



ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter

19th January 2024

Information

Sports cancellations

All rugby matches vs St Benedicts are off due to the weather; sadly this is also the case for all Lacrosse v Guildford.

Senior Lacrosse Friday Night Lights

Next Friday 26th our senior lacrosse 1st team are taking on STAHS in a Friday Night Game. It is being hosted at Harpenden Rugby Club and it would be great to see you there! The game will start at 7pm, so wrap up warm and come and support our senior girls.



News from the Rev

Welcome back and Happy New Year! This term in weekday chapels we have been looking at Parables (last week the 'Good Samaritan' this week 'The Sower' and next week, 'The lost Son') and in Sunday chapels we are looking at the story of Joseph (from Genesis 37).

In CU we are looking at the letter to the Philippians.

Confirmation classes begin this Friday and we are using Youth Alpha to help us to understand what Christian believe. Confirmation is an opportunity for students to ask questions and come to their own conclusions. They are open to ALL ages and I look forward to welcoming many students to this course.



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Maintaining our high standards

Next week, we are continuing our theme of communication and considering how students interact with staff. Hopefully these discussions can help to support students with developing these key communication skills when interacting with others.

Focus on... HOW WE SPEAK WITH TEACHERS

- It's easy to forget simple manners when we're moving quickly around school, but it's also an easy thing to get right
- If a member of staff asks you to do something around the school site, such as fix your uniform or pick up a piece of litter, then you should respond at the first time of asking. Staff are simply following school rules when they make these requests
- If a teacher shows you kindness, such as opening a door or allowing you in front of them, it would be kind and appropriate to say thank you



KINDNESS

Thank staff who run clubs at lunchtimes and after school - they do all this in their own time!

POSITIVITY

Ask how a teacher is in when you're waiting in the lunch queue - a little kindness can go a long way

Free swap of Grey Jumpers to Green !!

Parents will know that we are in the process of phasing out both the bottle green blazer and the legacy grey jumper. Going forward the only jumper will be the green one.

If your child is currently wearing grey, we will swap it free of charge for a second hand green one. Your child simply needs to go to the school shop and hand over their grey jumper for a replacement.

We will no longer be selling grey jumpers at 2nd Hand sales. Stevensons no longer stock or sell them.

Warnings about WhatsApp groups

This we uncovered a worrying trend of our younger students who are trying to create the largest WhatsApp group ever, often titled "Can we get 1000 people on this group?" This will involve getting friends of friends and basically strangers or people posing as young people into their groups. It only takes one student to have this 'friend' added to a group to present a real risk to the online safety of our young people. Please have this conversation with your children and check their phones. We encourage young people not to be members of large groups as it creates all sorts of problems. This app is rated 16!

[Is WhatsApp safe for my child?](#)

Donations needed for the next Second Hand Sale

Donations can be dropped off at Goddard Reception



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St George's School PSA
**PLEASE...PLEASE DONATE
2nd Hand**

Blazers, PE Kits, Lacrosse Sticks,
Rugby Boots, Revision Guides,
Trainers, Shoes, Shirts, Jumpers, Scarves etc
at ANY TIME at Goddard Reception

for the next Pre-Loved Uniform Sale
GOOD CONDITION - LOW PRICES

All funds raised go to the School



**Pre-Loved Uniform on
Sat 3rd February 2024
Starts at 09:00am**

Oaklands College Open Evenings

If your child is considering college for post 16 studies then Oaklands college has a Welwyn Garden City Campus event on 6 February 5-8pm and St Albans campus event on 8 February 5-8pm.

These are for prospective students to explore the campuses, meet the faculties and learn about the courses offered. Visit the [college's website](#) and register for your preferred areas before booking an open event.





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Grimm goes to Garden City Theatre

Once upon a time, in the twilight of last year, when evening shadows closed in, and temperatures began to drop like leaves from a tree, there were a group of students and a couple of teachers who thought it would be a fabulous idea to put on a school production. But this was no ordinary production, for not only did it perform for three nights at St George's, but it also transferred (posh word for when a show moves to a different venue) to the Barn Theatre in Welwyn Garden City, where it ran for 12 performances, 11 of which were completely sold out! The show in question was Grimm Tales; the students were mostly from the A' Level Theatre Studies group, and the staff were Mr Wallace, Miss Havill, Miss Ashwell and Mr Hubbard.

