



# St Georges Church School and Nursery



## NEWSLETTER

Spring Term 3 2025

Dear families,

It has been yet another jam-packed term with so much happening across the school.

It's been a strange one for me as I've not been here as often, due to supporting another school in the Trust, but I know St Georges has been led well by Sarah Starr, Hannah Neilan and Charlotte McConnell, with support from all the staff. These temporary arrangements will continue into Term 4.

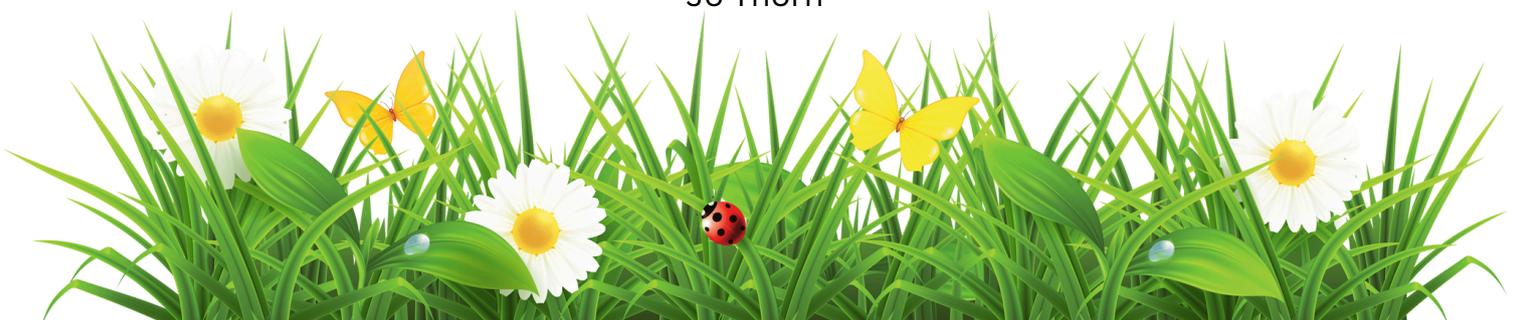
It is exciting to see Dance Club up and running and it's always a highlight to see Year 3 shine on the stage at the North Somerset Dance Festival.

I wanted to particularly focus on the developments within SEND. Sarah Starr has been working incredibly hard to build the final piece of the SEND jigsaw puzzle by re-designing the targeted approach for children in our school on the register of need. Although this process has been in place for sometime and children with SEND are making good progress, this system means that parental communication and the tracking of children's journey of provision through the school is now exceptional. We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers of children with SEND on Wednesday 26th February to our launch event, where there will be professionals from the local authority, along with teachers, to support parents / carers and discuss targets.

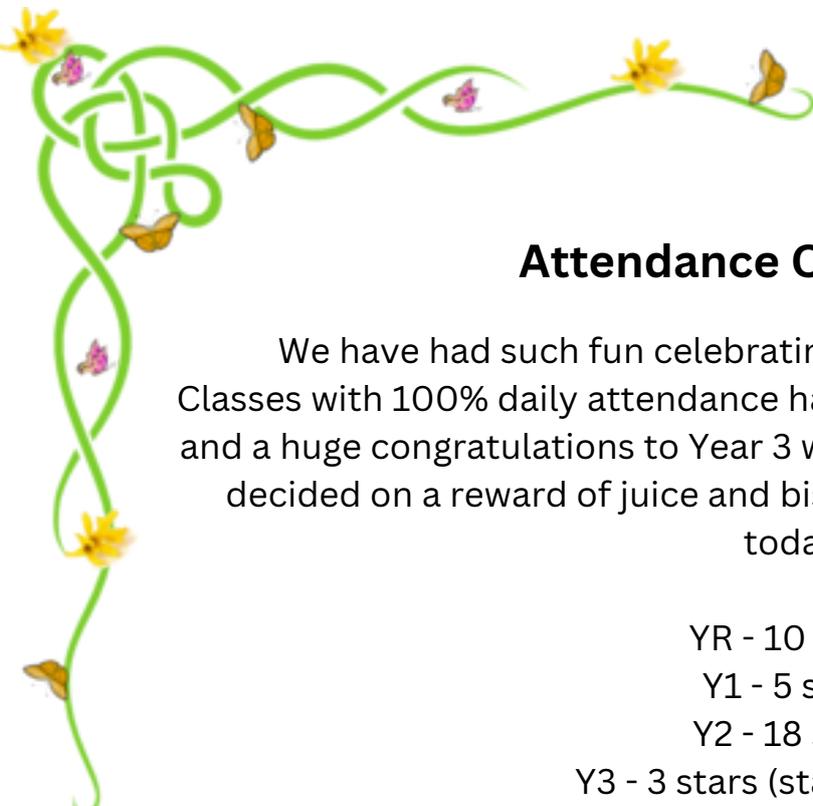
Finally, as we approach one of my favourite times of year, take time to pause and look carefully outside, as our environment is slowly waking up and coming to life... the birds singing in the morning, buds on trees and daffodils beginning to make an appearance! Spring is a time when we often feel like making a fresh start and like we always say to the children, there's nothing we can't achieve with a positive mindset and determination.

