

St. George's School Newsletter

Friday 17th October



From the Head

One of the most powerful aspects of school life at St George's is the sense of belonging that grows through our shared experiences — in classrooms, in a team, on the stage, and in the many co-curricular and House activities that run throughout the year. These are the moments in which young people find their place, their confidence, and often their voice.

Next week's **House Music competition** is a perfect example. It is always a highlight of the year, bringing together pupils across the year groups in a shared endeavour that celebrates talent, teamwork, and the joy of performance. Whether conducting, accompanying, playing or singing, pupils learn that collective success depends on everyone playing their part. This is the essence of belonging: being part of something larger than oneself.

The same spirit can be seen in the quieter corners of our school community. The **Nature Club**, for instance, recently placed pots of flowers outside Goddard Reception — a small but beautiful act of kindness that has brightened the day for all who pass. It is also an act that binds those who gave their time together; a reminder that community is built through service as much as celebration.

As we approach the **end of the half-term next week**, I want to thank pupils and staff alike for the energy and commitment they have shown. A full programme of lessons and activities continues until the end of **Wednesday**, and I encourage all pupils to be present right through to the final bell, making the most of every opportunity to learn, participate, and contribute.



Fame Fever Hits St George's!

Get ready to *strut your stuff* and **shine bright** because our students are about to bring down the house with the winter production of **FAME the Musical** — and YOU are officially invited!

After weeks of singing, dancing, and rehearsing like the superstars they are, our amazing students, from across years 7 to 13, are ready to light up the stage with a show that's all about chasing dreams, breaking boundaries, and having the *time of your life*. Trust us, this is one performance you do NOT want to miss!



Performances are on **Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th, and Thursday 20th November**, in the Assembly Hall. The show starts at 7.30 p.m. and runs for approximately 2 hours – including an interval where the PSA will be on hand selling all kinds of fabulous refreshments.

Bring your biggest cheer, your loudest applause, and your best dance moves—because this night is going to be pure magic! Whether you're a theatre newbie or a seasoned fan, *Fame* will have you tapping your toes and feeling all the feels.

Grab your tickets now – **£8.00 each and available on ParentPay** - before they vanish faster than a Broadway ticket on opening night! Please remember to state which night you would like your ticket for.

So come join the fun, celebrate our incredible students, and experience a night full of energy, passion, and pure joy. We can't wait to see you there!

(Please note that some of the content may not be suitable for younger children).

Education Meets Celebration: Lighting Up Learning with Diwali!

Next week, our school will be sparkling with colour, culture, and curiosity as we celebrate Diwali—the Festival of Lights—as part of our faith education and inclusion programme. It's a joyful opportunity for students and staff of all backgrounds to share their traditions, explore new perspectives, and come together in celebration at the end of a busy half-term.



What's Happening? Lunchtime Lights & Learning! Get ready for a week of dazzling activities:

- Diwali crafts in the library—create, decorate, and take home a piece of the celebration
- Sand art on Watts Playground—watch vibrant designs come to life
- Henna hand art in Monk Foyer—beautiful patterns with cultural meaning
- Traditional & Bollywood dancing in the new dance studio (SP101)—come learn some moves
- Special Diwali curry at Wednesday lunch—spice, flavour, and festivity on a plate

The Rev will be sharing reflections on Diwali and the celebration of light in the Bible, while RE lessons dive into Hinduism and its rich traditions. Sixth formers are invited to wear traditional Hindu dress next week—let's fill the school with colour and pride!

This is more than a celebration—it’s a chance to learn, connect, and shine together. So bring your curiosity, your creativity, and your dancing shoes. It’s going to be a week to remember!

Year Eight PPR Evening

On 11th November, year eight parents and guardians will be invited to join us in a Promoting Positive Relationships Seminar in which we share and discuss the results of the year eight’s PPR survey; share highlights of the PPR day and then invite participation in some of the activities that their young people took part in during the day. It is usually fun and parents and guardians leave with lots of resources and ideas. A letter will be sent out next week with more details!

Behaviours for Aiming Higher

As we reach the end of this incredibly busy and successful half term, our Behaviour Curriculum is revisiting the key focuses from the past six weeks. These “basics” help create the calm, purposeful atmosphere that allows everyone to thrive. We’re proud of how positively students have responded and look forward to building on these strong foundations after the break.

Aim Higher – *Levavi Oculos*



 **This term we have been encouraged to:**

- 1 **Start Lessons Well** – be on time, ready, and proactive.
- 2 **End Lessons Well** – stay focused, and respect staff and spaces.
- 3 **Move Quickly Between Lessons** – travel calmly and efficiently.
- 4 **Support Open Evening** – represent our school.
- 5 **Wear Uniform Correctly** – take pride in our appearance.
- 6 **Support Each Other** – contribute positively and help our peers.

 **Aim Even Higher** – reflect on your own behaviours and ask yourself: how can I show the best of myself in every lesson, every corridor, and every event?

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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Autumnal Fun

We are blessed to have such beautiful grounds for our students to play in, whether it's organised games of football, running around chasing each other or enjoying the autumnal season and catching leaves and not a phone in sight.



News from the PSA

PSA AGM and Meeting: All Welcome

The PSA Annual General Meeting will be held on **Monday, 10th November at 7.00 p.m.** at school. All parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. The agenda includes reports from the Chair, Treasurer and Parent Governor, plus the election of PSA officer and subcommittee posts.

[View the AGM notice here](#) and RSVP to Carol Stevens at psa@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk.

The AGM will be followed by the **regular PSA meeting at 8pm** - all welcome to stay and share ideas for future events.

