

St. George's School Newsletter

Wednesday 22nd October



From the Head

As we reach the end of a busy and productive half-term, I want to take a moment to thank everyone, pupils, staff, and families, for all that has been achieved over these past weeks. For me, the character of our pupils and the strength of the relationships we share at St George's remain a true source of pride.

Across the half-term, we have welcomed numerous visitors to the school (including local councillor, Madeleine Clark this week). Time and again they have remarked upon how kind, thoughtful and responsive our pupils are. It is always affirming to hear what we already know and see daily in classrooms, houses, and around the site: that our young people embody the spirit of St George's in their interactions with others.

Last night's House Music competition was a truly fitting way to bring the half-term to a close. The energy, creativity and sheer joy on display were remarkable, and it was wonderful to see pupils, and staff, participating with such enthusiasm. My thanks go to everyone who made it possible and in particular to Ms Humphrey, Mr Burrett, and Mr Muris for their tremendous work in the lead-up to the competition and on the night. Congratulations to **GRANT HOUSE** on their well-deserved victory!

The half-term break is a wonderful chance for pupils to rest, recharge, and spend time with family. At the same time, it can be helpful to encourage them to think about how they might be a **"friend to their future selves."** What small steps could they take in the early days of the holiday to make the return to school easier?

Especially for older pupils, this might mean revising or consolidating learning early in the break, so the remainder of the holiday can be enjoyed without the pressure of unfinished work. Others simply need to get books and equipment ready in advance of two Monday's time. Taking care of these tasks early can reduce anxiety and create a smoother start to the new half-term.

Ask your child: **How can you be a friend to your future self?** Have a wonderful half-term break!

Parent Governor Election Result

I would like to extend sincere thanks to the ten parents who generously offered themselves as candidates in this year's Parent Governor election. Your willingness to contribute to the life of the School and support its governance is greatly appreciated.

We also thank all parents and carers who took the time to vote: your engagement in this process is an important part of shaping the future of our School.

We are delighted to announce that **Sarah Bramall** and **Nick Westlake** have been duly elected as Parent Governors. I very much look forward to working with them as they represent all parents and carers on the Board over the coming years. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Grant House for winning Inter-house Music last night!



The scores on the Endeavour Cup Doors after the first half-term:

- GRANT 28.5
- WATTS 26.0
- GODDARD 20.5
- MONK 15.0

There are many more events taking place half-term, so encourage your children to take part!

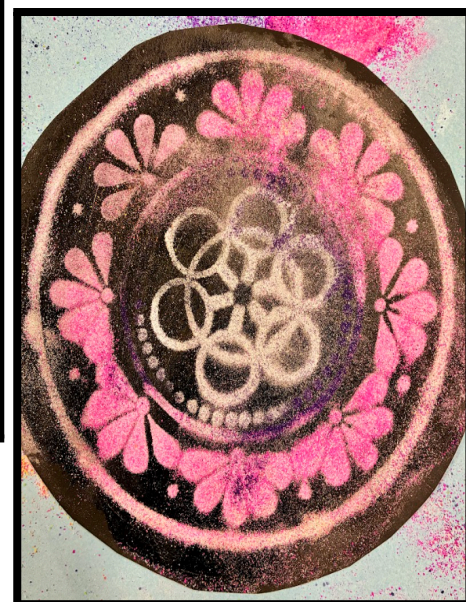
The School has Shone with Diwali

The school has been bursting with colour, creativity, and celebration as we lit up the week with Diwali! As part of our faith education and inclusion programme, students dove into the magic of this joyful festival, discovering why Diwali is such a meaningful occasion for those in the Hindu, Sikh, and Jain communities.

From crafting vibrant Rangoli discs and sparkling Diyas lamps to swirling through Bollywood dance moves and designing intricate henna patterns, the energy has been electric! The Rev's chapel talk on the power of light across different faiths was truly inspiring—and yes, the Diwali curry was a total hit!

We are very proud of the incredible diversity within our community and the way our students embrace the chance to learn about different faiths, cultures, and traditions. Their curiosity and openness are what make our school so special.

Now more than ever, it's vital that our young people look beyond themselves—reaching out, lifting others up, and building a world that celebrates everyone. And this week, they've shown us just how brightly that light can shine!



WhatsApp Warning

There have been reports of a new WhatsApp circulating locally titled 'Add Everyone You Know in the UK' and we are aware that the police have been informed of this. This group contains highly inappropriate adult content as well an environment of inappropriate and offensive language that many students will find distressing. We ask that you talk to your children if they have this App and whether they have been added. We are recommending that you remove and block this group.

To protect your child from being added to any future groups without their consent, please change their WhatsApp privacy settings:

- 1. Tap Settings
- 2. Tap Privacy then groups
- 3. Select 'My Contacts except ...'
- 4. Then select every single contact in their address book.

This ensures that no-one can add your child to any WhatsApp group without sending them a private invitation which they must choose to accept.

