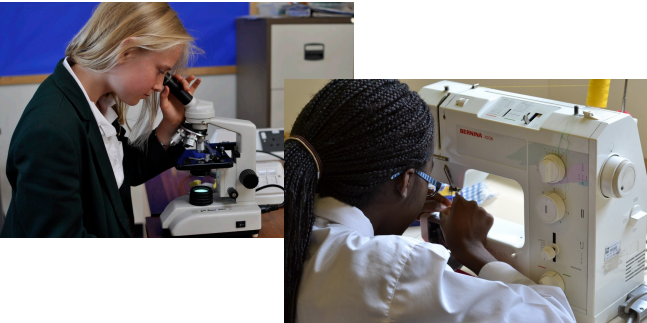


Welcome to our September 2020 newsletter.

We at the Founders Trust have been continuing to work hard in the background, and we are very pleased to report that you, as families, have also been continuing in the background to support us. It has been a tough time for everybody; whether in terms of job security, physical and mental health struggles, home schooling, and then to find that it wasn't toilet roll you needed to stock up on - but paper & ink for the printer! I'm sure as a community we are luckier than most, but I'm also sure that the majority of us will not look back on this time too fondly. So that being said, we really appreciate your ongoing support, and if nothing else, this time has taught us how much we value our school, it's staff and our extended St George's community.

To that end, The Founder's Trust usually awards two prizes at the close of the academic year to staff members that have gone above and beyond. But this year we, along with the senior leadership team, decided that there was no single person that could be singled out; so instead, as a way of thanking everyone, we contributed money towards staff wellbeing facilities in the form of funds for a coffee machine and table furnishings.



*The Trust is a charity run for the benefit of all St George's pupils. All families are asked to make a monthly donation per pupil by Direct Debit. The Trust also accepts one off payments. The money raised is spent annually so that our pupils feel the immediate benefit, and pays for items such as computers, books, transport, calendars, prep books and other equipment. The Trust works hard to maintain a steady income stream to the school upon which it can depend, and plan it's spending accordingly. The Founder's Trust was originally set up as a result of the will of our Founder, Rev Cecil Grant. The Trust is still going strong today as a charity and, thanks to the generosity of St George's families, collects and donates to the school approximately £135-140,000 every single year. The Trustees include "old Georgians", current parents, governors and the Headmistress.*

It has been a huge sibling year for Y7 intake in 2020, with 120 students joining us from existing St George's families. 65% of new families have signed up to give to the Trust, but only 26% of sibling families have increased their donation; that, along with an increase in cancellations in March/April, means that we project that our income will fall over the next year. If you are in a position to increase your donation, or sign up as a new supporter, we'd love to hear from you. Even a small increase can make a big difference. An extra £3.50 per month for example, over the course of a year, would pay for an A-level Geography textbook or 2 copies of the Maths GCSE textbook. So, as you can see, every penny matters.

As to the school, well of course some things have not been spent to full budget, such as funding for Induction Day, but we have relied very heavily on IT over the last 6 months, so we foresee an increase in spend in that area. We are hoping to be able to support the school in the same way as normal over 2020/21. This is where the strength of the Founder's Trust lies: the regular donations from families being routinely fed into the school over the course of the year, while maintaining social distancing!

Thank you

*Jane Hyman, Chair of CGFT, September 2020*

*If you would like to support the Founder's Trust you can download the Direct Debit form from our page on the school website, and hand the completed form into the school office. <http://www.stgeorges.herts.sch.uk/About-Us/Cecil-Grant>  
If you would like to increase an existing donation, it's even easier – just email our treasurer on [cgft@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cgft@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk)*