Whatever you are doing over the holidays, I hope you manage to connect with loved ones, find some joy and make great memories.

Warmest wishes,  
Jo Thorn



**All things are possible for one who believes**



## Attendance Celebrations

We have had such fun celebrating good attendance this term! Classes with 100% daily attendance have been earning 'stars for their jars' and a huge congratulations to Year 3 who were the first to achieve 20 - we decided on a reward of juice and biscuits which they will be enjoying today!

YR - 10 stars

Y1 - 5 stars

Y2 - 18 stars

Y3 - 3 stars (started again!)

Y4 - 17 stars

Y5 - 19 stars

Y6 - 19 stars

The children are still really enjoying collecting body parts for their class Mr Potato Head too! When classes have at least 97% weekly attendance they get to add a body part during celebration worship - once completed they will be rewarded with a games afternoon. There are lots of classes very close!

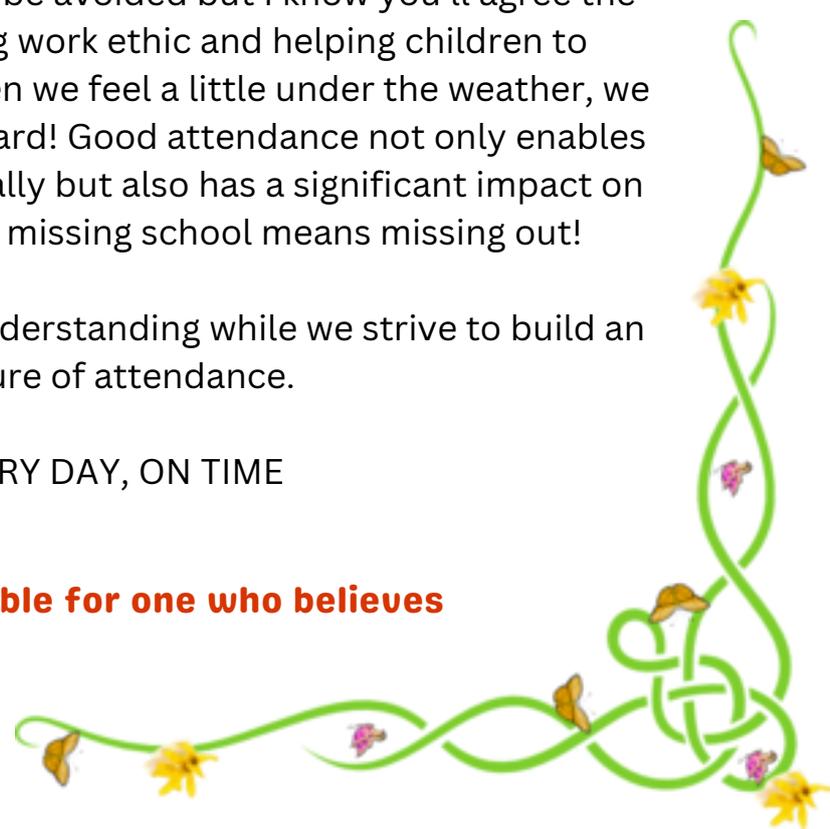
Cecil continues to fly to the class with the highest weekly attendance too!

We know that some absence can't be avoided but I know you'll agree the importance of instilling a strong work ethic and helping children to understand that, even on days when we feel a little under the weather, we still have to put our best foot forward! Good attendance not only enables children to achieve well academically but also has a significant impact on them socially and emotionally - missing school means missing out!