Progress Reviews for Years 7, 10, 11 & 12 are now available

Progress Reviews have now been released giving feedback on how your young people have started this academic year. If you have a child in any of these year groups then do take a moment to view their early Progress Review that is now available via the documents section of their EduLink account.

If you need any help with getting onto Edulink, [Click here](#)

Autumn Fun in T-Club

T-Club has burst into the season with a whirlwind of creativity! Our newest students have been diving headfirst into a festive flurry of Autumn and Halloween-themed arts and crafts—and the results are nothing short of spellbinding.

From leafy masterpieces to spooky surprises, their work has transformed Learning Support into a gallery of seasonal wonder. Every piece tells a story of imagination, colour, and joyful expression.



Cross Country: Off to a Flying Start!

The start of the new school year has raced by and our Cross Country team hit the ground running—literally! Year 7s kicked things off with gusto, diving into their first full week at St. George's by charging through the Mob race. It was brilliant to see so many fresh faces proudly representing the school.

From there, the momentum only built. Our runners have raced through Thursday evenings at KWS, Townsend, Nicholas Breakspear, Verulam, and most recently, the District Champs at Westminster Lodge. The results? Nothing short of spectacular:

Scarlett L, Leo McD, Ed G, and Zach J have been blazing trails, consistently landing in the top 3.

The Inter Boys team stormed into 2nd place in the District League—an incredible team effort!

A massive well done to every runner—you've poured heart, grit, and determination into every stride. We're proud of you!

Training continues every Monday and Wednesday lunchtime. Lace up, show up, and keep that fire burning

Year 12: Driving Change in Our Community

Last week, a brilliant group of our Year 12 changemakers stepped up to the plate, meeting with local councillor Madeleine Clark and her team to talk about what young people really need in Harpenden and St Albans. Their voices joined those of students from other Harpenden secondary schools—and they were heard loud and clear. But that's not all. Some of our students have also been invited to help shape next week's interview with the Mayor and the Harpenden United Nations Association, crafting questions that matter. It's another exciting step in our journey as not just a school, but an active, thoughtful part of the wider community.

The councillors were full of praise for our students' energy, creativity, and forward-thinking ideas. We're thrilled to keep building this partnership—with some standout opportunities coming up during UK Parliament Week (24–30 November). Stay tuned!



Co Curricular

A busy week as we head into Half Term! Our Politics & Business trip has departed for the USA, and House Music took place on Tuesday Night.. no doubt you have heard who won!?

When we return to school, we have Interhouse Boys' Football starting along with the launch of our Interhouse creative writing competition. Our U12s have a netball match against Samuel Ryder and our Year 12 Art students visit the Tate Gallery. A busy first week back!

Lacrosse games on 8th November are at **home** against STAHS and Rugby is a mix of home and away games against New Hall School - lots to look forward to!

A Remembrance chapel will be held on 9th November.

Lacrosse Friday Night Lights

Our senior Lacrosse team are having their annual 'Friday Night lights' at Harpenden Rugby Club on Friday 7th November against STAHS. It would be great to see you there to support the team. All are welcome and it is an inspirational game for all years to come and watch to see a good standard of play! The draw will be at 6.30 p.m.

Do you work in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)?

Would you like to share the wonders of your career with our students and inspire a generation of Scientists? Look no further!

The Science Department is setting up a series of lunchtime sessions for students to hear about careers in Science. We are looking for anyone interested in doing a short presentation to our students, followed by a quick Q&A about your career in STEM. It should be about 15-20 minutes.

If you would like more information, please send an email to Mrs Sandhu (msandhu@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk) who can get the process started. Thank you!

Request for lidded plastic containers

As the festive season approaches, if you have any spare lidded plastic containers (sweet tubs are ideal) it would be appreciated if they could be passed on to the Food Department for use as spare containers. The staff would be very grateful. Thank you in advance.

News from the PSA: Tickets Now on Sale!

Christmas Ball: Saturday, 29th November

An evening of great food, drinks, live music and good company. Tickets are £75 per person (tables of 12 or individual tickets available). [Buy your tickets here](#) - all proceeds support school projects.

HRFC Fireworks Night: Sunday, 2nd November

Join us at Harpenden Rugby Football Club for fireworks, music, food and family fun. Gates open at 4pm, fireworks at 6pm. [Book here](#) - 25% of ticket sales via this link support St George's.

