



# ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL HARPENDEN

A non-denominational Christian day and boarding school



Old Georgian's Newsletter

“ A school does not exist to send out men and women solely to play a part in life whereby they achieve a competence and honourable life of useful work and even a modicum of fame, but exists to send out for posterity and for their own generation, men and women who by their character shall leave the society in which they live the better for their presence and hence the world much nearer the Kingdom ”

Dr A. H. Watts, Headmaster 1936-1947

Welcome to the Old Georgian's Association 2019 newsletter.

As many of you will know Dan Hitchen stood down from his role as Chair last year after many years as Chairman to the Association. I would like to thank Dan for all his energy and support that he gave during his time in the role. Due to this vacancy the school has taken over the Chair for a while with a key aim to raise the profile of the OG's and increase both membership and engagement.

For those with a keen eye you may have spotted that this newsletter has a change of name. We held our AGM in June as usual and during that meeting we felt that the Association is being referred to with different names and so a motion was carried to revert the name back to Old Georgian's Association.

The Founders and Benefactors weekend went well with the OG's committee running the book stall in the Fete. It was great to see some OG's that haven't visited the school for a while and to take some on a school tour. A Quote from Katherine

'I just wanted to drop you a quick note to say thanks again for looking after me so well on Saturday. I really appreciated the tour. The fete was fun too and the chapel service on Sunday morning a real trip down memory lane.'

Please note the dates on page 5 and I hope to see some of you then and please remember to book your tour too.

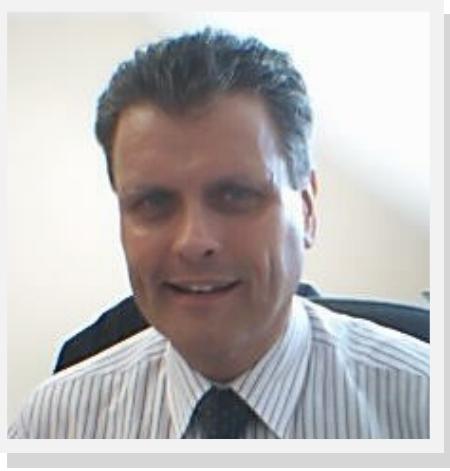
I look forward to seeing you at our next events.

Colin Wareham Chairman

# “ Meet the Team

”

Details of the full committee membership can be viewed on the [school website](#)



**Mark Pocock**

**Hon Treasurer**

Mark attended the school from 1970 to 1977.

He has served the committee in various capacities including Auditor, Chair and now Treasurer since 1986.

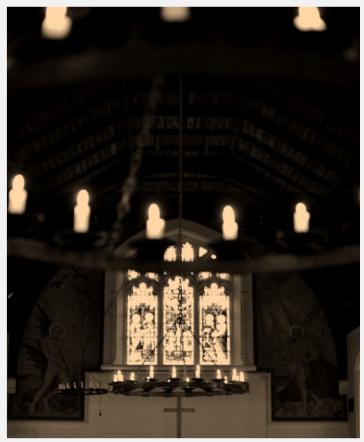


**Miles Briggs**

**Committee Member**

Miles Briggs - attended St Georges between 1982 and 1989. Started playing in the Old Georgians Cricket game in the mid 90's and have 'managed' the side for the past 10 years since moving back to the area. If you're keen to play in the OG's game then please do get in touch - especially if you were at the school more recently than me as we could do some with younger players!

# “ Things to be involved in ”



**Join us for the Old Georgian's Lacrosse Match And Carol Service Saturday 14 December 2019**

Lacrosse Match starts at 12:30, Carol Service starts at 3.30pm followed by mulled wine & mince pies in the Old Library

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Founders Day & PSA Fete 12 – 4pm**

**School Tour 2:30pm**

**Saturday 13 June 2020**

**&**

**Founders Chapel Service 10am &**

**AGM 11:30 Old Library**

**Sunday 14 June 2020**

“

# What's new in the school? ”

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

**Laura Howard, D of E Co-ordinator**

The Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to go from strength to strength at St George's. We have had our largest ever cohort of students (169!!!) in year 10 sign up to undertake their Bronze Award. Only 24 students in the year are not completing their award. We have signed a few more members of staff up to train to be leaders to help us support the increase in team numbers. We awarded 141 Bronze Awards in Jan 19 from last years cohort.

