



St. George's
Catholic Primary School

*In everything we do
today, we're following
Jesus and his way*

School Newsletter

Newsletter 1

Autumn Term 2025

Thursday 4 September

Headteacher: Mr P O'Rourke
Deputy Heads: Mrs C McGivern
Mrs S Hukowski
Assistant Head: Mrs L Byfield
SENCo: Mrs J Burke

Our School Houses

St Thérèse of Lisieux

Blue

St Oscar Romero

Red

St Francis of Assisi

Yellow

St Josephine Bakhita

Green

Flu

Important information was distributed earlier in the week about the flu vaccine. Please read through the information leaflet and follow the guidance on the consent form to give permission for your child to be vaccinated in school. The nursing team will be in school on Monday 29 September to administer the vaccine to all children from reception age to year 6.

At St George's, we consistently have one of the best uptakes in Enfield. Let's ensure we maintain this important achievement.



Curriculum information meetings

I am pleased to inform you of our annual year group curriculum meetings for parents. These are scheduled early in the year, and provide a comprehensive overview of your child's educational journey for the year ahead. You will gain valuable insights into the curriculum, teaching methodologies, and ways to support your child's learning at home. I strongly encourage all parents to attend these informative sessions, as they offer a unique opportunity to engage with your child's educational experience. All meetings will take place in the school hall, and the two confirmed so far are:

Year 5 Thursday 18 September (2.15pm)

Year 6 Tuesday 9 September (2pm)

This year we are going to incorporate our RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) messages for the older year groups at this meeting, avoiding the need for parents to attend a separate meeting. We will happily receive any feedback to see if this works for you.

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Next Week in School

Friday 5 September
Mass

Monday 8 September
Catch-up hearing test session for year 1 pupils
Reception children begin part-time sessions

Tuesday 9 September
Year 6 Curriculum Meeting 2pm

Wednesday 10 September
Nursery children begin part-time sessions

Friday 12 September
Reception parents Coffee morning 9.15am

I extend a warm welcome back to another exciting school year and trust that you enjoyed a restful and rejuvenating summer break. As we embark on this new academic journey together, I am delighted to share that our calendar is already filling with enriching opportunities and meaningful events. I encourage you to monitor our 'upcoming events' section of the newsletter and school calendar on our website regularly to stay informed of all developments.

A particular welcome extends to those families joining our St George's community for the first time. For parents whose children are beginning their Reception journey next week, we are hosting a special coffee morning next Friday. This informal event provides an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow parents and begin building those important relationships within our school family.

Please make a note of the date for your year group's curriculum information meetings, which start next week and will provide valuable insights into your child's educational journey ahead.

Finally, as communicated previously, we experienced profound sadness learning of the passing of Lily Burton, a wonderful Year 6 pupil from last year, during the summer holidays. I extend heartfelt gratitude to parents who have conveyed their sympathy, which we shall certainly share with Lily's family during this unimaginable time of grief. Yesterday, Fr Daniel and I led a short liturgy in her memory with our older pupils, whilst class teachers created sacred spaces during the day for younger children to reflect on what a truly special St George's pupil she was.

Uniform

Please ensure that you label each item of school uniform with your child's name, particularly jumpers/ cardigans and coats. The children often remove these items during playtimes. If they forget to collect them, a named item will get back to them. Please take the time to ensure that all jumpers, cardigans and coats are clearly labelled with your child's name.

"Let us always meet each other with smile, for the smile is the beginning of love."

(St Teresa of Calcutta)

Punctuality

We expect all children to arrive on time ready to start the day within our time slot of 8.45 to 9am. Arriving on time is the perfect way to start the day, setting your child up to make the most of the day's learning. Good punctuality is linked to good attendance which leads to better outcomes for children and young people.

Arriving on time:

- helps your child develop meaningful friendships
- nurtures positive relationships with their peers and teachers
- boosts their confidence and self-esteem
- equips them with the social and emotional skills necessary for success
- sets good habits for adult working life.

