

St. George's School Newsletter

Friday 27th June 2025



From the Head

As you will know, next week is Activities Week, and pupils in Y7-10 will be off timetable taking part in a wide range of experiences both on and off site, meanwhile students in Year 12 will be engaged in career-focused activities such as work experience. Thanks to all staff involved in leading activities and especially to those colleagues who are away from their own families on residential trips. I am very grateful for the time and care they will give to our pupils next week.

As pupils explore new places and take part in unfamiliar activities, they will also be learning how to navigate social situations, make decisions, and take responsibility – and inevitably, they will get things wrong from time to time. These moments matter. We will be clear about expectations and consequences with pupils, but also help them reflect if things do go wrong.

To do this, our staff are trained in using **restorative approaches** to support pupils when things go wrong. This approach helps young people take ownership of their actions, understand their impact on others, and restore relationships where needed.

Here's a brief summary of how restorative conversations work. You can also use this at home!

- **Start with connection** – using the child's name, calm tone, and giving them your attention.
- **Be curious, not judgemental** – ask open questions:
What happened? What were you thinking at the time? What have you thought about since? Who has been affected?
- **Encourage ownership** – support the pupil in seeing the consequences of their actions.
- **Support repair and next steps** – help them decide how to make things right and move forward.

This kind of response is relational and educational, helping pupils learn from their mistakes in a meaningful way. Should the need arise, please trust my colleagues to resolve matters and communicate with you, as parents, at an appropriate time.

Finally, please note that there is an **Amber Weather Warning** in place; the forecast for next week is for very hot and sunny weather. Pupils should bring a refillable water bottle each day and are strongly encouraged to wear sunscreen if they will be spending time outdoors.

We are looking forward to a week full of challenge, enjoyment, and learning – and thank you in advance for your support in making it a success.

Summer Finals Day - Sport was the winner!

Well done to all of our students (and there were lots of them!) who took part in our Summer Finals Day event on Monday that consisted of house rounders, cricket and tennis competitions. Lots of fun was had by all and the standard was high. Thanks to our PE team for all their work organising and umpiring throughout the day. Overall winners for Rounders were **Monk**, winners for Cricket were **Grant** and winners for Tennis were **Goddard**. Very well done to all involved.



It's now on to the final few events of the Endeavour Cup to bring another season to a close - we had Bake-off today (results coming soon) and Dance and Sports Day follow after Activities Week.

Activities Week medical reminders for residential trips

Please make sure that your child has all their medication named and that is handed in to staff when you arrive to drop them off.

If your child has sickness and diarrhoea (48 hour rule) or is ill, please do not send them on the trip as infections spread quickly on coaches and in shared dorms and it can jeopardise the whole trip especially if staff become ill as well. Thank you.

Exam Office Update

This week, important letters went out to students in year 11 and 13 regarding Results Day, post-results options and fees, certificates and so on. If any student needs to have their certificates posted to them, they will need to make a payment on ParentPay by the end of term. Details are in the letter.

Boarders make a splash!

Mr Blair writes: On Sunday, boarders from Keswick and Crosthwaite Houses seized the rare June heatwave with a day at H2O Rampage Water Park, because what better way to start the summer than with inflatable chaos and water-fuelled competition?

Booked for the 3.00 p.m. session, the crew wasted no time jumping in as soon as the whistle blew. Ethan O and Maksim wasted no time making tidal waves with their Olympic-level belly flops before launching into an all-out race to the island...dignity optional.

What followed was a solid hour of jumping, chasing, and diving, all with big laughs and no shortage of friendly trash talk. Tolu and Chakamso weren't about to let the boys steal the show, boldly racing them around the trickier obstacles while others took the more graceful (cautious) route across the inflatable mayhem.

Parker, our occasional boarder and full-time daredevil, fearlessly squared up to Year 11 titans Marcus and Flynn in a dramatic showdown on the high tower. The jump into the murky abyss below was met with cheers, gasps, and probably a mouthful of lake water.

Of course, no trip involving floating inflatables would be complete without a few unsolicited WWE auditions. Damilola (clearly convinced he's on Monday Night Raw) treated fellow boarders to surprise RKOs and powerbombs, all in good humour and (mostly) within the rules of inflatable warfare.

