

St. George's School Newsletter

Friday 19th September 2025



From the Head

On Tuesday evening, we gathered in Chapel for our annual **Senior Prize-giving**, one of the highlights of the school year. It was a joy to welcome back so many of our recent leavers, who joined current pupils in celebrating their achievements and receiving special awards and scholarships. Prize-giving is a moment when the whole community pauses to recognise the effort, perseverance and character that lie behind the results and awards our children achieve.

The individual citations about pupils, read on the evening by staff, reflected not only the outstanding accomplishments of our young people, but also how well known, understood and valued they are by those who guide them. Listening to those words, it was clear that success at St George's is never simply about results. It is about growth, resilience, kindness, and the contribution each pupil makes to the life of the school.

Looking ahead, I would like to take this opportunity to remind our community that next year's **Senior Prize Day will take place on 15th July**, on the same day as all our other prize-giving ceremonies, in the summer. Pupils who are currently in Year 13 should please ensure that they keep this date free to attend.

Finally, I wish to remind parents of the opportunity to contribute to the life of the school by serving as a **parent governor**. Governors play a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of St George's, supporting and challenging leaders, and ensuring that we remain true to our ethos and values. It is a role that requires commitment and time, but it is also deeply rewarding, allowing parents to share their skills, insight and experiences for the benefit of the whole school community.

The nomination process remains open for another week, closing on **Friday 26th September at 3.00pm**. Full details of the role, the expectations of governors, and how to apply can be found here: [Governor Elections](#)

Renewing our windows and doors

This Summer saw the start of our major £800,000 project to replace a total of 30 doors and over 200 windows across our site. Made possible by our success in securing a £550,000 Government capital improvement grant and support from the School's Foundation Company, this work will significantly improve our security and overall energy efficiency. The works carried out over the Summer have already made a huge difference, with tired parts of the School looking new again, and creating a better teaching and working environment for everyone.

Scaffolding is now up around the site as we prepare for the next phase of installations. This will see the replacement of around 160 old crissall and timber-framed windows in our older buildings. These will be replaced with modern, timber-framed designs to reflect the heritage of these buildings. We anticipate this phase to start shortly after half-term.



New Computing and Music Classrooms

It hasn't just been all about windows and doors over the Summer! We have relocated and modernised our two main computing classrooms to bring them into a new combined maths and computing block. Decked out with modern PCs and the latest interactive flat screen technology, these new classrooms bring a fresh look and feel for this important part of our curriculum. We have also relocated our music classrooms, allowing us to create a new dedicated rehearsal space and redesign the layout of our music teaching areas.

Through the support of the Cecil Grant Founder's Trust, our music classrooms now have the latest mac technology installed. Pupils are very much enjoying the new spaces along with our teachers!



News from the Library

Summer Reading Prize Draw

Many thanks to all those students who sent the library a photo of themselves reading *anywhere* over the summer, there were some great entries! We are very pleased to announce that the winners (randomly drawn) are – Abigail J (1st prize), Kate H (2nd prize) and Chloe A (3rd prize). Please come and collect your book token prize from the library!

Bookbuzz

Over the next couple of weeks, Year 7 will have the opportunity to choose a free book, which is theirs to keep from a great selection (16 books!) suitable for 11-13 year olds, carefully chosen and offered by the Book Trust. 'Bookbuzz' is a reading programme, which supports schools by encouraging reading for pleasure, promotes independent choice and works to develop a school reading culture. The Cecil Grant Trust Fund (CGTF) very generously funded this, enabling students to participate in Bookbuzz. We are hoping that the books will inspire Year 7 to enjoy reading for pleasure. For more information on this year's choice of books: [2025 Bookbuzz books](#)

GCSE & A Level Hachette Learning Magazines 2025/26

Reduced rate student subscriptions are now available to purchase on ParentPay. These magazines, written for GCSE (History & Geography are the only two offered at GCSE) and A Level students include articles to broaden understanding of core topics, build subject knowledge and develop exam skills. Current and back copies are available in the Library for any students to use, or have a look at before ordering. Please note that the deadline for payment is Monday 29th September. For more information: [GCSE/A Level Magazines](#)



Cross-Country Competition 24th September 2025

The Endeavour Cup has started this week with House Music rehearsals, and our first sporting event takes place on Wednesday – House Cross Country at Rothamsted Park. The first race starts at 1.30 p.m. and all students attend the event to support their house and those who are racing.