Our Gold Award also remains popular; Tom Bensley has this year taken on responsibility for coordinating the Gold Award. He took 30 Year 12 students to the Peak District undertaking their Gold training. Four teams last summer completed their assessed expeditions in the Yorkshire Dales and one of our canoe teams recently returned from Croatia also having successfully completed their assessed expedition. In the last few months 18 students have completed their Gold Award and been invited to the Palace for the presentation ceremony.

We are going to look in to whether we now have the potential to support students undertaking the Silver Award as a way to get more involved who find the Gold a challenge too far!

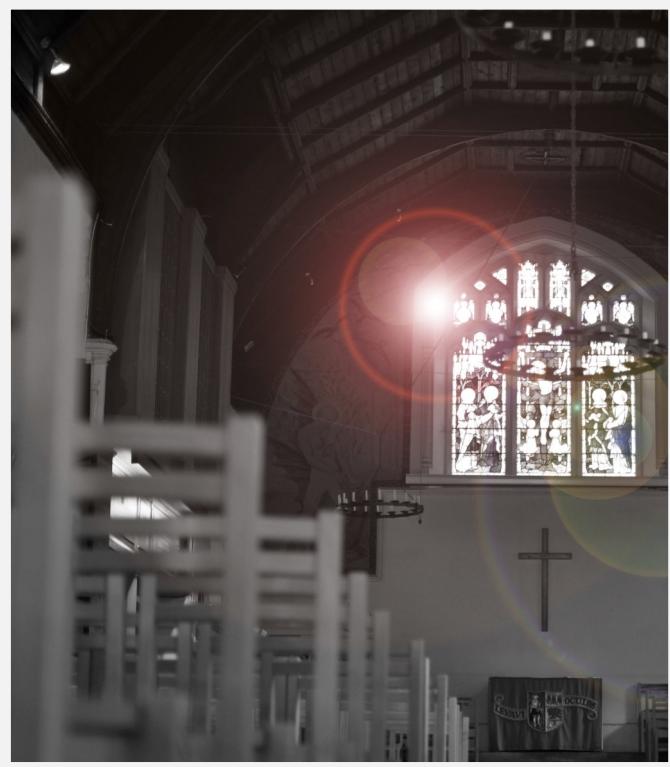


## **Lacrosse Success**

Lacrosse success as the U15A team who won the Plate Championships at the South Schools Finals after a golden goal thriller against St Swithun's.

Our penultimate weekend of lacrosse was the re-arranged Abbott's Hill Tournaments. We entered eight teams into 4 competitions and finished the day in true St George's style by winning the U13, U14 and U15 competitions.

# “ Our beloved Chapel ”



## **Rev. S. Warner, Chaplain**

I would like to thank all of you who have donated money to this cause already. We really appreciate the gifts that we have received. If you would like to continue to give you can do so through [ParentPay](#) if you are a current parent or directly to the Development Office at the school.

## **Parable of the Talents Chapel Roof Update**

We have received tremendous support with fund raising efforts that have been taking place so far. We are now well on our way to reach our target of £100,000. Together with monies raised in previous Chapel roof initiatives we currently have so far raised an amazing £61,000, thank you. Along with generous parent donations the students have been bringing in some of their monies raised and have so far used various 'talents' including: washing cars, sponsored swim, making sweets, purses, bags and baking cakes to sell, various meal evenings and music concerts to name a few. Thank you

Colin Wareham  
Development Office

**We would love it if you could help us reach our target of £100,000 and to help you do that we have included the form and donation information at the back of this newsletter.**

# “ On the grapevine ”

We caught up with up and coming footballer Anna Patten OG 2010—2017

## **How did you get into football?**

Through my older brothers Michael and Dominic. I grew up right by the Wheathampstead Wanderers playing fields, so every Saturday I would go and watch them play and be on the side-lines wanting to join in. As soon as I turned the right age, that's what I did, and joined the Wheathampstead Wanderers U8 team. Growing up I always had a ball at my feet, and took every opportunity to play. If that was with my brothers, or playing with my friends on the street or with the boys at St. Dominics, my primary school. I knew from a young age that football was what I wanted to do.