Arriving late, however:

- puts your child at an immediate disadvantage to other children who have arrived on time.
- Means they miss crucial information
- can undermine your child's confidence and self-esteem
- disrupts the learning environment for their classmates

I cannot stress enough the importance of punctuality and its far-reaching benefits. Please make every effort to ensure your child arrives at school on time, ready to embark on a day of enriching educational experiences.

Instilling the values of punctuality and responsibility, helps to set your child up for a lifetime of achievement and personal growth.

Upcoming Dates

Advance warning of some key school dates. The school calendar is constantly updated on the school website, under the parents information section.

September

Fri 5th	School Mass
Mon 8th	Reception begin part-time attendance
Tues 9th	Yr 6 Curriculum and RSE meeting (2pm)
Weds 10th	Nursery begin part-time attendance
Fri 12th	Reception coffee afternoon (2pm) New Hall
Mon 15th	After school sports clubs start
Thurs 18th	Y5 Curriculum and RSE meeting (2.15pm)
Fri 19th	Year 6 lead 10am Mass at Church
Mon 22nd	Yr 6 secondary transfer meeting (5.30pm)
Fri 26th	Year 5 lead 10am Mass at Church
Mon 29th	Flu vaccine

October

Weds 1st	St Thérèse Feast Day
Fri 3rd	Year 4 lead 10am Mass at Church St Francis Feast Day
Fri 10th	Cross Country at Forty Hall
Tues 14th	Open Afternoon for prospective parents
Weds 15th	School council visit Houses of Parliament
Weds 22nd	Harvest Festival
Fri 24th	School Closes for Half Term

Please consult the calendar section of our school website where dates for the year ahead are continually updated.



Awe and Wonder

Don't forget that we always invite parents (or children) to send in pictures that convey awe and wonder so that they can be displayed on a special board in school for the children to see, and sometimes they are included in the newsletter. As last year, I thought I would make the first offering, this time with a View from the Shard. A rare opportunity to witness the beauty of God's creation in a built environment. If any of the pictures that you have taken over the summer instil a sense of awe, then please send them into school for the attention of Mrs McGivern who will put them into the hands of her wonderful Prayer and Liturgy Team.

Welcome

A warm welcome to all the new pupils who have joined us for the start of the new school year! We are delighted to have you as part of our St George's Catholic Primary School family and look forward to getting to know you.

Please join us in welcoming:

Jaylyn (1W)
Johaana and Andreas (2B)
Maria (2GB)
Rianna (4DS)
Francis (4P)

We are also pleased to introduce Rachel Stutter, our new Welfare Assistant who will be managing the medical room. Rachel has worked hard over the summer to create a welcoming and comfortable space for our pupils. She prefers to be called Rachel and is here to provide care and support when children need it over the busy lunchtime period. The medical room plays an important role in school life, offering kindness and reassurance to pupils at times when they need it most.

School Attendance

I would like to thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain good attendance at St George's Catholic Primary School. While our attendance rate of around 94.5% remains better than many schools, it has dipped slightly from previous years, such as 2019 when it was 96.5%. Regular attendance is vital because it gives pupils the best chance to learn, make progress, and succeed.

Following recent government guidance on school attendance, our local authority expects schools to monitor absences more closely and apply stricter rules about which absences can be authorised. This means we will be reviewing absence requests carefully to ensure they meet the criteria.

We are grateful to have the support of our Education Welfare Officer, who works closely with us to help improve attendance.

To help improve attendance, please:

- Ensure your child attends school every day and arrives on time.
- Do not request leave of absence for holidays during term time, as these will not usually be authorised.
- Requests for time off to visit family for special occasions may also not be approved.
- If your child is unwell, please keep them at home and follow any medical advice or guidance.
- Only medical reasons will generally be accepted as valid reasons for absence.

If you have any questions or concerns about attendance, please feel free to speak with me at the start or end of the school day. I will also keep you updated on our attendance figures and any changes to our attendance policy.