilience** through challenge and problem-solving
- **Independence** in making choices and managing risks
- **Improved behaviour** through purposeful, engaging play
- **Social skills and teamwork**
- **A sense of joy and belonging outdoors**

Our playground will become a richer, more imaginative and more inclusive play environment—something we look forward to growing even further throughout the year.

We continue to encourage pupils to take on meaningful responsibilities across the school, and we are proud of the many children who are demonstrating maturity, kindness and leadership. From caring for younger pupils, to helping keep shared spaces tidy, to showing respect for our school environment, our children are proving themselves to be excellent role models. Their actions reflect our vision daily.

We are grateful for your continued partnership and support. By working together, we ensure our children have the best opportunities to thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

Wishing you all a wonderful month ahead.

Warm regards,

Clare Snape

Headteacher

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance for February was 94.8%

We would love to see whole school attendance improve to our school target of 96%

Attendance percentage

Reception	94.4%
Year 1	94.2%
Year 2	91.5%
Year 3	93.5%
Year 4	97.0%
Year 5CM	95.8%
Year 5W	96.7%
Year 6	96.7%



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

We do know that from time-to-time children are really too poorly to come to school. If this is the case, please ring the school office by **9.15am on 01562 824206** or email, if you prefer, office@stgprimary.org. 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.

Are you thinking about a term-time holiday?

Taking holidays during term time can have a significant impact on a child's learning, confidence and progress. Even a few days away means missing key teaching that cannot be repeated in the same way, which can make it harder for children to keep up when they return. Good attendance is one of the strongest predictors of success in school, helping children build routines, stay connected with friends, and make the most of every learning opportunity. We kindly ask families to avoid booking holidays in term time so that children can benefit fully from their education and continue to thrive.



HEALTHY SLEEP HABITS

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators DEVELOPING HEALTHY SLEEP PATTERNS

Quality sleep is paramount for wellbeing as it impacts our cognitive function, emotional balance and overall health. A World Health Organisation study highlighted that 44% of young people reported difficulty sleeping – potentially affecting their mood, concentration and immune system. Our guide offers expert tips for helping children to sleep more healthily.

1 MINDFUL TECH USE

Encourage a balanced approach to screen time. While phones, laptops, tablets and so on can serve as a helpful means of stress relief, it's advisable to minimise their use right before bed. These devices can keep the mind racing long after they're switched off, impacting how easily and how well a person can sleep.

2 EFFECTIVE SLEEP PRACTICES

Offer practical advice on reinforcing certain habits that have a positive influence on sleeping patterns. Children could start keeping a diary which they add to each evening, for example – or they could use up excess energy by exercising during the day.

3 HYDRATION HABITS

Underline the importance of drinking plenty of water throughout the day, while limiting drinks close to bedtime to prevent disruptions during the night: it's a lot harder to switch off if you keep needing to get out of bed for the toilet. Avoiding caffeinated drinks later in the day also allows the body and brain to slow down naturally, without any chemicals firing them back up.

4 CONSISTENT BEDTIME SCHEDULE

Assist children in developing consistent bedtime routines that tell the body it's time to wind down, promoting a more relaxed state. Establish specific activities for young ones right before going to bed – such as brushing their teeth – to set up an association between that action and falling asleep.

5 OPTIMAL SLEEP ENVIRONMENT

Ensure that the bedroom is comfortable, dark and free from distractions, fostering an ideal space for quality rest. The room's temperature should also be suitable for sleeping – that is, not too hot and not too cold – while rooms should be kept as tidy and free of clutter as possible.

6 RELAXING EVENING ACTIVITIES

Recommend activities that have a calming effect on the mind – such as reading or gentle stretching – in the lead up to bedtime, to prepare the mind for a peaceful night's sleep. Doing something quiet, relaxing and low intensity signals to the brain that it's time to rest and makes falling asleep much easier.

