



# ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL

## Weekly Newsletter

Friday 8th March 2024

### Information



Today, we celebrate women's strength, resilience, and achievements everywhere. At St. George's we're proud to support and empower women and girls in all their endeavours and aim to encourage all of our students to be supportive of each other and to recognise the unique qualities of everyone and to be inclusive of all.

### 15TH MARCH: NON-UNIFORM DAY AND SPDOF 2024

Hi Everyone,

We (the 2023-24 Prefect Team) are putting on our last ever event: SPDOF! (Senior Prefects' Day of Fun) SPDOF is an annual event and it stands for Senior Prefect Day of Fun. All of the prefects have been working on a very exciting performance for the last couple of weeks and we will perform it 1:30-2:50 (during Lunch and Friday 5) on Friday 15th March. It includes a special St George's version of 'The Masked Singer' with four surprise members of staff taking to the mic in our house mascot costumes! SPDOF raises money for different charities every year. This year we decided to raise money for St Albans District Food Bank and Comic Relief (our performance is on Red Nose Day!)

We ask that **all** students who wish to participate in the non-uniform day on Friday 15th March to pay **£2** (this can be done via ParentPay).

Any students that would like to come and watch the performance need to **also** purchase a ticket for £5 (also on ParentPay). Unfortunately, because they have FRiday 5 talks that they cannot miss, tickets will not be available for students in Years 10 or 12.

Before the performance there will be a tuck shop where students can buy snacks and drinks to have during the performance! All money raised will go to our two charities!

We would also like to take this moment to thank you for your support this last year. All of the events we have had the privilege of helping to organise would not have been possible without your efforts. Your enthusiasm helps make our school a really special place to be! We promise we leave you in excellent hands with the incoming prefect team and thanks again for your continued support of our community!

Yours Sincerely,

The 2023-4 School Captains (Seb, Alice and Sarah)

On behalf of the entire Prefect Team!



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## SPD OF 2024

Travelling Through The Decades



Goddard: The 70s

Tickets  
35



Watts: The 80s



Grant: The 90s

Non-Uniform  
32



Monk: The 00s

Tickets go on sale Friday 8th March on ParentPay  
Performance and Non-Uniform Day : Friday 5 on  
the 15th March



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### Maintaining our standards

Next week we will be looking at tutor times in school. Tutor time is a valuable part of our school day when students can spend time with their tutor group and tutor. Please do encourage your young person to speak to their tutor about anything important to them – tutors are there to support students in all aspects of their school life.

### Focus on... TUTOR TIME

- The register should be taken in silence - answer the register as your tutor prefers i.e. Sir/Miss or their full name
- Notices should also be listened to in silence
- There will often be activities to complete in tutor time - take part as directed by your tutor
- Whilst it's helpful to have some work to do if you have a spare moment, homework shouldn't be left until the last minute to complete in tutor base!
- Use the time to chat to your tutor about anything that is on your mind - they are there to support you



#### KINDNESS

Support younger year groups with their work if you're working on the same subjects/topics

#### POSITIVITY

Respond positively to your tutor's suggestions of activities - it will brighten their day!

### **Students who miss Year 10 and 12 internal exams**

If your child is absent from one of their end of year exams this summer, please email in their absence in the normal way and phone the Exams Office on 01582 716242, leaving a voicemail if necessary. This should be done for each day of absence, preferably by 8.30 a.m. These exams may not be rescheduled during the exam period due to logistical reasons (over 400 students taking exams, lack of spare venues and invigilators etc.) and because of the nature of specific exams. However, once back in school, the Head of Department will offer students the chance to sit the missed exams which will be sat in controlled conditions at school.

We are unable to send any exam papers home to complete nor are we allowed to send exam papers home once the exam has been marked to comply with JCQ's guidance on retaining students' work as future evidence.

### **Chapel:**

Advanced warning, next week ( 17th March) is an evening service, but also our Confirmation Service. It is likely to be a longer service than normal AND there is likely to be only limited tickets available.



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### Support for Year 10

Over the next few weeks, we will be supporting all of our year 10 students with the following sessions:

1. Learning and study skills
2. Learning and memory skills
3. Support network and resilience

We are mindful as always of getting the messaging to our students right in that we encourage them to revise and do well but we remind them that their mental health and well-being are equally as important and give them strategies to make sure that they are well equipped to look after themselves.

### SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR (Mon 11th – Fri 15th March)

Advance notice that the Library will be hosting its annual book fair next week. Students will be able to browse the fair at break, lunchtimes and also during any lessons booked into the Library. As usual, there will be a brilliant selection of books, posters and stationery, so please encourage students to come along and have a look. Your support is much appreciated as the Library receives commission on any sales, so it's a great opportunity to stock the Library with new titles!

## Actions

### Want to follow National Schools Lacrosse ?

This massive event involves 50 schools; 49 independents, and us. We have teams in the Senior 1st and 2nd event (Saturday and Sunday), Senior 3rds and U15 A and B on Monday, and U14 A and U13 A on Tuesday. That's 126 girls.

If you want to know when our teams are playing you can find the programme at

<https://www.nationalschoolslacrosse.com/>

and you can also set up to get score updates for your chosen teams at

<https://www.macooco.com/index.php?r=home/default/tournaments>

If you want to see photos over the tournament period, follow stgeorgeslax on Instagram

Good luck to all our teams.

## Thoughts

Last Thursday at about 11.00am I thought I was about to peg it. Gasping for breath....feeling a bit light headed and then being forced to climb the steepest set of steps in what seemed like the whole planet was nearly the end of me. But when you have already conquered the preceding 470 steps of Brunelleschi's Dome on the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence, the only way really is up! My only consolation was that the super fit teenager next to me, was also breathing quite heavily and also commented on those last 10 or so steps. For me the whole experience brought home to me two things..... and one wasn't how unfit I am!



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600 years old and 200 years in the making, Brunelleschi's dome is a feat of engineering that is a marvel to behold, and on that steep climb up you can really appreciate the intricate structure that it is, and the breathtaking skill that it took to create it. Exquisitely decorated on the inside to reveal an image of the heavens; with a floor pattern below that makes you feel as if you are falling into the abyss that is hell, and with a staircase that seems at times to be leading you upwards, whilst you walk at a slightly distorted 30 degree angle - nothing about the experience is normal or ordinary. These buildings were meant to inspire; to bring awe and wonder and to survive. One much younger member of our party wondered aloud as we approached, as to what we are creating that will survive the ravages of time and still be standing in the year 2600? Sadly I had to retort that I had a feeling - not much. Who would build a building today, which at the outset, you had no idea as to how you were going to put the roof on? So the first thing to resonate was sometimes we need to have the confidence to start the journey/build, even if we do not currently have all of the skills or knowhow to finish the project. We need to have the confidence to know that we will be able to work it out.

The second is much less deep. Never give up..... Sometimes you just have to slog it out..take your time....pace yourself and not worry about the (much younger and fitter) competition...because given the time and space to achieve, it really doesn't matter if you are 17 or 57, we can all make it to the top, and when we do the view is just spectacular.



Big thanks to the Art department who allowed me to gatecrash their Florence Trip. After 30 years of school trips, within which I have either run or been part of at least 60 residential opportunities to travel with young people, it was a great way to finish.

Whatever you are doing this weekend....enjoy the challenge, and if the going gets tough....keep persevering.

**Signposting (click on each to find out more)**

**PLAYING OUR PART TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY**