

Founder's Trust News – June 2024

Welcome to our June 2024 newsletter, and an especially warm welcome to all the prospective new families joining us at St. George's in the Autumn term.

It's all change at the Founder's Trust as I step down as Chair and hand over to our new Chair of Trustees, Ben Noakes. Ben is also a governor at St George's, currently sitting on the Staff & Students committee, and is a parent of three children that all currently attend the school. Ben and his family have lived in Harpenden since 2010. He works in the City and in his spare time can be found at Harpenden Golf Club.

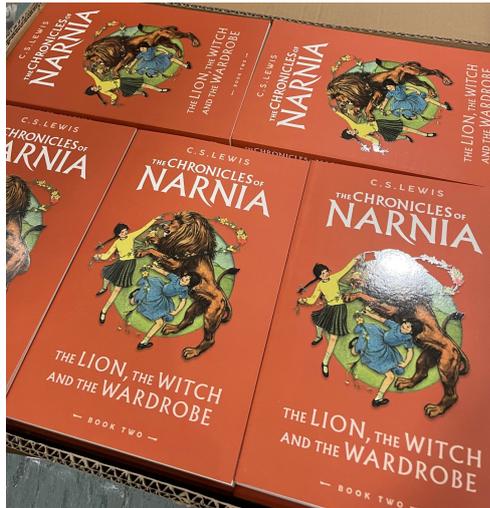
Jennie Griffiths our very hard working Treasurer has also stepped back and has handed over to Bryan Kelly who will now take on this key role. Bryan grew up in the United States but has made his home in the United Kingdom for over a decade. He studied Mechanical Engineering and also has a Master's in Business Administration, working in the oil and gas industry for almost 30 years. Bryan has one child currently studying at St George's.

We also welcome a further two new trustees Denise Ganley and Rebecca Westlake - more of them in future newsletters!

We have taken the opportunity of having a lengthy handover between treasurers Jennie and Bryan to update the way we organise Direct Debit payments. From now on, instead of filling out hard copy paper forms which required an actual real life signature in ink (!) we have switched to a much simpler and up to date QR code system.



We at the Founder's Trust are very pleased to report that you, as families, have been continuing to support us despite uncertain economic times. If you are in a position to increase your donation due to a sibling starting, or sign up as a new supporter, we'd love to hear from you. Even a small donation can make a big difference. We suggest £15 per child per month, but even £3.50 per month for example over the course of a year would pay for an A-level Geography textbook; or £1 per month would buy a copy of a Maths GCSE textbook. Every penny matters. Every penny makes a difference. And now it is super easy to sign up – copying this link <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/25388> or scanning this QR code will take you to the CAF online donation system, where you can select 'I'd like to give regularly', then 'Monthly' then input your chosen amount. Remember to tick the 'Gift Aid' box if you are eligible. If you would like to increase an existing donation which you signed up for via our old system please email our treasurer at cqft@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk



Left – These copies of 'The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis were purchased last term and have now been distributed to all Y7 students. This will form part of the Y7 R.E. curriculum and each student has been given a copy to keep.

There are several upcoming events which the Trust is involved in. Our next Trustee meeting, my last and also Miss Barton's final meeting, is held in mid-June. Miss Barton has been the school's representative at the Trust since she was Deputy Head and continued this role throughout her Headship, and we thank her for her considerable input. We will again be making our presence felt at the Summer Fête on 29th June– please do come and talk to us and ask any questions you might have about the Trust Fund and what we do. We will also be attending the Junior Prizegiving where we will be presenting our annual Founder's Trust prize to two members of staff that have gone 'above and beyond'; and finally we will be in attendance at the New Parents evening on Transition Day on July 11th – we hope to meet many of you at this informative and social event.

With thanks to all my fellow Trustees, and especially to the departing Jennie Griffiths and Helen Barton, I wish you all well and leave you in the safe hands of Ben Noakes.

Thank you,

Jane Hyman

Chair of CGFT, June 2024

<https://www.stgeorges.herts.sch.uk/cecil-grant-founders-trust>

The Trust is a charity run for the benefit of all St George's pupils. All families are asked to make a monthly donation per pupil by Direct Debit. The Trust also accepts one off payments. The money raised is spent annually so that our pupils feel the immediate benefit, and pays for items such as computers, text books, transport, prep books and other equipment. The Trust works hard to maintain a steady income stream to the school upon which it can depend, and plan it's spending accordingly. The Founder's Trust was originally set up as a result of the will of our Founder, Rev Cecil Grant. The Trust is still going strong today as a charity and, thanks to the generosity of St George's families, collects and donates to the school approximately £135-140,000 every single year. The Trustees include "old Georgians", current parents, governors and the Headmistress.