

St. George's School Newsletter

Friday 14th March 2025



From the Head

It's certainly been a whirlwind week at St. George's, and I imagine there has been plenty of conversation around the dinner table about us welcoming some special visitors to the school! We have been incredibly busy over the past few days, showcasing everything that makes St. George's such a remarkable place and ensuring our visitors experienced as much of our school life as possible.

I am delighted to share that the inspectors were hugely impressed by the conduct and attributes of our students. Our pupils shone, demonstrating their character and representing our school culture. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them.

We will, of course, share the Ofsted report with you as soon as it is available. Reports are typically published to parents within 30 days of an inspection. As a reminder, schools are no longer awarded one overarching judgement. Instead, inspectors make graded judgements across five areas: quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, leadership and management, and Sixth Form.

But of course that's not all that has been happening! Last weekend and this week, our Lacrosse teams represented St. George's at the National Championships. Not only did they demonstrate exceptional skill and teamwork on the pitch, but they also embodied the spirit of St. George's in a truly admirable way. A highlight for Miss Foster was when, following the U13s' hard-fought semi-final, the team took it upon themselves to clean up all the litter around the pitches. That truly is service beyond self.

We have also enjoyed parents and staff giving the pupils in Y10 an experience of being interviewed as part of our careers programme. Speaking to pupils afterwards I know that many enjoyed the experience. Thanks to all those members of our community who volunteered their time to give pupils valuable exposure to this process.

We have also appointed our new prefects and house captains and we spent the day with them on Friday, talking about the role and training them up to be able to fulfil this responsibility; congratulations to those pupils who have received this honour - the hard work starts now!

Overall, this week has highlighted the very best of St. George's, from the exemplary behaviour of our students during the Ofsted visit to the community spirit displayed by our Lacrosse teams, volunteer parents and new prefects. The way our community conducts itself, with kindness, positivity and a willingness to serve others, reminds me of these words from Philippians 2:3–4:

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

Year 12 Art Trip to Florence: a jewel box of a city

Mrs Turner writes: Our residential school trip to Florence, Italy, was an unforgettable experience filled with rich Renaissance history, stunning art, and cultural immersion. We explored some of the city's most renowned landmarks. At the Uffizi Gallery, we marvelled at masterpieces by Botticelli, da Vinci, and Michelangelo. We also visited the Galleria dell'Accademia, home to Michelangelo's iconic statue of David, a true symbol of Renaissance art.

We explored the peaceful San Marco Monastery, known for its serene atmosphere and exquisite frescoes by Fra Angelico. Santa Maria Novella, a beautiful church with its famous façade, offered a glimpse into Florence's architectural history and beautiful fresco commissioned by the Medici. A visit to the Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral and Duomo left us in awe of the intricate details of its design, especially as we gazed out from the top of the Duomo, overlooking the city.

The Piazza Michelangelo offered one of the best views of Florence, with a breathtaking panorama of the city and its surrounding hills and rewarded us with unforgettable sights.

The weather was perfect with clear skies, and we enjoyed delicious Italian cuisine, especially the gelato, which was a favourite treat. Florence truly offered a blend of cultural experiences, history, and beauty, making it a trip we will cherish forever. A special memory is the whole group riding the antique 'Giostra' in the ancient Roman Piazza della Repubblica. This year 12 group of Art, Photography and Graphic Communication students represented the school as true Georgians.

Thanks to Miss Laker, Miss Murphy, Mrs Robertson and Mr Ellis who came on the trip.



Year 10 Careers Interview Morning

On Wednesday, Year 10 were treated to 50 enthusiastic volunteers who had kindly signed-up to help run our first ever careers interviews morning. The whole year group were briefed in the previous week about how to conduct themselves in an interview and to consider what area of work they were interested in. It was a delight to see the assembly hall filled with students confidently talking and presenting themselves really well. Although a bit nervous arriving, many said how much they had enjoyed the experience and some even said that it was fun!

We would like to give an enormous thank you to our volunteers who gave their time up to join us for this morning. We really appreciate it. A big thanks also to Miss Hartley and Mrs Slade who organised the event.