## **Please tell us about some of your successes?**

I have been part of England youth age groups from U15-U21 age group and feel extremely honoured to have played in over 60 Games for my country. My debut game came in May 2014 against the Netherlands where we won 3-0. I will never forget that feeling of putting on the shirt and singing the national anthem for the first time. From there I went on to compete at the U17 UEFA European Championships, in Belarus, where we got third place and qualified for the U17 World Cup in Jordan. This was an amazing experience and although we got knocked out in the Quarter-finals, it was an honour to play for England at such a major tournament. We played in the U19 UEFA European Championships, in Northern Ireland, and qualified for the U20 World Cup in France. The tournament was held in Brittany, and during the knockout stages we stayed in a hotel in Dinan. It was right beside the river and iconic bridge. As soon as I saw it I thought of the Year 8 trip. Little did I know when I was sitting on a wall having to sketch this bridge in year 8 that in 6 years I would be back there representing my country at a major tournament. We went on to win the bronze medal at the tournament beating France on penalties in the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> playoff match. To date that has been my best football memory playing for England.

For club, I grew up playing for Arsenal Ladies Centre of Excellence from U13-17's. During my last year, I got the opportunity to train with the first team. From there, I got my debut game against Bayern Munich and went on to start in 8 league games during the WSL Spring series where we remained unbeaten. I made the decision to go to University in America as I would be able to get top coaching and a degree at the same time. I moved to Florida State University, where in my second year we won the NCAA National Championship. The greatest achievement you can make in college sports.

All these successes would not have been possible without the support of St. George's. I would have to miss weeks of school to go and play for England in tournaments, I even had to sit one of my AS levels in the Belarus British Embassy. St George's allowed me to do that and I am very grateful for this.

## **Where are you now and what are you doing?**

Currently I am at the University of South Carolina. I transferred over to this university to complete my collegiate career and I am looking forward for the season to start. I am studying Sports Management and look to graduate in December 2020.



## **What motivates you to train?**

My biggest motivation is making the England Senior team, the Lionesses. The Women's World Cup is currently taking place and the publicity and support they are receiving shows just how much the Women's game is growing. It has really inspired me to work hard to put myself in the best position to compete for the next major tournament. When I have to wake up at 6am to train, that is what motivates me to make those extra runs. Also, my family motivates me to train. My parents have travelled all over from LA to Jordan to support and watch me play. I want to succeed and one day be able to have them in the stands watching me play for the England Women Senior team.

## **What are your fondest memories of St George's?**

My best memories are those which come from the friendships I created at St. George's. I look back on my time at St. G's and just smile thinking about all the laughs and great times I had with my friends. Also, being sporty some of my fondest memories come from athletic competitions. If that was with the Netball team on the MUGA, or getting to leave period 5 early on a Wednesday to do Athletics in the summer, I loved it all. Finally, I can't forget on the last day of school when everyone would belt out the line "CHRISTUM expectavimus" of the school song. I loved my time at St. George's and have many fond memories.

## **What advice do you have for students?**

I would say take part in what you can. I obviously, took advantage of all the great sporting activities, but St. George's has so many other great clubs and extra activities to take part in.

## **Do you have further ambitions in Football, if so please tell us what they are?**

My greatest ambition is to play for the England senior Women team at a major tournament. I got the opportunity to train with the team, which is out in France right now, for a week in May. I learnt lots from the manager Phil Neville and the team on what it means to be a Lioness, and what I need to do to make that next step up. I also want to become a Professional after I leave University and play in the WSL. Finally, I aim to inspire more girls to get involved in football, I want to grow the game and get others involved in a sport that makes me so happy.

## **What is next for you?**

Next up I have two more years at my University where the aim is to win more Championships and get my degree. I hope in this time to also be knocking on the door of the Lionesses and work hard to prove myself to be part of that team.



# “ Wladyslaw “George” Jarosz ”

I wonder how many OG's know that the fabric of our school is the creation of a Polish hero of World War 2?

