



# ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL

## Weekly Newsletter

15th December 2022

### Information



### Ding Dong Merrily on High!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our fantastic Carol Services; those who ran the choirs; who joined in the singing and who helped us to focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

### Chapel news

This week we continue our Advent services lighting the candles and looking forward to the birth of the Christ child. Mr Storrie has taken our house chapels using 'Home Alone' as an inspiration for forgiveness and healing (ask your children about who Marley really is!!).

We have been praying for year 11 mocks and some of the year 13 interviews for universities in our morning prayer on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

A busy weekend of three Carol services; Saturday at 3pm we have our Old Georgian Carols and Sunday at 5pm and 7pm we have our Nine lessons in Carols...all welcome

Isaiah 6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Rev Warner  
St Georges School Chaplain



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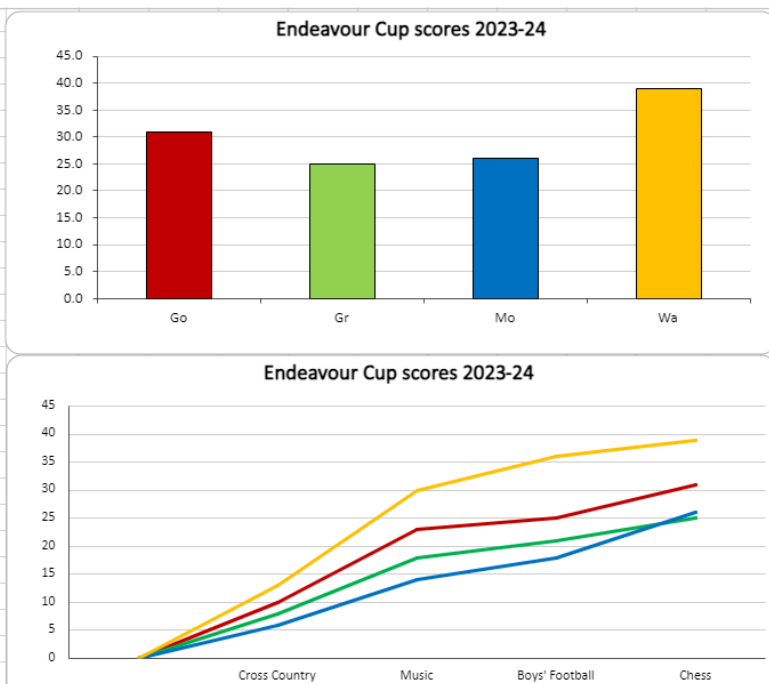
## Weekly Newsletter

### Christmas Jumper Day - MONDAY 18th DECEMBER

To coincide with Christmas Lunch on Monday, we are encouraging all students to wear their Christmas jumpers if they wish to. If they wish to take part, their **Christmas jumper** replaces the school jumper and needs to be **worn along with their full school uniform** (including their blazer).

### Endeavour Cup Latest - Watts' lead cut in chess shock...

	Go	Gr	Mo	Wa
Cross Country	10	8	6	13
Music	13	10	8	17
Boys' Football	2	3	4	6
Chess	6	4	8	3
Art				
Badminton				
Drama				
Basketball				
Netball				
Rugby				
Lacrosse				
Debating				
Swimming				
Photography				
Girls' Football				
Quiz				
Cricket				
Rounders				
Tennis				
Dance				
Sports Day				
<b>Total</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>



### Chapel Next Term

It'll not be news that St George's students in Years 7 to 11 are required to attend 3 Sunday Chapel Services each term. As a point of clarification, students are not allowed to commute surplus Chapel tickets from one term to the next.

It is also worth flagging that there are 'only' 9 services next term (see table below) and that assumes no snow closures. Please encourage your young person to plan in advance which they will attend. Please note that:

- Some services will be very busy with spaces allocated on a first come basis.
- Once the Chapel is full for a service, no other students will be allowed to enter meaning they will not be able to participate and will not receive a Chapel ticket.
- Students who arrive in good time - we advise **at least** 10 minutes before the start - are highly unlikely to have any issues with admittance.
- 'Junior' and 'Senior' Service indication relates to the 'pitch' of the sermon and not which students are welcome to attend - all services are open to all students!

January '24	February '24	March '24
14th 10am <i>Junior</i>	4th 10am <i>Communion</i>	3rd 10am <i>Senior</i>
21st 10am <i>Senior</i>	11th 10am <i>Senior</i>	10th 10am
28th 6pm <i>Junior</i>		17th 6pm <i>Confirmation Service</i>
		24th 10am <i>Palm Sunday</i>



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### **New PS5 or Xbox games coming at Christmas?**

### **Managing healthy gaming activity in the household - some advice from Mrs McCarney Redford, Mental Health lead.....**

#### **It's not easy being a parent in the digital age**

It can be daunting to feel you have no life experience to fall back on, because your child explores online spaces you could have never imagined at their age. But the good news is you already have a lot of what you need to be a parent in the digital world. You can afford to be confident in your parenting skills and confident in your instincts. Because when it comes to your child and technology, it's still just that – parenting. It's not always easy – but Parent Zone has tools and resources that can help. <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/parenting-digital-age>

We know a big issue for families is the dreaded daily conversation/argument when you ask your young person to get off their device. Or like me, you shout up the stairs for them to get off but because they have their headphones on, and by the time you get to them, tempers have risen, and they are clueless as to why you are storming in their room saying 'how many times do I have to tell you? Usually followed by a threat to throw the blooming thing out the window! If this all sounds familiar, please be reassured that many parents are experiencing similar woes.