On paper and in practice it seemed like a bonkers idea, but, like most bonkers ideas it turned out absolutely brilliant! For those of you who saw the production at school, you will know that this was an ensemble piece, with performers playing storytellers and multi-rolling the different characters from the tales, as well as throwing in some singing, some dancing, and some audience participation. The challenge came when transferring to a different venue, and teaming up with different cast members (not all St George's students went on to appear in the Barn production), and picking up an additional three tales. Our students did this with aplomb!

It was a fantastic opportunity for our young actors: to go to a proper theatre, to work with adult actors, and with a complete stage crew; to experience the demands of a highly regarded non-professional theatre company, and what it feels like to do a 'run' of 12 performances - including a matinee and evening show on the final night. The skills they developed through the process are



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too many to list here, as are the levels of resilience, commitment and collaboration they acquired. To put it simply, it was an example and real life experience of all of that is great about Drama - the team work, the energy, the focus, the support for each other, the final performances, and the joy of the applause and plaudits from audiences.

On a personal note, it was a once in a school lifetime opportunity and one that I am pleased we did. It couldn't have been done without the support of colleagues, and without a committed and talented class of students. I am incredibly proud of what we all achieved, and it was genuinely lovely to spend the run up to Christmas in their company.

Students who performed were: Theresa Knobloch, Poppy Lang, Georgina McGuinness, Zara Penny, Clarissa Sykens, Ed Watkins, Emily Wright; Barney Thornton was one of the Assistant Stage Managers; Miss Havill and Mr Hubbard help design the lighting rig and operated the shows, Miss Ashwell was our chaperone and safeguarding person backstage, and I directed the piece (and made a brief appearance as a duck!)

Actions

Free Sanitary Products

If you or your young person would like a bag of sanitary products to help you through these challenging economic times, then do email Mrs Robertson: krobertson@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk
We will put a bag of stuff together for you and will leave it in a discreet bag at Goddard Reception for either you or your young person to collect.

Sun Lane Road Works

I just knew that as soon as I committed a date to paper in the last newsletter something would change.....and yes it did. The new dates for the Sun Lane Bridge Closure are 5th- 19th Feb. At the moment we also have traffic lights on Carlton Road which are also causing congestion - I marshalled traffic for 15 minutes on Sunday Morning. If you can avoid picking up your child from the Carlton road entrance it may help, both the traffic flow along Carlton Road and also the difficulty of getting out of the school and onto Carlton road itself. HM

Thoughts

I came across the term VUCA this week. It stands for Volatile; Uncertain; Complex and Ambiguous, and it is used to describe the landscape within which business is working. It certainly seems that just as we think we can all get back to normal, something else seems to come along and rock the boat. Covid started it.....the war in Ukraine continued it.....the Gaza conflict has reignited it.....The Houthi action in the Red Sea is sustaining it.....and the possibility of Trump In the White House AGAIN is looming large. In an increasingly uncertain world I am glad that I have a faith I can depend on and a God who psalm 47 vs 7 reminds us is

“For God is the King of all the earth;
sing to him a psalm of praise.

Have a lovely weekend, Miss B



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Signposting (click on each to find out more)

Help to manage the cost of living

See all of the support, advice and services available to help you stay safe and well. Visit:
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/winterhelp,
call 0300 123 4044 or scan the QR code

We're
with you
this winter



HertsHelp

Trained advisors offering free, confidential advice on local services and support

Call: 0300 123 4044
Email: info@hertshelp.net
www.hertshelp.net

Community spaces

Find a community space near you, locations all across Hertfordshire

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/communityspaces

Mental health

Advice and support for your happiness, wellbeing and mental health

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth

Money and benefits advice

Free guides on debt and benefits, disability, bereavement, housing, retirement and carer support

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/moneyadvice

Citizens Advice

Free, local and confidential advice on benefits, money and credit problems, employment, housing and family issues

Call: 0800 144 8848

Help for households

Central government is offering support with energy bills, transport, childcare and household costs

www.helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk

We're
with you
this winter





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2024 GCSE MATHEMATICS REMOTE REVISION WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS.