We have been sorry to hear in recent weeks of the death of Wladyslaw “George” Jarosz, and I was honoured to speak last week at his funeral on behalf of the Head and Governors and our school community. George was principle architect with Crabtree Jarosz, and was the lead architect on pretty much every building project, big or small, for the last 30 years. He literally built half the school: Goddard block, the Sports Hall, the Technology block, the extended Maths block and IT room, the remodelled 6<sup>th</sup> form study and social space, the darkroom, extra science labs, the lot. Every year a prize is awarded in his name to a senior student departing the school to study architecture or design. George was great to work with, being warm, kind, gentlemanly, with an accent like velvet and a deliberate way of speaking which always held your attention. He didn't waste words.

George always seemed interested in everyone around him, so while of different generations, we struck up a firm friendship on the common ground of his Polish heritage. I have been visiting Poland for over thirty years, so it was natural, on return from a visit to Warsaw ten years ago, to want to talk to George about the Warsaw uprising museum, which I had visited with my young family. I had been struck particularly by the slogan above the museum entrance, justifying what some people saw as the folly of taking on the whole German army when the Russian supposed liberators were only a dozen miles away. It said: “We wanted to be free, and to owe that freedom to nobody”. I felt it was a tremendous encapsulation of the Polish spirit, and I asked George about it and the uprising. It soon became apparent that George knew the History of this period backwards, and I commented on that with surprise. George got a twinkle in the eye that those who met him will remember and said, “Paddy...how old do you think I am?”. I volunteered maybe 65. He had grey hair and shiny head but was sharp and vibrant. “Paddy,” he said, “I am 85 years old. I was IN the Warsaw Uprising.”

And so he was. He joined the resistance as a teenager, while he was secretly studying to be an architect. Secretly, because the Nazi invaders closed all the Polish schools and universities in 1939, murdering thousands of teachers and lecturers. They wanted Poles only for slave labour. But the entire Polish education system went underground, teaching and examining taking place in flats and factories. The Poles stuck two fingers up at their invader.

The editors of the main underground newspaper, who were on the Gestapo hit list as most wanted, organised for a copy of their paper to be delivered every day to Gestapo headquarters so “you don’t have to go to the trouble of getting hold of one”.

George fought through the Uprising of 1944, when the resistance fighters emerged from the sewers to attack the German forces across the city. Like many fighters he had his own codename - Walter, derived from the name of the handgun he carried. These code-names were not an affectation: fellow fighters knowing you only by your nickname would maybe save the lives of your family if someone was captured and tortured. He fought as the SS were sent in to murder the entire population of the liberated districts of the city; he fought as the pocket got smaller and smaller; and as the feeble flow of supplies dropped by RAF planes trickled to a halt; he fought as the resistors had to use the cellars and the sewers to hold out to the last, until finally they ran out of ammunition. The SS unit who were ordered to kill them instead took them prisoner, so impressed had they become by the Polish fighter’s tenacity. George ended up in a concentration camp, ultimately liberated by the Americans.

I cannot imagine how George managed to endure this yet not let it define him. To move to the UK, finish his training as an architect, settle, and marry, continuing his amazing journey.

George encapsulated the values of his people: making a clear moral commitment and sticking to it. Chivalry. Honour. Being straight with people. And maybe a touch of recklessness, and of living in the moment in a space where unlike here, basic freedoms could never be taken for granted. George exemplified these standards on every occasion we met.

Those of you who are not Polish may not know that the Polish for “Happy Birthday” is “Sto Lat” – Literally “100 years”, or “may you live to be 100 years.” It is incredible that his and our country had the gift of George being with us for nearly that full century. It is not often you meet someone truly remarkable, who you know you will think about long after you have parted. George Jarosz, “Walter”, will live much longer than the 95 years he was with us.

Paddy Storrie

*Many thanks to Milena K in Year 13 who helped translating source material about George’s wartime experiences*



WŁADYSŁAW TADEUSZ JAROSZ „WALTER”

# “ Lister Goddard ”

## Long lost WW1 victory medal presented by family to school archive – hunt continues for other missing medals

Students of Goddard House at St George's School in Harpenden were delighted to hear the story of Lt Lister Goddard (named after the pioneering doctor Joseph Lister, a family friend since Lister's father had trained under him) and witness the presentation to the school of his posthumously awarded victory medal by his cousin Richard Goddard.