Not all gaming is bad, it can be a great way to unwind. The most important thing is to have a conversation with your young person about your boundaries, so they can understand your expectations. Agree with them what that should look like; a family contract can help agree those boundaries.

How long each evening? What time is fair to come off? make them aware of how this does impact others in the family. family trying to chill or study while they are yelling at their mates to pass the ball or complaining that the Wi-Fi is 'lagging'.

How would they like you to communicate to them, especially if they say 'I'm in the middle of a game'. Would an agreed ten minute warning be helpful? Discuss with them what they think the consequences of not following the agreement should be. Consider a reward at the weekend, such as allowing them a longer tournament with their mates.

Please see some resources with further information you may find helpful

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/tech-guide/>

Gaming reviews <https://www.common sense media.org/game-reviews>

Set screen time limits for your Xbox family group <https://support.xbox.com/en-GB/help/family-online-safety/online-safety/set-screen-time-limits>

Support if you are concerned your young persons gaming is effecting their mental health

[https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/gaming/?gad\\_source=1&gclid=EAlaIQobChMln5eavd6MgwMV35VQBh1K8A8HEAAYASAAEgIXivD\\_BwE#Helpingyourchildstaysafeandhappywhilegaming](https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/gaming/?gad_source=1&gclid=EAlaIQobChMln5eavd6MgwMV35VQBh1K8A8HEAAYASAAEgIXivD_BwE#Helpingyourchildstaysafeandhappywhilegaming)



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### Certificates from Summer 2023

Students who left the school will have one opportunity to collect their certificates from summer 2023 on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of January between 10.00 and 12.00. Full details are available on the school website: [Click here](#)

After this date, no certificates will be available for collection by anyone who is not currently at the school - alternatives are explained in the notes available by following the link above.

Students still at the school should have collected their certificates already. Those who failed to do so will have one more chance once Year 13 mocks have finished. After this they will be put into storage for issue with their next certificates in summer 2025.

Any student new to St George's in Year 12 should ensure they obtain their certificates from their previous school.

Paul McGillivray - Exams Office

### Years 8, 9 & 13 Progress Reviews now available

These were released this week and are now available to view via the documents section of your child's Edulink account. Please do access these if you are a parent or carer of a student in either of these years as they contain lots of important feedback.

### Request for lidded containers, tins and crockery

The Food Preparation and Nutrition department would be very grateful for any lidded containers and tins from sweet and biscuit boxes/tins. Please can they be passed onto the department directly via your student.

Also, if you might have any spare crockery (plates or bowls) which we could use for food presentation, we would appreciate any donations. *Thank you in advance the Food Prep & Nutrition Dept*

### Fish from our local chippy! GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

It's been a fishy few weeks for year 10 in Food Preparation and Nutrition. After previous success with mussels, last week we had a delivery of individually quick-frozen hake donated by **Fastnet Fish**, as part of the Fish Heroes project giving students the opportunity to prepare and cook with fish. A big thank you to our local chippy **Godfrey's Harpenden** who helped coordinate the delivery. Did you know Hake is a delicious, versatile and hugely popular fish on the continent and has just been named the UK's most sustainable fish – yet many of us have never even tried it.

Last week, year 10 students made their own rough puff pastry and in their following lesson used it to make Fish en Croute (in crust). The hake was the essential part of the filling, alongside the complimentary flavours of fresh herbs, crème fraîche and lemon juice. Students worked tirelessly handling the fish hygienically and safely, preparing their rough puff pastry and sealing the filling with an edge finish too. These coordinated practicals allowed students to experience a variety of new food technical skills and handle hake, which many hadn't previously used. The finished dishes looked superb and feedback from students and families has been very positive.





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We can't wait to see our year 10 Food, Preparation and Nutrition students demonstrate their new skills over their GCSE course. Mrs L Bailey and Miss N Baxter





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### Library Advent Calendar

Festive fun continued in the Library this week with students and staff unwrapping seven fabulous new books. Mrs Darbourne was thrilled with her 'Ecology: Big Ideas Simply Explained' book and Miss Chilvers highly recommends the 'You Are Awesome' book she opened. Ben (Year 7), Emily, Sebastian (Year 8), Elsa and Ife (Year 9) were also very excited to unwrap a selection of great new fiction books. There are plenty more books to be opened next week - three books on Monday and six on Tuesday! The countdown continues!