Dismissal: Students will be dismissed directly from Rothamsted Park at approximately **3:00 p.m.** Students who need to return to school (for transport or boarding) will be escorted back by staff for the usual collection time of **3:20 p.m.**

Spectators: Parents are warmly invited to watch the event. A designated spectator area will be set up near the finish line. To join in the spirit, you are welcome to wear your child’s House colours or why not add some face paint? Please note: as this is a school event, we kindly ask that parents do not approach students during the races.

Weather Contingency: If poor weather means the event cannot take place at Rothamsted Park, we will notify you via **Edulink**. Should the event be moved to school, unfortunately **spectators will not be able to attend**. We are looking forward to an exciting afternoon of sport and school spirit!

Expectations and Behaviour

This week’s focus is on being *obviously responsible during lesson changeovers*. Students are expected to move quickly and calmly between lessons, take the shortest route, wear their uniform smartly, and arrive ready to learn. You can support this at home by reinforcing the importance of punctuality and being in the right place at the right time.

OBVIOUSLY RESPONSIBLE...
Lesson Changeover



-  **Be purposeful** – move straight to your next lesson; don’t wait for friends and don’t expect them to wait for you.
-  **Be direct** – take the shortest route and go straight to class to avoid being late.
-  **Be considerate** – keep your voice down, especially if there are exams nearby.
-  **Be presentable** – fix your uniform so you arrive looking smart and ready.
-  **Be prepared** – fill water bottles at break or lunch, not between lessons.

 **Aim Even Higher** – set the standard by moving calmly, purposefully, and showing a positive example to others on the way to class.

We are Georgians and we Aim Higher by being...

Obviously KIND <i>We go above and beyond to support and respect others.</i>	Obviously POSITIVE <i>We strive to be optimistic, resilient, and embrace challenges.</i>	Obviously RESPONSIBLE <i>We do the right thing — even when no one is watching.</i>	Obviously TOGETHER <i>We include others, build each other up, and act as one team.</i>
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Walk Eat Talk Eat: Y11 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition Trip to London

Last Friday, 17 students and 3 staff ventured into London for a walking food tour. It was a fantastic day learning about the history of the East End, including Spitalfields Market and Brick Lane with an array of delicious food to sample. The students had the opportunity to try:

- Karapincha: Sri Lankan street food. Kottu Roti
- Bangladeshi cuisine: handmade samosa, paneer roll, Bangladeshi Shingara, pakora or onion bhaji
- Chocolate truffles and a hot chocolate from Dark Sugars, a Ghanaian chocolatier
- Famous salted beef or cream cheese bagels from Biegel, London’s oldest Jewish bagel bakery

- Artisanal vanilla bean custard or raspberry jam sourdough doughnuts from Crosstown

For their final stop, they visited Humble Crumble, started by Old Georgian **Kim Innes**. Kim made her first crumble as a Year 7 at St George's and kindly organised complementary crumbles for our final stop of the day. The crumbles were beautifully presented and almost too good to eat. It was a superb experience and a very filling day!

Year 11 students Bella and Isla commented: *'The food trip was an amazing opportunity to try cultural foods, we normally wouldn't get to taste. It showed a variety of skills we can use in our final dishes this year.'*

The students behaved impeccably and were a credit to St George's.



It's not abandoned—it's just *two-tired*

We have quite a few abandoned bikes at school which are chained up and going nowhere. If you recognise one of these bikes that you have been storing for free, please collect it by the end of Monday or they will be re-cycled!



Are your Year 8 Girls ready for a challenge? Get them to read this!

Think computers aren't really your thing? Think again! The UK CyberFirst Girls Competition is your chance to dive into the exciting world of cybersecurity, and you don't need to be a tech whiz to join in.

