St. George’s School Newsletter

Friday 2nd May 2025

From the Head

It has been wonderful to receive so many kind messages of congratulations received following the announcement of our recent Outstanding Ofsted report. We firmly believe that, much like it takes a village to raise a child, the success of our school is a testament to the dedication and support of our whole community. While the Ofsted report rightly acknowledges the vital role of our Governors, we also want to take this opportunity to recognise the profound commitment of our parents in numerous ways.

From the tireless work of groups such as the PSA and the Cecil Grant Foundation Trust, to the invaluable time and effort given by parent volunteers in sports, extracurricular activities, and beyond, your contributions are deeply appreciated. Equally important is the daily support you provide by sharing our high expectations and upholding our approaches and decisions. I believe that this strong partnership between home and school is fundamental to the flourishing of our students.

I also want to reassure you that we are not resting having received this outcome. This week, our Governors dedicated their time to a strategy day, exploring what it truly means for St. George's to be a flourishing Christian school within our context. This was a really interesting day with important areas of further work being identified, which will continue to be developed over the coming months.

Alongside this, as announced last week, the Senior Leadership Team is researching the characteristics and behaviours that our community believe we should intentionally seek to develop in our pupils. We value your perspective and encourage you to contribute to this conversation by completing the survey, which will close on Friday, 9th May. Your feedback, alongside that of our pupils and staff, will be invaluable in shaping the future development of our students.

Finally, we said good-luck to our Year 11 cohort today with an awards ceremony and chapel service to send them on their way for their upcoming exams. Mr Tookey spoke movingly in chapel and shared his memories of the year group, offering his reflection on what has made them a great cohort and giving them advice for the road ahead. Looking back at photos and videos of when they joined St George’s in Y7 served to remind us all how far they have come, grown and developed.

Whilst these exams represent the culmination of their academic efforts over the past years and rightly hold significance, they will never define who they are, either as individuals or as a year group. Instead, they will be remembered for the many ways they have enriched the life of St George’s: through their character, their convictions, and the care and support they have shown one another. Best of luck to them in the next few weeks as they sit GCSEs.

Wishing you all a wonderful bank holiday weekend.

Year 11 Leavers' Day

Today we said a formal goodbye and good luck to our Year 11 who have been a fantastic year group. This morning consisted of an award ceremony; viewing a video of their Year 6 Induction Day as well as a photo slide show accompanied on guitar by the talented Rev. Warner.

After pizza, shirt signing and House photos, students enjoyed a really special chapel service including inspiring words from Mr Tookey and they sang their hearts out to the school hymn. It has been a really lovely morning.

We wish them lots of luck with their revision and have reminded them that we are here to support them.

Save the Dates for the PSA

Summer Fete - Saturday 28th June

Our much-loved St George's Summer Fete is back on Saturday 28th June. This lovely event will be packed with all the usual favourites, with something for everyone —classic stalls and games, live music, BBQ and Pimm's bar, raffle, tombola, tea and cake tent, and more! Please save the date and we'll keep you posted on ways you can get involved.

Pre-loved Uniform Sale – Saturday 12th July

The next uniform sale will take place on 12th July in the school hall and timings will be confirmed nearer the event. If you'd like to donate any unwanted uniform, you can take it to the office at Goddard Reception at any time.

Calling All Parents: VE Day Photos for School Display and VE Biscuit Bake!

The Humanities Faculty is preparing a special display to commemorate VE Day. To make this project truly meaningful, we would love to include photos that capture personal or family memories from this historic occasion.