Book Fair Bonanza

A huge thank you to students, parents and staff who supported our annual Scholastic Book Fair this week. The selection of books offered this year was superb, with a fantastic range of current titles, as well as the ever-popular stationery. Additional English classes were booked into the library to give as many students as possible the opportunity to browse the fair. The library was definitely ‘the place to be’, drawing crowds at break and lunchtimes, with many students coming to collect books that they had reserved before and after school. Our sales totalled around £650, which is excellent news as the Library receives commission on any sales. Some of the ‘popular’ Book Fair titles will be filling the library shelves – remember to come and check out our new titles!



Need help applying for Free school dinners?

Please can you check to see if your child is eligible to receive free school meals. Not only will this help your child but the school will also receive additional funding to support your child in other areas and all of this is done with care and discretion. Your child can get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

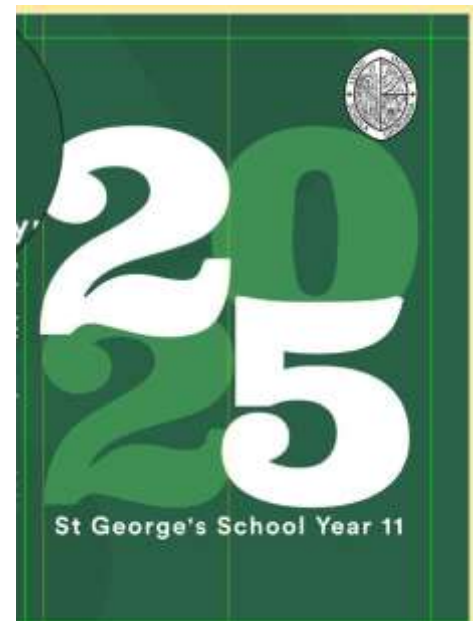
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (with annual earned income of no more than £7,400 after tax and not including any benefits you get).

Apply today if you receive any of these benefits. It takes 5 minutes and in most cases they can tell you straight away if your child can get free meals at school: hertfordshire.gov.uk [How Can We Help?](#) You may also qualify for additional help with things such as music lessons. If you would like any help completing the online form, then please contact Miss Linsell tlinsell@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk

Year 11 Yearbook

We are delighted to announce that Year 11 students will have the opportunity to purchase a yearbook to commemorate their time at our school. The Yearbook committee is diligently compiling a memorable yearbook, which will feature a collection of photographs from school trips and house events. It will also include messages from tutors and blank pages for students to add personal messages. We have had over 120 orders to date. The 2025 Yearbook is priced at £19.51 and can be ordered by clicking on the following link: allyearbooks.co.uk/buy/23316

When placing your order, please ensure that you enter your child's full name in the "Who the book(s) are for" section. The yearbooks will be delivered to the school, labelled with your child's name, and distributed on Year 11 Leavers' Day. Yearbooks are a popular purchase, with approximately 95% of the year group typically choosing to purchase one. **The deadline for orders is Friday, 28th March at 3:00 p.m...** All yearbooks will not accept orders after this date, and we will be unable to print additional copies at school.



Have you considered a career in teaching?

If so, St. George's is able to help you! We are a member of the Alban Teaching School Hub who provides initial teacher training offered by the National Institute of Teaching.

We are hosting a 'get into teaching' event on Wednesday 2 April. You will be able to meet key staff, observe some teaching, and have the opportunity to ask any questions that you may have.

If you would like to attend this event, please email Mr Clark aclark@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk stating which subject you would be interested in teaching.

Non-Uniform Day is next Friday!

Next Friday (21st March) is the Senior Prefects' Day of Fun and prefects are running a non-uniform day for all students. All of the money raised will go to Herts Young Homeless. If you would like your child to wear non-uniform, please pay via ParentPay. A gentle reminder that clothing should be suitable for a school learning environment e.g. no crop tops! Thank you.

Young Carers Day

On Wednesday, we celebrated Young Carers' Day with displays and a break time get together for our young carers. The theme this year is 'Give me a break' so we have been thinking of how we can give our young carers a break at school.

