



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

School Newsletter Newsletter 1

Autumn Term 2024
Thursday 7 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

Staffing Matters

Our staff have been busy planning interesting and exciting learning opportunities for our children. We welcome Miss Rowley to year 4, and Mrs Demirkaya and Mrs Suarez to our brand new nursery.

During the summer break, Mrs Parente was successfully appointed as a Support Worker and Administrator for a day care centre based in Hertfordshire. We wish her the very best of luck in her new career and thank her for all she has contributed to our school in her various roles over the past 18 years. She has supported countless children over that time, most recently in her teaching assistant role.

Please keep all of our staff in your prayers, particularly those whose summer has brought personal challenges.

We congratulate Miss Falzone on her lovely wedding, returning as Mrs Cattini. Finally, before the summer break, I had the pleasure of presenting Kim McKenna, one of our wonderful lunchtime supervisors, with a well-deserved long service award.

We all look forward to working closely with you over the coming year.



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Next Week in School

Monday 11 September

Library opening

Thursday 14 September

Year 6 parents meeting 6pm

Friday 15 September

MyBank workshops (years 3 & 4)

Coffee morning for new reception parents 9am

Welcome back to the new school year - and what a scorcher it is proving to be so far! Typical! I hope that you all enjoyed some rest, relaxation and valuable family time over the past 6 weeks. I know that a number of our families were affected by the air traffic control chaos recently and I hope that your inconveniences were not too upsetting. I was lucky as my flight from Italy landed on the Sunday night, just hours before the glitch brought aviation to a halt.

Our first newsletter of the year contains some practical information, as you would expect. I have to start, however, by thanking all our families for patience and understanding as we were confronted by the challenge of a crashed car blocking our Gordon Road entrance. We were so thankful for your flexibility as we opened the gates a little early on Tuesday to spread out the numbers of people using a restricted space.

Our school year started with Mass celebrated by Father Daniel on Wednesday morning. It was a lovely way to begin the school year. Father also led a special liturgy for our staff at our second training day on Monday morning.

Year 6

If you are the parent of a Year 6 child and you wish them to walk to or from school on their own, please follow the guidelines on our school website. Parents must complete the 'Risk Assessment' form before requesting that their child is allowed to leave school on their own. This is an essential part of keeping our children safe. The information and relevant documents can be found by following

'School Website > Parent Information > Parent Forms > Year 6 Walking Home'.

There are also a number of upcoming meetings for Year 6 parents:

Thursday 14 September - Secondary school transfer/ school journey (6pm)

Tuesday 19 September - Curriculum Meeting (2.30pm)

Wednesday 27 September - RSE (4pm online)

We look forward to welcoming you.

"This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalm 118:24

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.



Guidance on birthday treats

Over the past few years we have asked parents to resist sending in packets of sweets or other sweet treats for the class on their child's birthday. If parents wish to mark the birthday and treat the class, why not consider sending in a new book for the class to enjoy? Parents are always resourceful and we have seen many great alternatives to the traditional sweet treats! We thank all of our parents for their cooperation.

Hot weather

The first week of term had been a hot one! We always closely monitor the conditions when the weather is challenging, and often reduce outside playtimes when we feel it is advisable.



Dinners

All children in school are now entitled to a free school meal at lunchtime. Please refer to the letter from our School Business Manager (Mrs Jones-Owen) attached with this newsletter explaining some important issues with regards to our school meals.

Library

We are very excited to be officially opening our new school library on Monday morning. We are delighted to have a special guest, Jermaine Jenas, joining our opening ceremony and blessing, and hope he can meet as many of the children as possible. We will include some photographs and further information in our newsletter next week.

New Beginnings

We are delighted to welcome Berenice (3OS), Alexandra (4A), Rory (4R) and Raphaëlle (6M) into our school this week. I hope that you love being part of the St George's family.

Bless You

As is usual at this time of year, we are asking for donations of boxes of tissues for the classrooms and medical room. We always appreciate your kindness and support with this.

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

Mon 11th	Library opening
Thurs 14th	Year 6 Secondary Transfer meeting (6pm)
Fri 15th	Year 6 at Church (10am) Reception parents coffee morning (9am)
Mon 18th	Nursery starts, specific sessions Reception start full time
Tues 19th	Year 6 Curriculum meeting (2:30pm)
Fri 22nd	'Class Act' assemblies
Weds 27th	Year 6 RSE meeting (4pm) online

October

Tues 3rd	Boy's football (3:45pm) Grammar School
Tues 10th	Netball (County School) 3:45pm
Sat 14th	Happy Circus (Helping Hands event)
Tues 17th	Girl's football (3:45pm) Grammar School

November

Weds 1st	Reception Curriculum Meeting 2.30pm
Mon 6th	Nursery Curriculum Meeting

Look Smart, Think Smart

Thank you to all our families for sending in the children looking so smart. I think the poloshirts with the new logo look fantastic! Mrs Byfield, our uniform guru, has prepared some reminders below:

Until the October half term, children in years 1-6 can come to school wearing the summer uniform which is listed below. Please note that footwear on non PE days should be black, flat sensible shoes not trainers or boots. Only stud earrings should be worn and no other jewellery is permitted. Long hair should always be tied back using blue or black hair accessories.

Summer uniform years 1-6

White polo shirt
Grey shorts or skirt
Blue checked dress
Grey or white socks
Black, flat, sensible shoes

Our Nursery and Reception children should wear the new St George's navy blue tracksuit with a red polo shirt and black trainers. Please see Smith's Schoolwear website and search for St George's for more information.