



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

School Newsletter Newsletter 2

Spring Term 2023
Thursday 12 January

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

Next Week in School

Wednesday 18 January
Boys football team at Barnet

Friday 20 January
RG Stay & Play

Our School Houses

St Thérèse of Lisieux

Blue

St Oscar Romero

Red

St Francis of Assisi

Yellow

St Josephine Bakhita

Green

Parent Consultations

Spring Term Parent Consultations will be taking place on the week of Monday 20 March. These meetings, that have been online since the 2020 lockdown, are a crucially important element in the home - school partnership that is fundamental to the children's progress in learning.

As has been suggested previously, the aim for this round of consultations is to introduce a 'hybrid' model, with some consultations being held online, others in person at school. Feedback that we receive from parents suggest that there is a balance between those who prefer the convenience of an online consultation with those who prefer the more personal nature of a face to face meeting.

Offering both options does present logistical challenges, however, and so that we can most effectively organise the event, we are asking parents to take part in an short online survey. Accessed via the school website, answering a few simple questions will allow us to offer the most suitable balance of online and face to face meetings.

Please access the survey by following 'parent information > parent forms' and selecting parent consultation survey.

Help

We always value the support given to us by parents or grandparents who are willing to give up a little of their time to help us in school in various ways. One particularly enjoyable task is to hear children read. If you would like to come into school to help, please inform the school office by phone or email and we will gladly arrange for you to come in or give you further information if that's what you require.

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 @stgeorges_head

There has been a lot of interest and enthusiasm for our proposed nursery plans announced in the school newsletter last week. I am delighted by the positive response. Over the coming term we need to consult with other local providers and put our plans and policies in place. If that all goes to plan, equipping the classroom and publicity will come next.

As we do not even have our admissions policy prepared yet, we cannot advise parents of the application process. I would assure parents, however, a record is being kept of those who have emailed the school office have to express an interest.

Plans are also being put in place for another matter, and that is a visit to the school by Bishop John Sherrington. He will be in school to meet the children on Tuesday 7 February as part of his Enfield Deanery visitation. He previously visited the school in 2019 for our school 80th anniversary Mass, and we very much look forward to his return.

Lost property

The way that we deal with lost property is changing, and we need your support to make it work.

With the help of some well-organised school prefects, any school clothing found on the playground or in the corridors will be organised into phases and hung on clothes rails. We therefore need lots of hangers of the thin, metal variety. This will look neater than the current soggy lump of clothes and make it much easier for parents to identify clothing, particularly if named.

Near the end of each term, we intend to ask for volunteers to wash any unclaimed clothing, and offer it to parents for a small donation. The more parents who offer, the fewer items each will need to wash! The current cost of living crisis might well make this initiative very welcome. Following that, it's a donation to the next Happy School Bag collection.

To summarise, we require:

- thin, metal clothes hangers
- Volunteers to wash unclaimed uniform

For some of our older children, it will be a very practical responsibility to collect uniform, organise it and to run an old uniform sale.

Please always ensure that your child's clothing is clearly labelled with their name and their class.



"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."
(Winston S. Churchill)



For those of you who drive your children to school, please:

- **Drive carefully** on the roads surrounding school
- **Park considerately** to our neighbours
- Turn your **engine off**, not leave it running while parked
- Make every effort to walk all or some of the way to school if possible. It's healthy and good for the environment.



Upcoming Dates

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

January

Fri 20th RG Stay & Play
Weds 25th Year 6 Boys Football @ Edmonton
Fri 27th RW Stay & Play

February

Weds 1st Junior Apprentice team @ Civic Centre
Fri 3rd RG Stay & Play
Year 5 NATWEST workshops
Numbers Day
Tues 7th visit by Bishop John Sherrington
Girls football @ Enfield Grammar
Fri 10th RW Stay & Play
School closes for half term

Mon 20th School reopens
Weds 22nd Ash Wednesday liturgy
Fri 24th Lent Spirituality Day

Every year Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St George Parish organises a collection of non perishable goods for the Manna Homeless Centre at London Bridge. Please find below a list of most needed items for Parents and Children to bring to Mass on the first weekend of February. This years collection will be on Sunday 5th February.