Mrs Baxter is doing a tremendous job in supporting these youngsters. If you think that your child is a young carer and would like some extra support, please get in touch with Mrs Baxter nbaxter@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk and have a look at the information on Herts Young Carers: [Young Carers service - Carers In Herts](#)



St. G's Learning and communication Platforms

In one of the recent parent/carers' feedback sessions, it was suggested that a handy overview of the platforms that we use would be very helpful, so here it is:

- **Google for Education - google classroom**, for lesson materials and homework
- **EduLink** - for timetable, reporting absences, accessing progress reviews and reports, contact and medical information etc.
- **UCAS** - for our 6th formers applying for apprenticeships, universities etc.
- **Unifrog** - for students in years 9 to 13 for careers and courses, work experience etc.
- **Educake** - Science and Geography KS3 and KS4 - used for some homework and knowledge tests
- **Kerboodle / Oxford University Press/ Cambridge University Press /Pearson /Hodder / Illuminate publishing** - these are the online textbook platforms depending on the subject and exam board specification studied
- **Mathswatch and MyMaths** - KS3, KS4 and KS5 maths quizzes, knowledge checkers and revision material
- **ActivLearn/Linguascope** - French and Spanish vocabulary quizzes
- **Ever learner** - KS4 and KS5 PE tutorials and practice quizzes

If you need any support or advice about accessing any of these platforms, please contact the ICT Support Department: ictsupport@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk

Spring Concert Thursday 20th March

The Music Department is looking forward to next week's Spring Concert on Thursday 20th March. The school orchestras, choirs and smaller ensembles have prepared an eclectic programme of music from America, including the spectacular Rhapsody in Blue by George Gershwin.

Parent-Pay tickets will close on Tuesday, and there will be a limited number available on the door. All performers and singers are to arrive at 6pm ahead of a 6.30pm show-time - the PSA are kindly providing refreshments from 6pm.

St George's Music Dept
presents...

The Big Country

**HURRY!
ONLY THE LAST
FEW TICKETS
REMAINING...**

**Thursday 20th March
6.30pm – Assembly Hall**

In need of financial help?



Do you live in Harpenden, Wheathampstead, Kimpton, Redbourn, Flamstead or Markyate?

- Be of limited financial means. JMF may be able to help where:
- Students are in receipt of means-tested Free School Meals
- Household income is primarily comprised of significant means-tested benefits
- Gross household income is less than £50,000 subject to a full financial assessment

JMF can help up to the age of 25
With items related to

- Work/apprenticeships
- College/university costs
- DofE
- Laptops



Who cannot apply?

If you live in St Albans or Luton
You must live in the areas listed above.

For more information
<https://jamesmarshallfoundation.co.uk/apply-for-grant/>



St George's 16-19 Bursary

For sixth form students or parents who are entitled to

- Free school meals
- Income support
- Child Tax Credit or Universal Credit

Bursary can be used for

- Transport
- Books
- Curriculum essential trips
- Transport costs around university open days

Speak to Mrs Beaman or Miss Peters



What bursary cannot be used for

Music lessons • Tutoring •
Non-academic trips • Overseas trips

For more information
<https://www.stgeorges.herts.sch.uk/16-19-bursary>

SCRUM & STICKS SUMMER ★ MIX ★

17TH MAY 2025

THE FINAL FUNDRAISER

7PM - LATE



LIVE BAND / DRINK / DANCE /
FOOD / AUCTION / RAFFLE / ACTIVITIES



ST. GEORGE'S SPORTS HALL
New Online Booking
For parties, sports & more
go to Lettings on our website

We look forward to welcoming you!



IT'S AN EXCITING TIME TO JOIN US!

**EXPERIENCED U13, U14, U15, U16 GIRLS WANTED FOR
DIVISION 1 HGFPL LEAGUE & AT ALL LEVELS**

**GIRLS
FOOTBALL**

**HARPENDEN COLTS IS ONE OF THE UK'S LARGEST GRASSROOTS CLUBS
WITH EXCEPTIONAL STANDARDS IN COACHING & INCLUSIVITY - PLUS A LOT OF FUN!
VISIT: WWW.HARPENDENCOLTS.COM / EMAIL: GIRLSLEAD@HARPENDENCOLTS.COM**



90's FUN HOUSE

FUNDRAISER

FOR ST GEORGE'S SPORTS TOUR

WITH DJ
PAT SHARP

FRIDAY 28 MARCH

8PM - 1AM

@ THE ELECTRIC BALLROOM

184 CAMDEN HIGH STREET (NEXT DOOR TO CAMDEN TUBE)



90'S BANGERS
CLUB CLASSICS

£26

INCLUDES A PROCESSCO OR BEER

100% TICKET PRICE GOES TO THE TOUR



SCAN FOR TICKET