Christmas Ball: Tickets on Sale 🎄

Kickstart the festive season at the **St George's Christmas Ball on Saturday, 29 November**. Enjoy a night of great food, drinks, live music and good company.

Tickets are **£75 per person**, with tables of 12 or individual tickets available. All proceeds go directly to projects that benefit the school. [Buy your tickets here.](#)

HRFC Fireworks Night: Tickets Going Fast 🎆

Join us at Harpenden Rugby Football Club (AL5 2BA) on **Sunday, 2 November** for a spectacular evening of fireworks, music, food and family fun. Gates open at 4.00 p.m., fireworks at 6.00 p.m. [Book your tickets here](#) - 25% of ticket sales via this link support St George's.



Follow us on Instagram [@psastgeorges](https://www.instagram.com/psastgeorges) for the latest news and events.



Raise free funds for St George's every time you shop online via [Give As You Live](#).

Is my child too ill for school?

Sometimes it's hard to know what to do for the best when your child has a minor illness or a cold but the NHS advice is to send them to school! The NHS guidance is that schools should continue to maintain high attendance expectations and refer parents to this NHS [guidance](#) to know when a child is too ill for school.

Pupils shouldn't miss school on a precautionary basis and can normally attend with a mild cough or cold, unless they have a fever or diarrhoea or vomiting.

How to keep children safe this Halloween

Halloween can be an exciting time of year for children, dressing up and going out after dark. But, whilst Halloween is supposed to be spooky there are some horrors that families will want to avoid. So, here are some top tips for a safe Halloween from the Child Accident Prevent Trust [Halloween and Children's Safety \(CAPT\)](#)



Cecil Grant Founder's Trust

As part of our school community, we have a wonderful opportunity to support the Cecil Grant Founder's Trust, which helps provide essential equipment and resources for our children. All donations are given to the school for immediate use for the benefit of the students now. This year we will be funding books, subscriptions, student handbooks, awards and badges, PE transport, computers, chromebooks, art supplies, the new drama suite and much more.



- Suggested donation: £25 per month (or whatever is achievable, more if at all possible) per child (if you have siblings, please consider matching the amount for each child)
- Payment method: Set up a monthly direct debit to the Cecil Grant Founders Trust, using the link <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/25388>
- Gift Aid: Don't forget to tick Gift Aid if you're eligible – it increases your donation at no extra cost to you.
- Bank statement reference: Payments will show as "Charitable Donation" – please don't be concerned or cancel thinking it's an error.
- Ask your HR department about employee match funding opportunities.

Your contribution, whatever the size, makes a real difference. Thank you so much for your support!

Ben Noakes (CGFT Chair) bnoakes@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk or CGFT@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk

Come and learn to teach!

We are proud to be a placement school for Initial Teacher Training at Alban TSH who offer flexible, highly personalised, school-based routes into teacher training. This includes: tuition fee paying, assessment only and Postgraduate Teacher Apprenticeship for a wide range of secondary courses as well as primary (5-11 and 3-7). There is also the opportunity to gain PGCE status in addition to QTS. Alban TSH is an experienced provider of teacher training and has established partnerships with many outstanding schools in the region. Get in touch with our team teaching@albantsh.co.uk to find out more.

Applications are now open!

Train in the classroom
from day one with our
ITT programme.

Register
today!





Hertfordshire County Council Services for Young People

Creative Spark Project

**at Harpenden Young People's
Centre**

**Harpenden Young People's Centre
27 High Street Harpenden, AL5 2RU**

**Join us every Tuesday
6pm-8pm**

for Young People aged 11-17

Creative Spark Project is designed for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 11 to 17, including those with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs. The focus is on developing communication and interpersonal skills, confidence and self-esteem in a safe and supportive environment.

Young people will get support from qualified SfYP youth workers, meet other young people with SEND in their area and learn skills to help them live more independently. SfYP Youth Workers also offer individualised support with emotional wellbeing, healthy relationships, staying safe, nutrition and cooking, and managing money.

Use the QR code below for more details
or contact the SfYP St Albans Team

Tel: 01442 454060
sfyp.stalbans@hertfordshire.gov.uk
www.servicesforyoungpeople.org

   @HCCSFYP



**HCC Services for
Young People**

Enabling young
people to succeed



Percussion Day!

at Mid Herts Music Centre

Join us for an exciting day of steelpans, djembe, engine room percussion and more!

Led by specialist tutors from Hertfordshire Music Service.

Open to all students in years 4-9, no experience required.



Thursday 20th November 2025



9.30am - 2.45pm, performance at 2.30pm



Mid Herts Centre for Music & Arts



£30 per pupil



Scan me for more



01707 270025



www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/HMS-MidHerts



**Hertfordshire
Music Service**

Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Parent Support Group



**YOUTH
TALK**

**Are you worried
about your
child?**

**Would you like
some help &
support?**

**If so, why not
join us**

Get in contact

01727 868684 

info@youthtalk.org.uk 

**YOUTH
TALK**
We're listening

Youth Talk is running a series of groups for parents of young people 13-25 in St Albans District who are looking for support and help. The group will enable parents to share experiences, learn from each other, offer mutual support and discuss the challenges that come with parenting young people who are growing up.

The group will run for 6 weeks on Saturdays 10.00am-11.15am for parents of young people who are not already accessing Youth Talk or other mental health services.

Two experienced therapists will facilitate the group to provide a safe, confidential, reflective space to explore concerns and ideas together. A commitment to attending all 6 sessions is helpful to build a sense of cohesion and trust.

The group will be run in Southdown, Harpenden, where there is plenty of parking and close to other transport links.

Interested in joining? Email us at info@youthtalk.org.uk or call 01727 868684

**Free,
confidential
support**