7 PRIORITISING ADEQUATE SLEEP

Emphasise the crucial role of sleep in maintaining physical and emotional wellbeing. It's especially important to sustain a healthy sleep pattern during challenging and intensive periods in our lives: during the exam season for children and young people, for instance.

8 NUTRITIONAL BALANCE

Highlight the significance of a healthy, balanced diet – and its role in establishing a more consistent sleep pattern. Try to lean towards preparing meals with plenty of fruit and vegetables, served in reasonable portion sizes: not only is this a lot healthier, but it also reduces the chances of feeling too full to be comfortable in bed.

9 PARENTAL SUPPORT

Parents and carers, of course, are uniquely situated to support their children in establishing and maintaining healthy sleeping habits. Parents can review their own sleep habits (incorporating anything from this list that they don't do already) to model a balanced bedtime routine and reinforce the importance of self-care.

10 MILITARY SLEEP METHOD

Look up 'the military sleep method': it's a technique for falling asleep quickly, which incorporates deep breathing exercises. You could encourage children to try it or even use it yourself. While it can take a good deal of practice to perfect, eventually it will start to feel natural – and the results are often extremely impressive!

Meet Our Expert

Minda Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. Winner of the Social Enterprise UK 'One to Watch' award, the charity provides training and support to education organisations and local authorities. This guide has been written by Adam Gillett – a learning and development specialist who is also Associate Vice-Principal for Personal Development at a large secondary school.



The National College

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 13.03.2024

GOVERNOR UPDATE

Mrs Pamela Leek-Wright, our Chair of Governors, is pleased to announce that Mr Abdur Razzak has been voted by our parents and carers to join our Local Governing Committee. Mr Abdur Razzak has two children currently attending St George's. He was a former pupil at this school and comes with a wealth of experience within the IT industry.



Mr Abdur Razzak



Mrs Pamela Leek-Wright



WORLD BOOK DAY

5th MARCH 2026



**GO
ALL
IN.**

National
Year of
Reading
2026

**GO ALL IN: READING FOR PLEASURE!
CONNECT BOOKS TO YOUR HOBBIES!**



COSTUME PARADE!

Dress up as your favourite book character that might link to your interests or hobbies.



NO COSTUME? NO PROBLEM!

Come to school in your comfiest pyjamas!



Primary School Event

NURSERY

This month Nursery have enjoyed responding to the scary wolf in Little Red Riding Hood. We made a path through the forest with collage materials, explored modelling a wolf with clay and carried a basket across an obstacle course to get some cakes to Granny.

As part of the Chinese New Year celebrations, we tasted noodles and sauce, made lanterns and listened to the race over the river story. The children looked at Chinese costumes, fans and decorations and learnt why the colour red is important to Chinese people ask your child to tell you.....

To finish the half term, we created a Valentine Basket the children used pipe cleaners to weave a basket to hold a heart shaped lolly for someone special.

The children have been playing games to subitise and learnt a new song "Oh where oh where can the number 2 be oh where oh where can it be its hiding somewhere in the room can find it for me" You could sing this at home to develop number recognition.

The Nursery Team

Mrs Williams, Mrs Khan, Mrs Ashbourne, Miss Braley

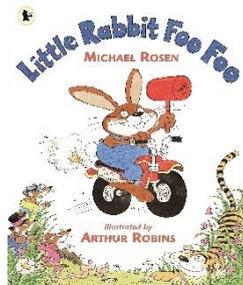
RECEPTION

Welcome back after our half term break! Reception have been busy starting off their new topic of 'How is my world changing?'. We have been looking at our world and talking about all the wonderful things within our wonderful world and the children have produced a beautiful collage inspired by this!



In Writing, we are currently exploring the text of 'Little Rabbit Foo Foo' and the children have really enjoyed retelling this story over and over to their peers. Below is the link, if you wish to read it with your child at home.

[Little Rabbit Foo Foo \(STORY BOOK\)](#)



In Maths, the children are currently learning to order numerals to ten, using the number blocks to represent the counting order. We are also currently developing our recall of one more and one less within numbers to 10 e.g "1 more than 5 is". Please support your child with recalling these number facts at home.



We have lots of exciting learning coming up, whereby the children we be exploring how we can reuse different materials to create new things, such as box modelling and repurposing an old plastic bag into a kite! On a rainy day, you could explore creating something new out of your recyclable materials at home with your child. Here are some ideas....



Please note our PE day has changed to a Wednesday for this term.

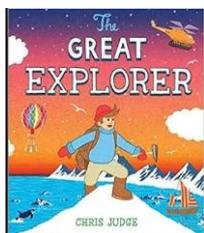
The Reception Team

Miss Austin, Mrs Devonport and Mrs Roberts 😊

YEAR 1

Year 1 have been working so hard since being back after half term. They are all trying their best and demonstrating our school values.

In writing we are currently reading and retelling 'The Great Explorer' by Chris Judge.



We are continuing to focus on capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We are also beginning to use adjectives, conjunctions, -ed verbs, exclamation marks and question marks!

In Maths we are starting to work with numbers 11-20. We have been using our knowledge of part-part whole models to split teen numbers into tens and ones.

Tens	Ones

We are also recalling our number bonds to 10.



We are still learning about Antarctica, we have just started finding out all about explorers of the ice!

In history we are thinking about **significant** people. We have discussed who is significant to us and who is significant to many. The children had great ideas and loved sharing who was important to them.

Our PE days are now **Monday** and **Wednesday**. Please ensure PE kits are always in school and named.

During provision we have loved using our phonics area and pretending to be the teachers! Please practise set 2 and 3 'special friends' at home using the Ruth Miskin portal. If you would like a copy of a sound mat, please ask 😊



Please ensure that your child is reading at home and you are recording it in their reading diary.

Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school every day.

As always if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

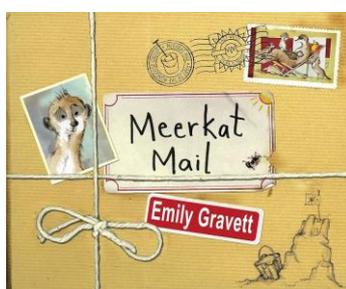
Miss Hall and the Year 1 team! 😊

YEAR 2

It has been a wonderful month in Year 2! We are so proud of the children for the fantastic effort and enthusiasm they have brought to their learning. Here is a look at what we have achieved together.

In maths we have been exploring fractions! The children worked so hard to find a half and a quarter of different numbers. We used Base 10 blocks and pictures to help us to share numbers into equal groups.

In writing we have been immersing ourselves in a new book called 'Meerkat Mail'. We have loved finding out about all the exciting places that Sunny (the main character) visits on his journey. The children have been working hard to write sentences about these places using appropriate adjectives and commas to separate items in a list.



In PSHE, we have been thinking about how to look after our bodies and minds. We also learned how to be kind and stay safe online and created posters to support others to do the same!

We have been getting messy and creative with printing in art! The children carefully etched designs into Styrofoam boards to create blocks, using them to print some truly beautiful repeating patterns.



In PE, the children have been busy building their very own gymnastics routines. They showed great determination and balance, especially when mastering the "Teddy Bear Roll"!

Our new PE days are **Tuesday and Thursday**, so please ensure that your child has weather appropriate PE kits in school on these days. If your child has earrings, then please kindly provide tape to cover them or remove them on these days. 😊

Thank you for your continued support at home!

Miss McPhie and the Year 2 team 😊

YEAR 3

February has been a fantastic month of learning in Year 3! The children have been enthusiastic, focused, and full of curiosity across all subjects.

We have started our new writing unit based on the story *The Tunnel*. The children are already fully engaged with the narrative, and they will soon be working towards writing their own ending to the story. Their imagination and creativity are really shining through.