Lister was one of 78 Georgians who fought in WW1. Of these 2 were taken prisoner, 23 were wounded and 17, including Lister, never returned.

Richard had been contacted in October by a Dutch collector of WW1 medals who was disbanding his collection and wanted to trace any close relatives before doing so. Richard felt it only fitting, that as Lister was such an important part of the school's history, the victory medal, or 'Wilfred' the affectionate name given to this WW1 medal, should remain in the school archive.

Although it was with the greatest pleasure that Richard presented the medal to Headmistress Miss Helen Barton, he is saddened that two further medals, the 1914-15 Star (known as 'Pip') and the British War Medal (known as 'Squeak') are still missing, and as the medal's ribbon indicates, they did all hang together at one point in time. Knowing that these medals would be easy to identify as they would have the recipient's service number, rank, name and unit impressed on them, Richard hopes that one day they too will make their way back to the Goddard family or St George's School.

Miss Barton said of the event "It was wonderful to have had Richard and his wife Helena visit the school and to have been presented with this medal. The students of Goddard House (named after Lister) were delighted to hear further stories of their namesake and it was a pleasure to receive the medal into the school archive. It is important for our students of today to remember those who have gone before them and who sadly sacrificed their lives in order to make the world a safer place for us all".



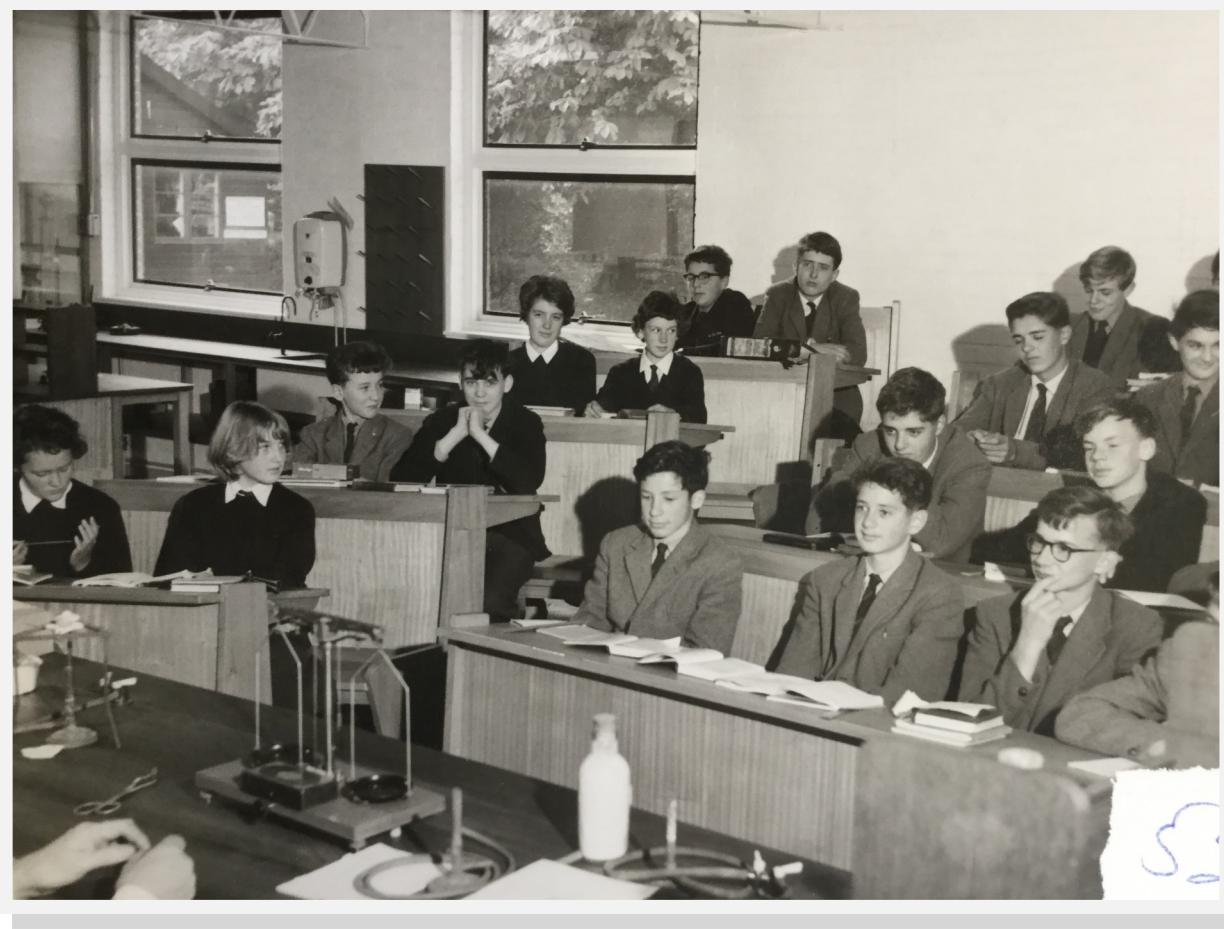
# “ Welcome to a new year of Old Georgian’s ”