(Tony Sheen - CAFOD Justice and Peace Group)

School Places for September 2023

The Governors invite applications from the parents of children born between 1st September, 2018 and the 31st August 2019.

Parents need to complete:

1. The application to the London Borough of Enfield (online).
2. The supplementary information form from our website, please download, complete and email to us. Please include in your email a copy of your child's baptismal certificate.
3. A certificate of Catholic Practice. To obtain this, please visit the Parish website www.catholicoenfield.org and follow their instructions.

Whilst the Borough application is completed online, the two other forms should be submitted to the school together in person or via email to admin@st-georges.enfield.sch.uk

Closing Date for Admissions: **15th January 2023.**

For further information, please contact the school office on 0208 363 3729

Applications across Enfield were significantly lower this year, to compound lower numbers of applicants last year. This has resulted in significant numbers of schools in the borough having surplus places, with many reducing the size of the school intake to lessen the financial impact of the lower numbers. It is worth noting that **all applicants to our school last year were offered a place.**

Free School Meals

If your child/children are in receipt of free school meals you should have received an email attaching supermarket vouchers for the Christmas period. Please note that the deadline for redemption of the vouchers is **Friday 13 January 2023**. After this date the vouchers will no longer be valid.

Library News

We are very excited to plan the next steps of the creation of our new school library. Much preparation work needs to be undertaken to prepare the room, and some work will require qualified trades people to perform. For instance, stripping out the old sink area will require a plumber. If you, or anyone you know, have the skills and would be prepared to offer your services, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please email the school office to inform us.

Sunday 5th Feb Manna Society Homelessness Collection.

The annual parish collection for the homeless will take place in aid of the Manna Society at all Masses.

The day centre needs the following non perishable items:

Food: Powdered milk, fair-trade sugar, Tins of : tomatoes, chopped ham, fish, vegetables, baked beans, Hot Dogs and corned beef. Pasta Sauces, Orange squash. Biscuits.

Other: sleeping bags. Rucksacks, Kitchen Rolls

Clothing. Good Quality Winter Coats

Please place your donations in the parish centre at Masses on Sunday 5th Feb .

The Manna Society at London Bridge provides daily meals for London's many homeless people. They also provide shower facilities and clothing. They have volunteer doctors, dentists and chiropodists who offer their services free of charge. The goods will be taken direct to the Manna Society's day centre very early on the Monday morning. www.mannasociety.org.uk

Many thanks for your generosity and kindness on behalf of those in need.

The Justice and Peace Group

Help would be appreciated with sorting the donations in Our Lady and St George after Masses

Due to insufficient storage space goods are unable to be accepted beforehand at the presbytery. For further information about the Justice and Peace Group, please contact Tony on 07984-529202

Curriculum Overview

Our teachers have been busy preparing some exciting lessons for the children for the term ahead. An overview of the learning for each year group has been uploaded to the school website and can be found by following '**Curriculum > Year group Overview of Learning**'. We always value the work that parents/ carers do with their children at home, and the information on these website pages should help you to support your child's learning. If you need to find out further information, please contact your child's class teacher.

Nursery

St George's aims to start its very own nursery class in September 2023. The intention is to start a 16-place provision creating a vibrant Early Years unit for the school.

A lot of hard work needs to be undertaken before that can happen, and the first stage of this is a consultation in the local community. Our explorations so far have been supported by local authority advisers who are very positive about this exciting move. The diocese have been equally as encouraging.

If you wish to find out more about our nursery plans, do not hesitate to come along and chat when you see me before or after school.



We held Key Stage 2 Mass in the school hall for the Feast of the Epiphany on Friday. It was the first Mass in school since the COVID pandemic. We thank Fr Daniel for leading us in such a lovely service. Our readers, altar servers and all others who participated in Mass did a great job, creating a very special, spiritual atmosphere. As it has been such a long time since Mass was held in school, the children were outstanding.

Following Mass, and before a well-earned coffee, Fr Daniel led a special liturgy for the children in reception and Key Stage 1.