Following the success of last year's programme, our secondary Maths advisers will be leading 24 topic-based online workshops during February and March: 12 for Foundation Tier and 12 for Higher Tier.

The Foundation Tier workshops will be aimed at those students aiming to gain Grades 4 and 5. The Higher Tier workshops will be for those aiming for Grades 6 and 7, although students aiming for higher grades may find them useful to consolidate earlier learning.

Designed to motivate and challenge students in an engaging and active learning environment, our remote workshops will provide students with the opportunity to take part in a number of focused revision activities, and to complete exam-style questions.

Each workshop will be 50 minutes long. Students may wish to attend two or three consecutively, with a short break in between each.



The popularity of these workshops in the past few years means we are able to offer each workshop at £6 (including VAT). We believe this represents excellent value for money.

Access to recordings of sessions

A time-limited recording of each session will also be made available in the week following the session. If your child/student is unable to attend the session(s) in person, please book using the links below to have access to the recording and resources used in the session.



To find out more and to book places, scan or click on the QR code.

Once places have been booked, students will need their school e-mail address to access the sessions.

£6
per student
(including VAT)



01438 544 464
Visit our website





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2024 AQA GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE REMOTE REVISION MASTERCLASSES.



SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S REVISION WITH OUR SUBJECT EXPERTS

Designed to motivate and challenge students in an engaging and focused learning environment, our remote revision masterclasses will help boost students' skills and confidence.

These popular remote Saturday revision sessions return for the third year.

Our online masterclasses are led by highly experienced subject specialists and will focus on:

- supporting your child to feel 'exam ready'
- providing students with tried and tested exam strategies and revision techniques
- sharing high quality responses and model answers to support their learning
- directly responding to any text/exam related questions that students may have.

Each session lasts two hours and students will be able to interact with the subject teachers delivering the session. A time-limited recording of each session will also be made available in the week following

the session. If your child/student is unable to attend the session(s) in person, please book using the links below to have access to the recording and resources used in the session.

To find out more and to book places on sessions, please click on the courses below or visit the [HFL Education Hub](#) for more information. Places may be booked directly by parents/carers or by schools on their students' behalf.

Once places have been booked, students will need their school e-mail address to access the sessions.

£20
per student
(including VAT)
Price remains the
same as 2022

REVISION TEXT	2024 SATURDAY SESSION DATES/TIMES		BOOK NOW
Macbeth	10th February	9.30-11.30am	Click or scan this QR code to book. 
Romeo and Juliet	10th February	1.30-3.30pm	
A Christmas Carol	17th February	9.30-11.30am	
An Inspector Calls	2nd March	9.30-11.30am	
Power and Conflict Poetry	9th March	9.30-11.30am	
Love and Relationships Poetry	9th March	1.30-3.30pm	
Unseen Poetry	16th March	9.30-11.30am	

For more information regarding these masterclasses, please contact: training@hfleducation.org or call 01438 544477.



01438 544 464
Visit our website





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AQA GCSE FOUNDATION TIER SCIENCE REMOTE REVISION SESSIONS – EASTER 2024.



These remote Foundation Tier sessions will be delivered by our experienced science advisers and are designed to motivate and challenge students in an engaging and active environment. The sessions are designed to support Foundation Tier students aiming to gain Grade 4/5.

The sessions will focus on:

- supporting your child to feel 'exam ready'
- providing students with tried and tested exam strategies and revision techniques
- sharing high quality responses and model answers to support their own learning
- reviewing associated Maths and Required Practical skills within relevant science content
- giving your child the opportunity to complete a range of revision activities during the session, addressing the skills needed

Each session will be 60 minutes in length and the students will be able to interact with the science advisers delivering the session. Students may wish to attend 2-3 sessions consecutively with a short break in between each one.



Access to recordings of sessions

If your child/student is unable to attend the session(s) in person, please book using the links below to have access to the recording and resources used in the session.



To book

To find out more and to book places, click on or scan the QR code. Or contact our Events Team with any queries at training@hfleducation.org or call 01438 544477.

£10
per student
(including VAT)



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