- Work as a team to crack codes, solve logic puzzles, and catch cybercriminals.
- Learn cool skills about the internet, computers, and how to stay safe online.
- Support each other, make new friends, and have loads of fun along the way!

Whether you're already into tech or just love a good puzzle, this is your moment to try something new and maybe win some awesome prizes (did someone say laptops?!). The competition itself is for year 8, although all year groups are welcome. Please join us in GO7 every Friday lunchtime to help get this party started!



Co-Curricular Activities

Sports:

This Saturday's **Lacrosse fixtures** are all at HOME against Lady Eleanor Holles (LEH).

Rugby Fixtures are a mix of HOME and AWAY against Merchant Taylors School.

George Wright and his super volunteer team will be offering Tea, Coffee and Bacon rolls along with soft drinks and a few snacks for sale. Please see SOCS for further information on individual teams. To log in: [SOCS Login](#)
The password for this year's log in is: STG2024

Fame Rehearsals:

Monday 3.30 - 4.30 in Go 5 and Drama Studio

Tuesday 1.35 - 2.05 in SP101

Wednesday 3.30 - 5.00 in Drama Studio

Thursday 1.35 - 2.05 in Drama Studio

Friday 3.00 - 4.30pm in Assembly Hall

Students need to check schedule on Google Classroom to see who is called for specific rehearsals

Inter-house Music Rehearsals:

	MONDAY				TUESDAY				WEDNESDAY			
Lunch	Senior Choir				W1 Junior Choir W2 Senior Choir				Junior Choir			
	OL	AH	GoS	Chap	OL	AH	GoS	Chap	OL	AH	GoS	Chap
After School	Junior Choir				Orchestra				NO REHEARSALS			
	OL	AH	Go2	Chap	OL	AH	GoS	Chap				

	THURSDAY				FRIDAY			
Lunch	Orchestra				Orchestra			
	OL	AH	GoS	Chap	OL	AH	GoS	Chap
After School	Senior Choir				NO REHEARSALS			
	OL	AH	Go2	Chap				

CALLING ALL PARENTS & STUDENTS THE GREAT ST ALBANS CHALLENGE IS BACK WITH A

BANG!

12th October 2025

Your mission: Grab your team, don your cape and take to the streets of St Albans for a superhero themed GPS treasure hunt in support of Youth Talk

- ★ Fun for families, friends... and school teams too!
- ★ Complete photo & video missions. Rack up points (not speed!).
- ★ Trophy for the top School Team!
- ★ Dress to impress - prizes for the best costumes!
- ★ All heroes receive medals - with trophies, prizes and surprise guests at the finale!

START: St Albans Cathedral (Start anytime between 1pm and 2pm)

FINISH: The Alban Arena (Doors open from 4.00pm)

Mental health matters. By taking part, you'll help raise vital funds for Youth Talk, your local charity supporting young people with free, confidential counselling.

www.greatstalbanschallenge.org.uk

Headline Sponsor



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**YOUTH
TALK**
We're listening

Scan the QR
code to SIGN UP





Co-parenting with Care programme for parents with children with SEN.

This 6-week online programme offers a structured approach to help you navigate your unique challenges, improve your relationship, and create a more supportive environment for your SEN child/ren .



The programme covers themes including:

- Understanding SEN and its impact on children and family dynamics
- Effective Communication Skills
- Managing Emotions & Stress
- Collaborative Problem Solving
- Building a Supportive Network
- Creating a Unified Parenting Approach

These 2 courses will be delivered via MS Teams, over 6 sessions on the following dates/times:

Date: Wednesday 15, 22 October and 5, 12, 19 & 26 November

Time: 9.30am to 11.30am

Date: Thursday 16, 23 October and 6, 13, 20 & 27 November

Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm

For more information or to make a referral, scan the QR code, email services@familylives.org.uk or call 0204 522 8700 or 0204 522 8699

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The Mud Pack Challenge

time to sign up
and jump in



Sunday 12th October
at Ashridge House


British Gas
Special thanks to our headline sponsor

Get filthy for The Hospice of St Francis this October in the wonderful surrounding of the Ashridge Estate.

7km or 14km packed with our renowned obstacles... May the mud be with you!

stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack



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