**The school has just said its goodbyes to 2018/19 Year 13.**

You are now well on your way to your next challenges and experiences, we welcome you to the Old Georgian's Association. Please keep in touch with us and tell us about your achievements and successes. Good luck to you all for the future.



“ Where are  
they now? ”



What is the Year?

Over time we have sadly lost touch with many Old Georgian's. Following the succession of emails from the photo in the last newsletter, can you name those in this picture and which year this was taken in? If you are in touch with any Old Georgian's from any of the years we would love to hear from them.

Contact Colin Wareham,  
Development & Lettings Manager  
on 01582 716283 or email him at  
[cwareham@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cwareham@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)

You can also register on the new Alumni website by [clicking here](#).

# “ Those we’ve said goodbye to... ”

**Dr John Salisbury Raban:** 1943-51 passed away in 2018 aged 84 a major supporter of St George's School.

**Margaret Lugton nee Mann:** 1931-39 passed away in 2018 a major supporter of St George's School.

**Michael Andrew Hubbard:** 1957-60. Passed away in Feb 19 in Barnett General Hospital having had a long illness with myeloma (blood cancer).

**Ben Foley** 1945-54 OG and Teacher, Head of Maths 1965- 96 sadly passed away in May after a short time in hospital.

**Rev Jill Carmen:** 1993- 2003 Jill passed away May 19. Jill started work at St George's in September 1993 as Assistant Chaplain working in the boarding house, teaching R.E. and in the Chapel until 2003. Jill left to became a Parish priest in Gloucestershire. She had been diagnosed with cancer.

# How you can contribute to the future of St George's

## Make a donation

If you would like to make a donation, complete the donation form and return it to the Development Office. Please remember to sign the Gift Aid declaration on the next page. Return both completed sheets to Colin Wareham, Development Manager, St George's School, Sun Lane, Harpenden, Herts AL2 4TD.

## Leave a Legacy

If you would prefer to remember St George's with a legacy, the legacy leaflet on the school website contains further details or you can contact the Development Manager on 01582 716283, for a discussion.

### DEBIT/CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

#### VISA/MASTERCARD/DELTA/SWITCH/MAESTRO (please indicate)

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Issue number (debit card only) \_\_\_\_\_

Start date \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_\_

Security number (last 3 digits on the back of card) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a donation of £ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name as appears on card \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT BY CHEQUE

I enclose a cheque for the sum of £ \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to St George's School (Harpenden) Ltd)

## GIFT AID DECLARATION

### **Gift Aid Declaration – boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate**

I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to St George's School (Harpenden) Limited. I am a UK tax payer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please notify the school if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*St George's relies on the support of its Georgians, parents and friends to help us deliver what is important to us. Your support will help us to ensure the continued success of St George's. Every contribution matters and we will be most grateful for your support.*



# ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL HARPENDEN

Main Reception 01582 765477

[www.stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)