



Wednesday 7th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the 2022 – 2023 school year at St. George's!

We are delighted to welcome you all back to our St. George's family and offer a particularly warm welcome to all our new children and their families. We hope you will all have an enjoyable and happy time making new friends and getting involved in the life of our wonderful school. We really value the positive relationships we have with the parents and carers of our children and believe that these relationships support the learning and wider development of our pupils.

It has been great seeing the children looking so smart today – thank you for your support in making sure your children are wearing the correct school uniform.

For staff, the school year off has already got off to a great start... on Monday, we were treated to an inspirational talk from a man called Sir John Jones who came and spoke to all the staff in Endeavour Schools Trust. During his talk he reminded us of the opportunities we have, to 'weave magic' into the lives of every single child at St. George's every single day. As staff, we came away feeling even more committed, determined, and passionate about making a positive difference to every single person (little and big) in our school community.

So we are all very much looking forward to being 'magic weavers' for your child over the coming school year by inspiring in them a love of learning, a thirst for new knowledge, a desire to improve their skills and inspiration to understand more about the world around us. However, to weave magic into their lives of our children so that they know more, can do more, and remember more it is vital that they attend school regularly. So this year we are making improving attendance and punctuality among our children is our top priority.

The children who achieve the highest standards at the end of Reception, Year 2, Year 6 and Year 11 (when they do their GCSEs) also have the highest rates of attendance. Pupils who reach the expected standards at the end of each school year have an average attendance rate of 96.5%. This is why we have set an ambitious attendance target at St. George's... we aim for pupils to attend school 97% of the time, so that they too are well placed to achieve at school. Not only that, if children attend school regularly, they will build stronger friendships with their classmates which will also help them to feel more confident and happier in their lives too. Our target allows for up to 5 days over the whole school year when a child may be too ill to attend school. So, whatever your child's attendance has been like in the past, today is the beginning of the new school year and a fresh start and we look forward to seeing every single child, in school, on time, every single day.

Parent Portal App:

It is really easy to access your child's attendance information on the Parent Portal App. If you've not signed up to the system, we will be sending out a new email this week. Signing up is also really easy, you just click on the link in the email, click reset password and go from there. Once you are signed up, you can inform us of any changes in your contact details, access lots of information about your child and send us messages too.

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Ordering school lunches on ParentPay:

If your child would like a hot dinner, please ensure you have ordered on ParentPay by 11pm on a Thursday evening. I know some of you have come across a 'glitch' in the system when you were trying to order during the school holidays. This has now been fixed,

Staffing news:

We are delighted to welcome Ms King to the St. George's team. Ms King is a teaching assistant and will be working with Mrs Evans in Lobster class this school year.

We have also congratulated Miss Chadwick, who got married over the summer holidays. She is now known as Mrs Duggins and she will be working with children across the school this year.

Uniform vouchers:

If your child is entitled to benefits related Free School Meals, you can claim up to £25 from the school for any new items of uniform you have bought. All you need to do is bring the receipts to the school office and a member of the office team will explain what to do.

Learning to read at St. George's using Little Wandle:

We are very excited to be introducing a reading and new phonics scheme this term. It is called Little Wandle. Mr Rivett, will be writing to you with further information later this week. In the meantime, her are the dates and times of some workshops he will be running:

Friday 16th September at 9.00am

Friday 16th September at 2.30pm

Monday 19th September at 9.00am

Monday 19th September at 5.00pm

Wednesday 21st September 9.00am

Wednesday 21st September at 2.30pm

We hope you all have a good rest of the week,

Kind regards,

Marie Bradbury

Headteacher