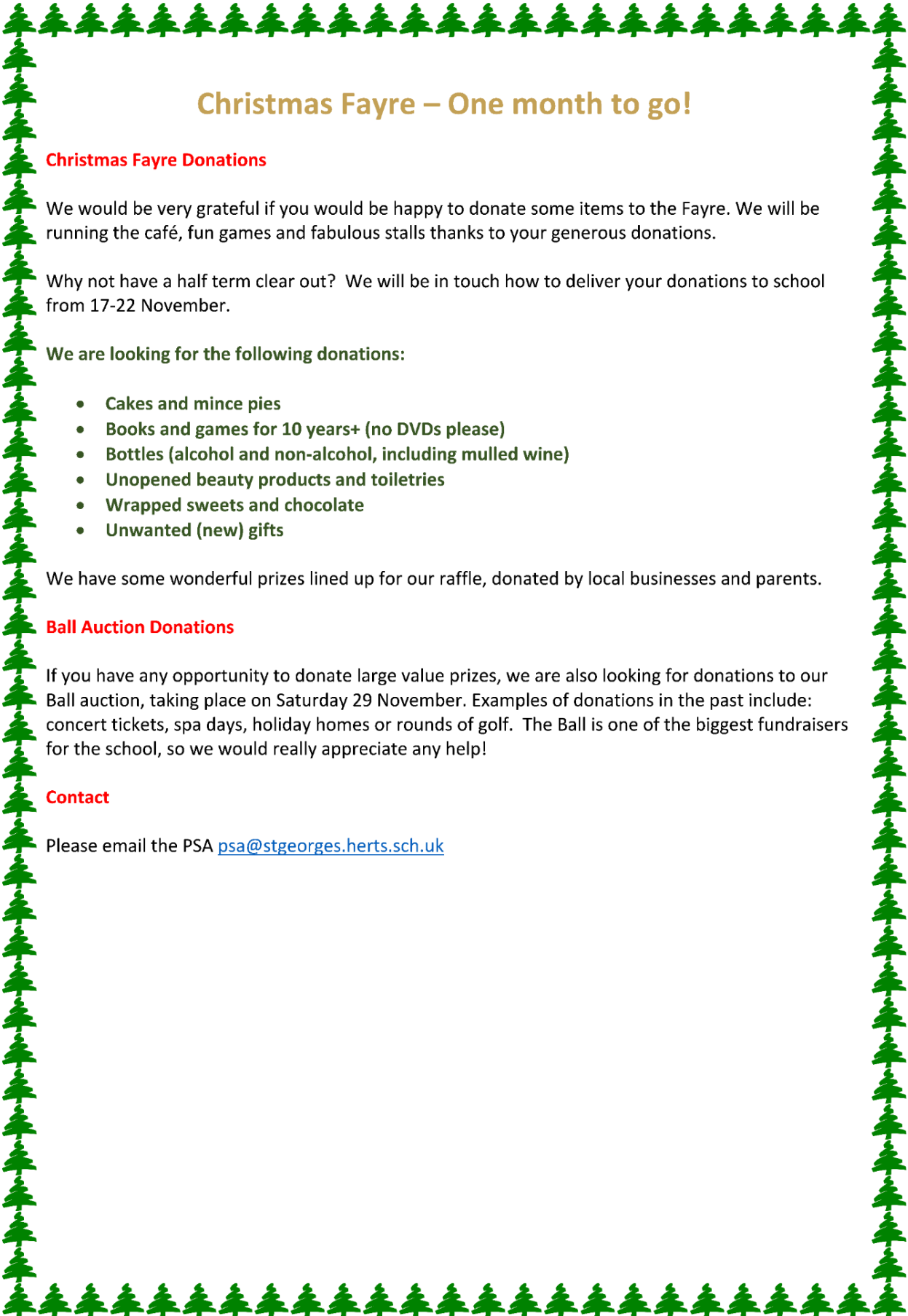
Bar Volunteers - Thank You!

A huge thank you to everyone who helped run the bar at the House Music Preview Night. Your support made the evening a success!

Join Us: PSA Vice-Chair

We are looking for a new Vice-Chair to join the PSA committee. The role supports the Chair in leading the committee, managing meetings, organising PSA activities, as well as working with the Secretary and event sub-committees when needed. If you're interested, please email psa@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk by Monday, 3rd November.

Give as you Live



Christmas Fayre – One month to go!

Christmas Fayre Donations

We would be very grateful if you would be happy to donate some items to the Fayre. We will be running the café, fun games and fabulous stalls thanks to your generous donations.

Why not have a half term clear out? We will be in touch how to deliver your donations to school from 17-22 November.

We are looking for the following donations:

- Cakes and mince pies
- Books and games for 10 years+ (no DVDs please)
- Bottles (alcohol and non-alcohol, including mulled wine)
- Unopened beauty products and toiletries
- Wrapped sweets and chocolate
- Unwanted (new) gifts

We have some wonderful prizes lined up for our raffle, donated by local businesses and parents.

Ball Auction Donations

If you have any opportunity to donate large value prizes, we are also looking for donations to our Ball auction, taking place on Saturday 29 November. Examples of donations in the past include: concert tickets, spa days, holiday homes or rounds of golf. The Ball is one of the biggest fundraisers for the school, so we would really appreciate any help!

Contact

Please email the PSA psa@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk