

St. George's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

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Dear Parents

Another week goes by so quickly as we very approach the festive season. Things will soon get a little more exciting; we are already at the point in the year when the children have the Christmas Panto! KS2 had their first listen to their Christmas Play today and the stage will be up by this time next week!

We are trying to minimise any risks of COVID, flu, colds, or sickness on our children so still ensure that children sanitise and wash their hand throughout the school day. Please remind your children to sanitise on the way in to help us keep everyone healthy.

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION FOR MRS DRUMMOND

On Monday, we held our service for our lovely Mrs Drummond. We were delighted to welcome her husband Dennis and son Adam, and a few past members of staff too. Year 5 and 6 were just wonderful; they read and sang beautifully. Mrs Drummond's memorial bench now sits proudly in the Nurture & Nature Nook, nestled amongst the fruit tree, overlooking the pond. It will be well used in the warmer months where we can sit and fondly remember the joy and humour that she brought to our school family. Huge thanks to children in upper juniors for their amazing voices and incredibly mature contributions that made it such a special occasion.

CONGRATULATIONS



Huge congratulations to Miss Hinchley on the safe and happy arrival of her beautiful son **Jude Sydney Quick**. Jude was born on 6th October and weighed in a healthy 8lbs 9oz. Both mum and baby are doing well. Knowing Miss Hinchley, she's probably in a brilliant routine and Jude will be getting a good 8 hours a night by now. We all wish them, and her partner Adam, lots of love and are very much looking forward to seeing them in the near future. This news was well worth waiting for with a picture as gorgeous as this!

TWITTER

You'll be aware that we have a school Twitter account, which can be accessed via the school website. The address is: <https://twitter.com/StGeorgesL31>

Staff post every week with events, class activities, things they've been up to. Please have a look or register an account. You don't need to be a user, or use it at all, to get the notifications that come through. It will keep you updated on what's happening in school, and your child's class.

To learn with kindness, respect and friendship through God's love

PTA

As you'll be aware, when our Year 6 children left our school in September, we also lost our Chair and our treasurer. The PTA has been sensational in my time at St George's and Kerry Unsworth (previous Chair) was a driving force with the fundraising for the school. Unfortunately, in the past couple of years, the PTA has been halted in their efforts due to the pandemic. However, they have always been so supportive where they can and provided goodie bags for our in-house events, supported the Year 6 leavers celebrations and been able to secure some matched funding for our own fundraising events. Kerry will be a huge loss to us; at least we can keep hold of her as a Governor for our school.

This week, a new PTA group met for the first time and Kerry attended, along with Mrs Daly, to hand over and kick start a new beginning. They have already come up with some great ideas to bring joy to the children and help fundraising for the school. They will be sending out information in the very near future and we'll be able to let you know who is involved and how other parents can get involved too. In the meantime, please follow the latest developments on their Facebook page; you can find this at:

<https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesMaghullPTA>

On behalf of all the staff, children and parents, can we say a huge thank you to all those who attended the meeting and have come forward to help get things moving. It's an incredible support to the school and in all honesty, we couldn't operate as we do without the support of the PTA and the fundraising they achieve. Please support them wherever and however you can...your PTA really does need you! Thank you.

REMEMBRANCE



Yesterday, Miss Mawtus led the school in a special assembly of remembrance in our school hall. Year 4 helpers created a calm and prayerful atmosphere with their remembrance display at the front of the hall. As the children watched some moving images set to music, their thoughts were with all those who have helped to keep us safe. We

concluded with a minute silence at 11.00 o'clock. I have to say a HUGE thanks to all the children who were impeccable in the hall. They all sat quietly and reverently and left our hall in silence with thoughts of those who have given their lives for our protection and safety. Well done children – you made us all very proud!



PARKING

This week, we have had a number of new complaints regarding parking and the speed of cars rushing by at busy times of the day. Can we **PLEASE** ask that parents, and grandparents:

- park responsibly
- don't park in the bus stop
- avoid double parking
- don't park on corners or double yellow lines
- slow down

Children's lives are being put at risk by poor parking and cars reversing into traffic. Just this week another child was knocked down and killed outside a school. Please try and leave a few minutes earlier and park further up the road to avoid possible accidents. Thank you for your cooperation.

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ATTENDANCE

Now that we are returning to normal, and with everything crossed and candles lit, the pandemic is behind us, we are moving forward and looking to the future. Therefore, we are having to look at attendance within our school and ensure that all our children are receiving the high quality education they deserve and are entitled to.

We have just undertaken the first summative look at our attendance data for this year, before we look officially at the end of term data in 6 weeks time.

Overall attendance is lower than we anticipated, considering the children have missed so much of their education over the past two years. Today, I will be contacting 40 parents where their children have already missed over 10% of the term so far (this does not include COVID related absences). Our aim is just to make parents aware and look to see if they can support us in improving attendance in our last 6 weeks.

However, we would also like to say a huge thank you to all those families and children who are making an incredible effort to be in school. At this point, we have an incredible 78 children with 100% attendance so far – and the vast majority of children have attendance over our target of 96.5 %.

As a school, overall our attendance falls well below our target; we need everyone to ensure that children attend wherever possible to maximise on their learning. Children can fall behind very quickly so to prevent gaps developing and widening, please support our staff in making sure children are in as much as possible. **Thank you.**

PANTO

Our whole school Panto is on Thursday 18th November (next week). It always marks the start of our seasonal festivities and once again will be performed by M&M Theatrical Productions. We are in for a treat this year - A Christmas Carol. Can we please ask that children bring in a contribution of £2.00 towards the cost of the performance. It looks to be a brilliant afternoon.

DATES FOR DIARIES

Thursday 18 th November (pm)	Christmas Panto (whole school)
Friday 19 th November	Year 2 Phonics Screening Checks
Wednesday 1 st December	Y5 residential to CHET until Friday 3 rd
Wednesday 8 th December (am)	KS1 Christmas Play
Thursday 9 th December (am)	Foundation Stage Christmas Play
Thursday 9 th December (pm)	KS1 Christmas Play
Friday 10 th December (am)	Foundation Stage Christmas Play
Wednesday 15 th December (pm)	KS2 Christmas Play
Thursday 16 th December (pm)	KS2 Christmas Play
Friday 17 th December (pm)	KS2 Christmas Play
Monday 20 th December (pm)	Santa Dash
Wednesday 22nd December 1.00 pm	School closes for the Christmas Holiday
*After-School club will close at 3.00 pm on Wednesday 22nd September	

Have a great weekend.



Mr P. Chapman
Headteacher

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