### Actions

#### Monday 8th January is a WEEK 2

It has been spotted that our prep books state that the students return to week 1 lessons in January. Please note this is a mis-print. They return to week 2 of the timetable and will therefore need to pack for their lessons accordingly. Tutors have been told and the students will be given time to update their prep books by hand in the coming week.



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### **Supporting your young person over the Christmas holidays**

If you think that your young person could do with a bit of extra support for their well-being, why not look at the resources below which have been developed by 'Place2Be'.

[Supporting your child's emotional wellbeing during the school holidays \(place2be.org.uk\)](https://place2be.org.uk)

### **Thoughts**

Welcome to the Christmas season! As I write, I'm 2 church services down and only another 7 to go! If your diary is anything like mine, then you will need to park the weight loss programme until the new year; forget the target of 8 hours sleep a night and relieve yourself of the idea of sitting in your PJ's watching rubbish TV until the new year, as from now on in your house will be filled with people who you haven't seen for a while. It always seems to be a frantic time, presents need to be wrapped; people need to be seen; parties need to be attended and food needs to be bought and prepared. Every year I have sleepless nights over a turkey.....and this year is no exception!

But in that business there is one point of absolute magic that I love each year, and that is the Senior Carol service. Sunday at 5.00pm or 7.00pm or both if you are a very lucky headmistress, there is a phenomenal opportunity to sit; reflect and be enchanted by the story that should be at the centre of our Christmas celebrations. A simple story of the birth of a child recalled through scripture and music. In our busy world, just as many at the time of his birth, we are at risk of missing the significance of those events of that first Christmas; in essence we are at risk of taking Christ out of Christmas. So what will you do to make sure that amongst the entertaining; the santa covered wrapping paper; the feasting and the shopping, Christ stays central to our celebrations?

Sunday provides one opportunity to do just that. IT would be great to see you there.

If I do not write again before the end of term, I hope that your Christmas celebrations will be Christ filled; fun and restorative all at the same time.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas from all of us on Team StG's

Miss B



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

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

**Need a tweed blazer dry cleaned over Christmas?**



**Johnson's Golden Ticket**



**Half Price Dry Cleaning of St. George's Tweed Jackets**

**Or**

**FREE Dry Cleaning of St. George's Tweed Jackets if you bring it in  
with two other garments to be cleaned at full price**

**At the Harpenden branch only. Bring this voucher or mention at  
the desk when you present your garments for cleaning**

**We thank Johnsons Harpenden for their kind support.**





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### My Teen Brain - online training

The Early Help Commissioning Team are pleased to announce the upcoming **FREE** My Teen Brain Online Training course for Hertfordshire practitioners. This 1-day CPD course is for those working with parents of teenagers and/or working with teenagers in Hertfordshire. It provides an opportunity to understand teenage brain development and the adolescent developmental process and consider both risk and resilience. It includes ideas and strategies for professionals working with teenagers and their parents to help them cope with challenging feelings and behaviour and to support young people in an emotionally healthy context. The day brings together the latest understanding from neuroscience and developmental psychology and the principles of The Nurturing Programme from Family Links The Centre For Emotional Health.

If you are interested in attending one of the dates later in the year, please email [EHcommissioning@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:EHcommissioning@hertfordshire.gov.uk)



<b>6th December 23</b>	<b>10am – 3pm</b>
<b>23rd January 24</b>	<b>10am – 3pm</b>
<b>29th February 24</b>	<b>10am – 3pm</b>
<b>19th March 24</b>	<b>10am – 3pm</b>



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# Families **First** News

Front page - Welcome	The latest news	Learning & development	Difference we're making	Local area news	Partners' newsletters
			Families First - Performance Data Report		
			Help us promote the Families First Website		
			The Families First Pledge		
			Families First Case Studies		

The latest news

## Support for Dads webpage

We are pleased to announce the launch of the "Support for Dads" webpage containing a wealth of information and details of where to go for advice, guidance and support aimed at dads, stepdads and male carers.

Please promote to your networks and channels using the link and QR code below and by displaying the poster in public areas, where applicable.

Live link:  
[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirstdads](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirstdads)

QR Code, below and please [download the poster](#) to display in your public facing areas.





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Delivering Special  
Provision Locally

Services for  
Young People

### Emotional Based School Avoidance

Suitable for parents/carers of children in year 7 - 11, in DSPL7 & 8.

This EBSA coffee morning is aimed at parents and carers who have a child in year 7 - 11 who is not attending school as a result of emotional, mental health and wellbeing issues. **The children and young people can also attend.** This event is being run by DSPL7 & 8 with Services for Young People.



This will be taking place at Hemel Hempstead Young People's Centre, 1st Floor, XC centre, Hemel Hempstead, from 9:30 - 11:30am on the following dates:

- 19th October
- 21st March
- 28th November
- 7th May
- 25th January

There is no need to book this event.



[admin@dspl7.org.uk](mailto:admin@dspl7.org.uk)



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[www.dspl7.org.uk](http://www.dspl7.org.uk)