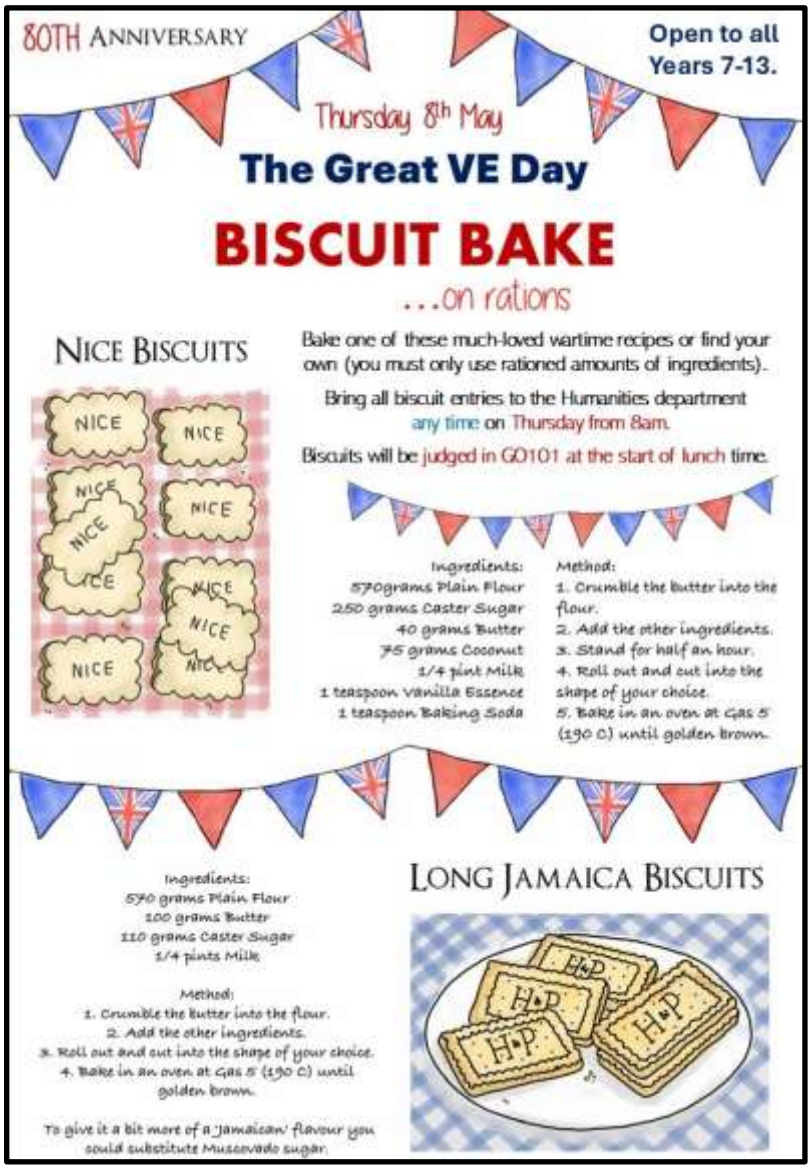
If you have any old VE Day photographs tucked away in albums or archives, we would be delighted if you could share them with us. These images will help our students connect with this pivotal moment in history on a more personal level.

We kindly request that you scan and email any photos you would like to contribute to swilliams@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk .

Please include a brief description of the photo, if possible, such as names, locations, or context.

Your contributions will be handled with care and will only be used for the display. If you have any questions or require assistance with scanning, don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for helping us bring history to life for our students!



Careers Fair - Friday 27th June 2025. We need your help!

We are excited to announce our upcoming Careers Fair and would love your help in making it a fantastic and inspiring event for our students.

We are looking for parents and carers from a variety of professions to showcase their careers and give pupils an insight into different industries, career paths, and day-to-day job roles. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your expertise and experiences, helping our pupils explore potential career options and broaden their aspirations.

The event will take place on Friday 27th June, and we would be delighted if you could join us. Whether you work in healthcare, technology, business, trades, the arts, or any other field, your contribution could be invaluable in bringing the world of work to life for our students.

If you are interested in taking part or would like more information, please email Mrs Sabato (Head of Student Futures) at: esabato@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk

Thank you for your support—we look forward to hearing from you!

Activities Week: Year 9 - France Trip Update

All students who are going on the France trip have been added to a google classroom. Please can you scan your child's passport and upload a copy to the assignment on google classroom. This allows staff to collect all the necessary data in one place. Please can this be done by **Friday 9th May.** Secondly, there will be a google form going out in the next few weeks that pupils will need to fill in with room requests.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Miss Foster.

No Breakfast Club on Friday 9th May

Just to let you know that there won't be a Breakfast Club on this day as it is the Year 13 Leavers' Morning which involves the dining room. Thanks.

STGs's SEND Coffee Morning

The next SEN Coffee Morning is being held on Wednesday 21st May at 9.00 to 10.00 a.m. We are being joined by Space, who are based in Herts and are a registered charity that supports Hertfordshire families of children and young people with neurodiversity.

Please sign in at Goddard Reception and we will accompany you to the room, as we will not be in the main hall due to the summer examinations taking place. We look forward to seeing you there.

