

St George's Lower School February Newsletter

Active Kids Vouchers:

The Sainsbury's Active Kids Voucher scheme has started again and runs until 2nd May 2017. Please send your vouchers into school, where there is a collection box in the school entrance ready and waiting. The more we can collect the more equipment the children will be able to enjoy!

Comic Relief:

On Friday 24th March we will be supporting Comic Relief by hosting a non-uniform day. We ask that children come to school dressed in red. We will have a brektime cake sale and the School Council will be organising and hosting a talent contest. Should you wish your child to partake in these events, please send them in with a £1 donation for wearing home clothes and up to 50p to purchase cakes. **All** proceeds will go to Comic Relief.

Safer Internet Day – February 7th 2017

St George's will be participating in this event next week. We will send home some useful information leaflets about how to ensure your child's safe use of technology, and all classes will be completing a range of activities to support this essential safeguarding education.

Open Day:

St George's are hosting their Spring Open day on Saturday 11th March. Open Day provides an opportunity for prospective families to look at our both our Upper and Lower School setting and gain an insight into the curriculum and provision we offer.

Lost Property:

We still have quite a stock of unlabelled clothing. Any items left unclaimed by the 16th February will be donated to charity or washed and added to our second hand uniform supply.

Uncollected Child Policy:

We have updated this policy in line with the most current guidance from Birmingham City Council. Copies can be found under the Lower School header in our Policies section of the website; hard copies can be obtained from the Lower School Office. We would ask that all parents read the policy and familiarise themselves with the procedures we have to follow in the event that a child is not collected at the agreed time i.e. at the end of the school day, from after school clubs or our Aftercare provision.

Should you require a large print copy of this policy or any other policies please do let us know.

Contact details:

If you have made any changes to your contact details over the last few months (such as home or email addresses, phone numbers etc), please could you inform Lower school Reception. We will be contacting some of you over the next few days as we need you to provide us with an emergency contact. Your emergency contact must be someone other than you or your partner.

Parking:

We have had several complaints from our neighbours in ROSPA with regards to parents parking across their driveway. An incident last week meant that a member of their staff was unable to leave the premises to collect their child following an emergency phone call.

They have informed us that they are now seeking the advice of the West Midlands Police to identify what enforcements can be put in place to prevent incidents like this happening again. They are also taking photographs of cars causing obstructions and will be sending these directly to the police.

We would ask all of you to employ common sense and consideration when parking.

Communicating with staff:

As a school we endeavour to operate an 'open door' policy for parents. It is important that we work in partnership with you to ensure the best interests of the children are met. We want you to communicate effectively with us, and do understand that due to other commitments many parents cannot be there at the beginning or end of the school day. We provide you with the internal email address of your child's class teacher so that you can liaise with them directly to provide us with information you wish to share, or to arrange a meeting in between Parents Evenings. Unfortunately we have a small core of parents who are abusing this facility. Staff are receiving emails in the evenings, weekends and holidays where there is clearly an expectation that they should respond immediately. Many of you work, and I am sure you will agree that continuous out of hours care on top of a working day/week is neither sustainable nor healthy. As the Head of Lower School I have a duty to safeguard the well-being of both pupils and staff. Part of well-being is work life balance. We would like all parents to be aware that should you need to email staff out of hours they will respond to you as soon as they are able the next working day. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Lower School Direct Telephone Number

Please note the lower school telephone number is **0121 454 0099**. You may still telephone the main school telephone number and press option '2'. However it is much easier to telephone the Lower School direct on the above number.

February Half Term Arts Camp

Premier Education Group will be relaunching their holiday camp for the February half term at St George's School. This holiday camp will be limited to only twenty children on both Multi Activity and Performing Arts. If you would like to book or would like any more information you can email Nathaniel Gordon at ngordon@premier-education.com or contact 077568646987.

Dates For Diary – February 2017

Friday 3 rd February	Year 3 Trip to Birmingham Museum
Monday 6 th February	Reception Healthy Week, visit from Nurse and Exercise Activities
Tuesday 7 th February	Year 3/4 Football Match at home 2.45pm until 4.00pm
Tuesday 7 th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 8 th February	Year 4 Class Assembly

Dates For Diary – February 2017 (continued)

Wednesday 8 th February	Year 1 visit to St George's Church 11.00 – 12.00noon
Wednesday 8 th February	Book Fayre
Friday 10 th February	Year 5 Trip to Thinktank
Monday 13 th February	Year 4 Trip to Cadbury World
Wednesday 15 th February	Years 5 and 6 Trip to Midland Arts Centre
Thursday 16 th February	Reports going out to Parents
Tuesday 28 th February	Author visit

Dates For Diary – March 2017

Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day
Friday 3 rd March	KS1 Maths Workshop at 2.00pm
Friday 10 th March	Year 2 Trip to Black Country Living Museum
Monday 13 th March	Year 6 Trip to Manchester Imperial War Museum and Lowry Gallery
Tuesday 14 th March	Year 1 Trip to Warwick Castle
Wednesday 15 th March	Year 3 Class Assembly
Friday 17 th March	Reception Class Trip to Botanical Gardens
Monday 20 th March	Year 2 Trip to Library
Wednesday 22 nd March	Year 5 Class Assembly
Thursday 23 rd March	Parents Evening
Friday 24 th March	Comic Relief
Friday 24 th March	SEND Coffee Morning at 8.45am
Friday 24 th March	Year 5 Trip to MAD Museum
Monday 27 th March	Year 3 Trip to Stratford
Wednesday 29 th March	Under 11's Football Tournament at Wolverhampton Grammar School
Friday 31 st March	Academic Awards Assembly