Thank you for your support and understanding while we strive to build an excellent culture of attendance.

ALL DAY, EVERY DAY, ON TIME

**All things are possible for one who believes**



# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO...?

Nursery - Acorn class have welcomed new children into our community, and we are proud of how well they have settled. We have been busy exploring traditional tales like, The Three Little Pigs, The Three Bears and Little Red Riding Hood. We have enjoyed thinking about the character The Big Bad Wolf!



Animals have been a big enjoyment for us all, building homes for them and listening to sounds they make. Our fine motor skills have been developed cutting paper, fruit and playdoh. In maths we are counting, exploring tall and short and hunting for different shapes. We love thinking about our families when we are at nursery, so we have been drawing who we live with.

Acorn class have enjoyed learning this term and can't wait for more fun.

Reception - Willow class have had a dino-rrific term, learning all about all things dinosaur! We were amazed on our first day of Term 3 to enter the classroom and discover a dinosaur egg, along with a letter from Professor Bones asking for our help in taking care of it. We quickly set to work creating it a safe and welcoming habitat and preparing for it's arrival. Imagine our shock when later in the week we found a cracked egg and a video of the dinosaur creating chaos in our school!

Over the term we have learnt about the different types of dinosaurs, even investigating dinosaur poo to see if it came from a herbivore or a carnivore – this activity was a firm favourite with many of the children! We look forward to our dinosaur museum on Wednesday 12th February where we will celebrate all of our learning this term with our families.



Year 1 - Pine class have been busy exploring the seasons and how trees and plants change from winter to spring. We went outside over a few weeks and saw how buds are beginning to appear on the blossom trees.



Our art topic is also linked to weather and we have been creating weather symbols using pebbles, buttons and straws.

Our English stories have been 'The Way Back Home' and 'My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes'. The children have had great imaginations and through their 'inventuring' have come up with some great writing using nouns and adjectives.

Year 2 - Beech class have been busy starting a new project, all about the coastline! We have loved reading 'The Great Storm Whale' and using it to write our own stories and letters. We also learnt how to draw the main character, Noi, by following along with a draw-along by the author and illustrator of the book Benji Davies.

As theologians, we have been finding out about Judaism and, in particular, the Sedar meal. We made charoset and also tasted some Matzo crackers - which we loved!

In addition, we became citizen scientists, when we took part in the Big School's Birdwatch and submitted our findings to the RSPB.





Year 3 - This term Juniper class have used their guided reading book, Owen and the Soldier, as a focus for our English. We learnt that they were trying to remove a war memorial monument from Owen's town and we learnt how these are to the people and their communities. Class 3 wrote very thought provoking persuasive letters to the council to help stop the removal.

Our main project has changed this term and we are learning about rocks in geography. We have spent the term as geologists learning everything we can from the different types of rock, from identifying to studying fossils. We are excited for next term to start to understand how volcanos erupt.

Year 4 - Aspen class have been busy with a variety of activities across many subjects this term. We have been continuing to delve into the life of Oslaf, an imaginary young Angle warrior who moves to Britain, in our guided reading historical story called "Winter of the Wolves". We have also been showing great focus with Mrs Neilan in the "states of matter" topic for science; one highlight was working collaboratively and conscientiously when making and then investigating the properties of Oobleck.

We have been working hard to tackle some of the complexities of multiplication and division methods, helped by growing momentum in embedding our times tables through regular step counting and Times Table Rock Stars practice.

We have also been learning all about the features of rivers in geography and have been busy discussing and debating some of Sidhartha Guatama's truths in our Buddhism unit in RE.



Year 5 - As scientist and citizens this term year 5 were busy exploring the life cycles of different parts of the animal kingdom (including our own). As computer technologist and musicians, we have been programming devices to make sound and adjusting variables to alter beat, tempo and other outputs. As athletes, we have been impressing the swimming instructors at Hutton Moor who have been blown away by the high standard of swimming and water safety from the class.

In class I have been really impressed by the massive improvement we have made from last year on short division across the class and they all deserve a big well done for this in particular. Our inspiration for writing was the very descriptive and enjoyable novel "Tyger" by S F Siad. Other titles by the same author your child might like to explore over half term include Phenoix or (my personal favourite) Varjak Paw.