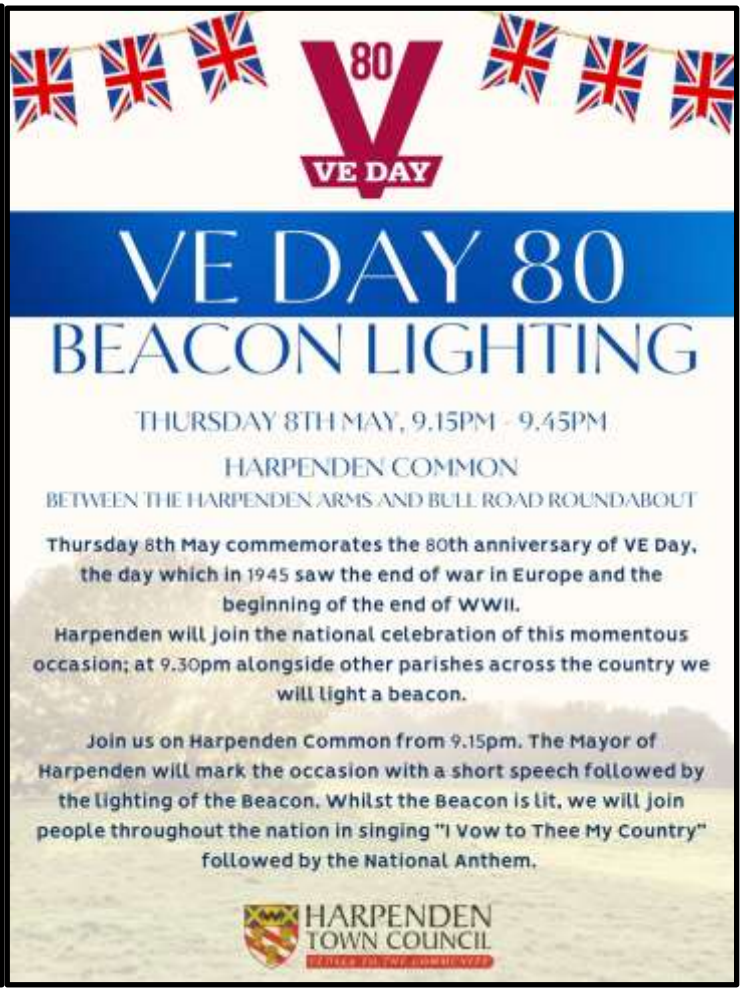
Bebras Challenge 2025

Before the Easter Holidays, 34 KS3 computing students who had previously achieved in the top 10% nationally of the BEBRAS computing challenge took to their keyboards once again to participate in round 2.

In a change to the format, students could pick their own level of challenge this year as Novices or Explorers. 15 out of 26 Novices and 4 out of 8 Explorers achieved a gold certificate placing them in the top 10% of entrants nationally.

We are extremely proud of all our students who put themselves forward and represented our school so brilliantly, and particular praise goes to Mel B (year 9), Oliver F-F (Year8) and Sophia D (year 7) for coming top of their year. Students will be receiving their certificates shortly, please do congratulate them if they come home with one.

A big thank you to Mrs Sweeney for her time in organising this great opportunity.



Register here: [Bounce Forward Raise Resilience in collaboration with Harry Kane Foundation - Bounce Forward]

Vista St Albans Plus Schools' Partnership and DSPL7 Delivering Special Provision Locally

SEND Coffee Mornings

DSPL7 & Vista St Albans+ host coffee mornings where School and SEND Family Workers are available to support parents / carers of children with SEND regardless of a diagnosis. This is an informal and safe place for parents / carers to share information and chat. The DSPL7 SEND Lead and other professionals may also be available for discussions. There is no need to book to attend this drop in session

Dates: 29th Jan, 19th March, 7th May & 25th June

Time: 9:15 - 11:00am

Venue: The Hub, Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW. The Hub is to the right hand side of the school building at the bottom of the car park. **There is no parking available onsite, but 3 hours free parking is available nearby in Morrisons supermarket.**

Appointments

Running alongside our coffee mornings, there is also the opportunity to reserve a 20-30 minute appointment to speak to the following professionals between 9:30am - 12:00pm.

To book an appointment:
Please email admin@dspl7.org.uk

Dates	Professionals attending
29th January	Lyndsey Hooper - Mental Health Support Team
19th March	Thelma Mugovera - Ask Sali
7th May	Clare Tominey-Smith - Challenging behaviour at home
25th June	Niamh Cooper - First Steps ED

Vista contact details: 01727 519128 vistastalbans@gmail.com www.vistastalbans.org.uk
DSPL7 contact details: 01727 519229 admin@dspl7.org.uk www.dspl7.org.uk

Ollie Foundation introduces the Grief Café for Teens

The Ollie Foundation has recently had some funding approved to provide a number of Grief Café sessions for Teens.

What is a Grief Café?

Losing someone you love can feel overwhelming, lonely, and confusing. A **Grief Café** is a welcoming space for teens who have been bereaved to connect, share (if they want to), and find support in a way that feels right for them.

 No pressure to talk – just an open space to be understood.
 Meet others who *get it* – because you are not alone.
 Express grief in creative and meaningful ways.
 Learn how to honour and carry the memory of your loved one.

This is not therapy or counselling—it's a space for connection, reflection, and support.

4-Week Programme

 Session 1: You Are Not Alone – Understanding grief & finding connection
 Session 2: Holding On & Letting Go – Exploring memories & emotions
 Session 3: When Grief Feels Heavy – Coping with difficult emotions
 Session 4: Carrying Their Light Forward – Creating meaningful ways to remember

You can book as many sessions as you like. You do not have to do all four.

 Location: The Green House, London Road, St. Albans

 Time: 5-6pm
 Dates: 16th, 23rd, 30th March and 6th April
£ **Cost:** Free

Join Us

Grief is a journey, and you don't have to walk it alone. If you're a teen who has lost someone, you are welcome here.

 Sign up: Contact debi@theolliefoundation.org

 Questions? Debi@theolliefoundaiton.org

 We see you. We hear you. We are you.

If you are interested in attending or have any further questions then please get in touch with Debi.