In Maths, we have begun our new unit on fractions. The children have been working extremely hard to understand key concepts. One important idea we keep revisiting is:

If the numerators are the same, the fraction with the smaller denominator is the greater fraction.

Our new class text, *There's a Pharaoh in Our Bath!* by Jeremy Strong, has been a huge hit. The children are thoroughly enjoying the humour and adventure in the story, and it has sparked some brilliant discussions during our reading sessions. The book has also linked perfectly to our History learning about the Ancient Egyptians, helping the children make connections between the fiction in the story and the real historical facts they will be exploring in class.

We are nearing the end of our unit on rocks and soils. This month, the children particularly enjoyed our hands-on exploration of the rock cycle. Using sweets to model how sedimentary, metamorphic, and igneous rocks form brought the learning to life—and made the process both memorable and fun!



Our PE lessons take place every **Monday** and **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child brings their PE kit to school on these days and can remove any jewellery they are wearing. If earrings cannot be removed, kindly provide tape for them to cover the earrings. Additionally, please make sure that long hair is tied back for these sessions.

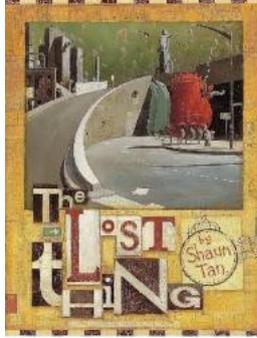
In KS2, students are expected to read at least five times per week. Those who meet this goal will be entered into a special reading raffle, giving them the chance to win a prize.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Powell, Miss Moraity and Miss Stuart 😊

YEAR 4

It's been a busy few weeks in Year 4 this February. In our writing, we have finished our narrative opening for Shaun Tan's *The Lost Thing*. We have started to create a non-chronological report on volcanoes which has been our geography focus last half term; the children are excited to use their volcano knowledge in their writing.



In Maths, we have been learning about fractions. We have added and subtracted fractions with the same denominator and found fraction of shape and number. We have been practising our times tables every day and the children are making good progress with these. Please continue to practise at home as this will further support with their retention of times table facts.

We are very excited to be learning about the Ancient Mayans this term. We will be looking at showcasing some Mayan homework and would like to thank you in advance for all your continued support with this!

This Half term is Forest School which is taking place every Monday so please make sure your child comes with their bag of clothes to change into (wellies/ boots, waterproof coat and a change of trousers).

Thank you for your continued support,

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 4 Team

Mr Carrette, Mrs Brettle, Miss Lillia and Miss Stewart

YEAR 5W

In February, our trip to North Wales was an unforgettable outdoor adventure bursting with excitement! The children scrambled up towering mountains, splashed their way through gorge walks, paddled canoes across sparkling water, explored mysterious caves, and even squeezed in sandy fun on the beach. Every moment was filled with laughter, challenge, and the sheer joy of being out in the wild together.



We've been busy writers lately, exploring how to create engaging diary entries by using feelings, thoughts and detailed descriptions to bring each moment to life. In maths, we're becoming confident masters of adding and subtracting fractions, practising new strategies and tackling tricky problems with real determination. Our learning has also taken us on incredible journeys through space and into the dramatic world of natural disasters — topics the class has absolutely loved diving into!

Please ensure that your child is reading the expected five times per week at home, and that each read is recorded in their diary.

Please also ensure you have your swimming kit on **Monday** and PE kit on **Tuesday!**

Thanks for all your support, Miss Woolford and the team. 😊

YEAR 5CM

The children in 5CM have had a fantastic few weeks of learning. In Writing, they thoroughly enjoyed debating whether the summer holidays should be shorter with a longer two-week Christmas break, all in preparation for crafting their own balanced arguments.

As Mathematicians, the class has been working extremely hard on their new fractions' unit, and all the teachers involved have been incredibly impressed by their resilience and determination.

Geography has sparked great curiosity too, as the children learned how earthquakes are formed and used their Chromebooks to research the physical and human impacts.