All in all, it was a brilliant day, part adrenaline rush, part waterlogged mayhem, and all-out good fun. A memorable way to soak up some sun, say farewell to our year eleven and show off serious boarder spirit.



National Fish Heroes Awards

Mrs Bailey, one of our food teachers, headed to London on 20th June 2025 to attend the **Fish Hero Teacher Awards and Conference**, held at the historic Fishmongers' Hall. The event celebrated six years of the **Fish in Schools Hero** programme, a national initiative that brings fish education into classrooms, giving pupils the opportunity to **prepare, cook and taste fish - many for the first time**.

Mrs Bailey is one of 200 teachers from across the UK who was recognised for their inspiring work encouraging young people to learn about fish, healthy eating, sustainability, and even career opportunities in the seafood sector.

The programme, funded by the Fishmongers' Company's Fisheries Charitable Trust, and delivered by the Food Teachers Centre, supports schools by **providing free fish deliveries (mussels), hands-on teacher training, classroom resources and exciting pupil masterclasses, which Year 10 have experienced this year**. Through their involvement, St George's pupils have gained valuable cooking skills and confidence, with many now saying they want to eat and cook more fish.

"I'm proud to be part of this amazing programme," said Mrs Bailey. "It's opened up new learning opportunities for our students and helped them experience ingredients they may not otherwise try."

The conference also featured expert talks on the importance of food education, sustainability, and how fish supports both public health and the UK economy.

For more about the programme, visit: <https://foodteacherscentre.co.uk/fish-heroes/>



A reminder about coming on site

If you are coming onto the school site for a meeting, for example, during the school day, please remember that the only way is by signing in at Goddard Reception and being collected by the member of staff who you are visiting.

For after school hours, unless it is for an organised school event, parents and carers should not wander on to the school site without prior agreement and accompaniment by their child's Head of House. This is because as a boarding school, we need to know who is on site so that we can safeguard our boarders.

Likewise, families whose gardens back onto the school fields must not gain access to the school fields at any time without prior permission. Again, this is to safeguard our boarding community. Thank you.

Equali-Tea Party

Last Friday, students from the Gay Straight Alliance baked in glorious colour to put on a charity fund raiser cake sale for staff (and they got to see the inside of the staff room). The cakes were very well received and the students raised over £100!

A big thank you to them and to Miss Carter-Crosby, Ms Ashwell and Mr Blair for all they do across the year to support our students.



Lower School Drama Group 'Pulls it Off!'

As the sun set behind the boarding house, last night, there were sounds of laughter, cheering and applause, as the Lower School Drama group took their bows and celebrated a truly fabulous performance of *Daisy Pulls it Off*.

The production was a great success, with audiences appreciating not just the excitement and enjoyment of the students involved, but also the energy, talent and creativity of their performances. In total, a company of 37 Year 7, 8 and 9 students took to the stage, in Grant Quad, to 'present their offering of a play in less than 80 minutes'. They were also joined by a couple of stunning staff cameo appearances. The Lower School play is always a lovely opportunity to showcase the talent we have in school, as well as a proving ground for those who are new to performing in a school production. Grant Quad is not the easiest of spaces to mount a production in; performing in the open air, and in the three quarters (audience on three sides) is a challenge and everyone in the company rose to this. There were some fantastic lead performances, as well as some effective ensemble playing, and overall, a fabulous company of young performers.

We'd like to extend a massive thank you to everyone who came out and supported the production; it was great to sell out both performances. Thanks also to the staff who helped in front of house, and backstage.





Double District Cricket Champions

On Thursday 26th June, the U12 and U15 Cricket teams played SJL in their respective District Cup Cricket Finals at Woolhams Playing Fields.

SJL won the toss and elected to bat first in the U12 game. Kit Mc and Henry B bowled excellently restricting SJL to 21 for 3 off the first 6 overs. SJL finished their innings on 94 for 8 off their 20 overs. Matthew D and Liam R got the St George's run chase off to a steady start putting on 46 for the first wicket. Liam top scored with 30 after getting out caught at short fine leg to the dreaded ramp shot! St George's reached the 95 required in the 14th over. A great performance from a really strong side.