Year 6 - Birch Class Year 6 have been working hard during Term 3 and had another really successful assessment week -well done to all of them on their hard work and resilience!

This term, we have focussed on our 'Frozen Kingdoms' unit, exploring the Polar regions - their topography, wildlife, climates and the concept of Polar day and night. We have also explored Inuit art and created our own artwork inspired by Kenojuak Ashevak. In science, we've investigated electricity - looking at how different circuit components affect a current, and testing batteries' voltage. Our writing this term has developed our skills in creating mystery and suspense, and in our maths we have worked on fractions, decimals and percentages and the relationship between them. We also used our amazing mathematical knowledge to be school champions in the Times Table Rockstars challenge on Numbers Day!

Next term, we will be starting booster sessions for Reading and Maths. Please do send your child if they are invited - squash, biscuits and smiles will be provided!



**All things are possible for one who believes**



## After School Provision

Following previous feedback from parents/carers, we have worked with Future Stars to offer families longer hours of wraparound care. Unfortunately the uptake has not reflected the need expressed in the feedback. For this to be sustainable, more children need to be using the service.

[www.futurestarscoaching.co.uk](http://www.futurestarscoaching.co.uk) \* 01275 390902 \*  
[info@futurestarscoaching.co.uk](mailto:info@futurestarscoaching.co.uk)

## Anti-Bullying Policy

We are in the process of redrafting the Anti-Bullying Policy and would really appreciate your views, as parents/carers. If you are interested in joining Jo Thorn to share your views over a cup of tea, then please get in touch or send your views into the office. Thank you.



## Reading at St Georges

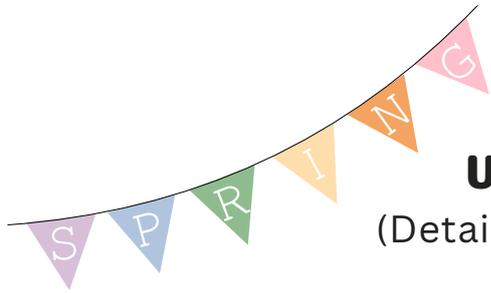
We are proud of the reading provision we offer the children in school and evidence has shown that reading to an adult outside of school, on a regular basis, develops children's reading skills further. Please see the attached information sheet, including a handy bookmark for your children to use, for some more information about how you can support your child's reading at home.

### *We need you!*

We currently have a small army of parents who come into school regularly to listen to children read, and we are on the look out for a few more. Can you spare an hour, one afternoon a week, to listen to children read? We would be extremely grateful for your support. If you can, please let Mrs Cooper know.  
Thank you.

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## Upcoming Dates for School

(Details of events will be sent in due course)

- **Monday 24th February** - First day of Term 4
- **Tuesday 25th February** - Y4 swimming starts
- **Thursday 27th February** - Y4 Hooke Court parents/carers meeting
- **Tuesday 4th March** - PTFA Sponsored Pancake Flip!
- **Thursday 6th March** - World Book Day
- **Tuesday 18th March** - Y5 Experience Easter (Worle Baptist Church)
- **Thursday 20th March** - Y2 family worship (families welcome)
- **Tuesday 25th - Wednesday 26th March** - Y5 Bikeability (Group 1)
- **Wednesday 26th March** - Y4 Bikeability (Group 1)
- **Wednesday 26th March** - Dance Club Dance Festival
- **Tuesday 1st - Wednesday 2nd April** - Y5 Bikeability (Group 2)
- **Wednesday 2nd April** - Y4 Bikeability (Group 2)
- **Friday 4th April** - Last day of Term 4
- **Tuesday 22nd April** - Inset day
- **Wednesday 23rd April** - First day of Term 5
- **Wednesday 23rd - Friday 25th April** - Y4 Hooke Court residential

**Upcoming dates for Nursery will be sent by the Nursery Team**

At St Georges, we know that supporting children to have **good mental health** is paramount to supporting them to be the **very best version of themselves**. Please take a look on our **school website** for more information on ways in which we can support your children in school.

Additionally, help and support can be found through the support lines below:

**Childline** - call 0800 1111. freephone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**The Young Minds Parents Helpline**, freephone on 0808 802 5544 (9.30am-4pm, Monday-Friday, UK)

**Samaritans** - call 116 123, freephone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Text based service - text the word 'shout' to 85258. This is a free and confidential messaging service available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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