Meanwhile, in PSHE lessons on looking after ourselves and our bodies, 5CM produced some fantastic sun-safety posters, although they did leave us daydreaming about warm summer holidays!

The children who did not go on the residential enjoyed a truly fantastic week packed with creativity, exploration, and new experiences. They had the opportunity to spend time in Forest School, where they designed and built imaginative homes for mythical creatures. Thanks to Mrs Hamid, the group also enjoyed a brilliant baking session, finishing it off by creating persuasive adverts to promote their delicious cookies. Using the Chromebooks, the children researched their favourite celebrities and produced impressive biographies based on their findings. And of course, no special week would be complete without a movie afternoon!



Swimming lessons will continue **Mondays**

PE will now be on a **Friday**

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Colley-Mardell, Miss Timms and Mrs Hamid 😊

YEAR 6

This term, Year 6 have continued to work incredibly hard in preparation for their SATs. The children are developing fantastic resilience, and they should be really proud of the progress they are making.



In writing, we have been using a short video clip from *Dunkirk* (World War II) as inspiration to create letters written home, imagining ourselves as soldiers standing on the beaches of Dunkirk. The children have been focusing on using fronted adverbials to help vary their sentence openers. Later in the unit, we will be working on paired editing and revision to make meaningful improvements to our writing.

In maths, we have completed our percentages unit, exploring the equivalence between fractions, decimals and percentages. We are now focusing on measurement, and the children are applying their knowledge well to lots of SATs-style problem-solving activities. The class have also been working hard in their extra arithmetic lessons, and this effort is clearly reflected in their practice arithmetic papers.



Recently in PSHE, we met Ormie the resilient pig! Inspired by Ormie, the children created their own resilience toolboxes with strategies to support them during mock testing week and SATs week. The class loved watching Ormie and found his determination to get the cookies very entertaining.

We continue to be extremely proud of Year 6, and we thank you for your ongoing support.

Please ensure that your child is reading the expected five times per week at home, and that each read is recorded in their diary.

Please also ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day.

Miss Edwards and Mrs Smith 😊

IMPORTANT DATES and REMINDERS

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Tuesday 10th March – Parent Consultations

Wednesday 11th March – Parent Consultations

Monday 16th to Friday 20th March – Book Fair in School

Friday 20th March – Red Nose Day

Saturday 28th March to Sunday 12th April - Easter Holidays (School Closed)

Monday 13th April – children return to school

Monday 4th May – Bank Holiday (School Closed)

Monday 11th to Friday 15th May – Year 6 SATs Week

Friday 22nd May - TED Day children not required in school

Saturday 23rd May to Sunday 31st May – Whitson Week (School Closed)

Monday 1st June – children return to school

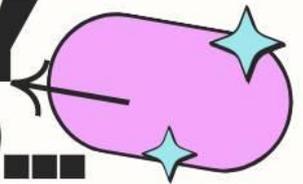
Saturday 18th July – Summer School Holidays (School Closed)

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**.

Who do you contact in an emergency when school/hubs are closed?

WHO TO CONTACT WHEN THE FAMILY HUBS ARE CLOSED...



LISTED ARE SUPPORT SERVICES SHOULD YOU NEED THEM



If you are worried about the safety and welfare of children and young people living in Worcestershire -
Worcestershire Family Front Door - 01905 768020



24 hour Domestic Abuse Helpline -
West Mercia Women's Aid - 0800 980 3331



If you need someone to talk to -
Samaritans - 116 123



Are you, or is a young person you know, not coping with life? -
Papyrus - 0800 068 4141



Always call 999 in an emergency

Provided by:

In partnership with:

Parent Carer Needs Assessment Survey

If you are caring for a disabled child up to the age of 16 years old, we want to understand your experience of requesting a Parent Carer Needs Assessment. Your responses will help highlight what is working well and where improvements may be needed.

 [Parent Carer Needs Assessment \(PCNA\) Survey](#)

Healthwatch Worcestershire