In the U15 game the St George's bowlers did an equally excellent job of restricting the SJL batters and after 6 overs SJL were 18 for 1. St George's restricted SJL to 73 for 9 off their 20 overs. Harry B and Josh G finished with excellent figures of 3 wickets for 14 runs off 4 overs and 3 wickets for 9 runs off 2 overs respectively . The St George's batters made light work of the run chase achieving the 74 run target in the 12th over of the game. Harry B top scored on 40 not out supported by George Coulson and Ben Sutherland who also scored in double figures.

A great double win for St George's who are U12 and U15 District Cricket Champions.



House Quiz review

On a very warm afternoon, 76 students gathered for the annual House Quiz, held in the Old Library on Friday, 20th June. This is a pub-quiz style of competition where devious questions were asked, including rounds on current affairs, history, geography, science, music and sport. Picture rounds included photographs of obscure places within the school, and the eyes of famous people. The competition was open to junior, middle and senior

teams from each house, each with six members. The event was hosted by Mrs Bebbington-Crombie, and supported primarily by Sub-prefects, who collected and marked the papers; kept score and also contributed to writing some of the rounds. Their administration was highly impressive, and enabled us to complete six rounds, and deliver the results quickly.

The competition was remarkably close, with the final scores being: 4th place – Monk (174 points), 3rd - Watts (176 points), 2nd Goddard (183 points) and the winners were Grant (186 points). The highest scoring individual teams were Grant Seniors and Goddard Seniors, who scored 71 points apiece. There was a very enthusiastic atmosphere in this event, with teams very invested in the outcomes. Well done to all involved.

School Lunches

The price of our main lunch offer will be £3.80 from September. We have continued to keep this price increase below the rate of food inflation, in large part thanks to the efforts of our catering team and strong partnerships with our suppliers. Through the course of this year we've introduced a number of new and exciting dishes, and we're committed to continuing this trend next year. Our top priority remains providing freshly cooked, balanced and healthy meals for all our students.

We always welcome student feedback – if your child has ideas for future menus or suggestions for improvement, please encourage them to speak to any member of the catering team – they are always keen to hear what's working well and what could be better.

If you are eligible for certain benefits, your child may be able to receive free school meals (FSM) by registering with [Hertfordshire County Council](#). Registration is confidential and if your child is eligible there may also be additional financial assistance for things like school equipment, trips and uniform.

Prefects Dinner

Last Friday, the Prefect Dinner took place and it was a wonderful evening of dinner and dance at St George's. Thanks so much to all staff involved, but the biggest thank you should go to our Senior Prefect Team for putting on such a fantastic event, and for doing all the background work to make sure everything went so smoothly



Sign up for Fame! (Students only)

The sign up for the Fame 2025 Auditions is here! [Fame!](#) Current Year 7 will have the opportunity to audition in September. Please encourage your children to get involved.

For auditions for lead roles, please prepare one minute of a musical theatre (ideal) or pop song (acceptable) Students will need to sing solo for the audition.

Email any backing track to Ms Humphrey - or bring the sheet music to be accompanied on piano.



Hertfordshire's
Holiday Activity Programme
HAPpy

Free Activities for the Summer Holidays

Does your child get benefits-related free school meals?

If so, then you can book them onto FREE HAPpy Camps during the Summer school holiday.

To book, ask your school for your child's code and scan the QR code or head to <https://bit.ly/SummerHAPpyFBL>

Summer bookings are live from 12 noon on 26th June 2025.

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Save money on student bus travel

If you're a student getting the bus to school, college or university make big savings on your travel and spread the cost of the ticket over affordable monthly payments when you pay by direct debit.

- € **Reduced** price bus travel for the academic year
- ∞ **Unlimited** bus travel in your chosen Arriva Zone, **7 days a week**
- 💳 **Convenient** monthly **direct debit**
- 🗑️ **No minimum** contract - cancel anytime



Scan QR code or visit our website to get started.

arrivabus.co.uk/monthlytickets



The School Fete is this Saturday!

12.00 to 4.00 p.m.

Come along – it's going to be a glorious day so come and have a glass of Pimm's; eat cake, throw wet sponges at members of staff in the stocks and listen to fantastic music.

What more could you ask for?