

Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
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Website: www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk
Email: office@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk
Executive Headteacher: Mr Stephen Carey BA Hons

Newsletter October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a very positive start to the new academic year. The new year 7 cohort have settled in really well. They have grown in confidence as the term has progressed and have taken the transition from primary to secondary in their stride. It has been lovely to see them already taking an active role in the life of Saint George's.

I have been so impressed with the standard of uniform across the school. The recent changes to the school uniform have definitely taken off. Thank you for all your support with this. Can I please remind you that as we approach winter, hoodies are not permitted in school. If at all possible, please can students have a warm and waterproof coat.

We are incredibly proud of the achievements of last year's 11 and 13 students. 72% gained a grade 4 in Maths and in English and 46% gained a grade 5 in both. This is the highest pass rate that we have ever had. Over 80 of our year 11 students have stayed on to study A levels this year. Year 13 did exceptionally well with their A levels and BTECs, with over 60 pupils going off to university this September and 9 going on to apprenticeships.

I am very grateful to all the staff who have organised and run a whole range of extra-curricular activities this term. Students have been involved in Bush Craft, Finance, University days, sports trips, auditions and much more. It is such an important part of their school experience and it is very pleasing to see so much going on. I know there are plenty more events planned for the rest of the year.

A huge thank you to all the students who helped out with our open day and our school tours. Over 300 of you gave up your time to support the school and did it amazingly well. So many of the visitors commented on how knowledgeable and confident you were. Over 1500 people visited the school!

A reminder that Tuesday 1st November is a development day so pupils will be back in school on Wednesday 2nd November. The NHS have postponed the vaccinations planned for the first week of term.

Thank you all for your support this term. I hope you all have a very peaceful half term

Matt Lillie
Head of School

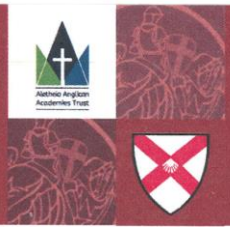




Saint George's
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Part of Aletheia Anglican Academies
Trust (Company No. 07801612)

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of term 1, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support. Thank you for sending your children into school wearing their correct uniform and wearing it with pride. Thank you for your support in ensuring your child is on time for school and for everything you do to ensure that are student attendance is above national average. Your support in encouraging them into school when they feel a bit poorly and choosing to take your holidays during school holidays rather than in term time makes all the difference and helps us to build resilience in your child. Working together is the key to your child's success and we are very grateful for your actions, they really do make all the difference.

Our new pastoral team have settled in very well and continue to show kindness and a high level of pastoral care to all students. We welcome Ms Alpnar, who has been appointed as Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. She will be working very closely with parents and students to ensure keeping children safe at Saint George's is our top priority. If you need to speak to a member of the pastoral team, please can we ask that you do not arrive at school without an appointment; it is unlikely the pastoral team will be able to see you at short notice. Please call reception who will put you through the pastoral office, where an appointment can be made. Alternatively, email your child's community leader to make an appointment.

Next term we have some exciting assemblies planned on internet safety and safe use of social media. Our PCSOs will be delivering the assemblies to all year groups. I have included some information on how you can support your child on safe social media use.

I wish you a very happy half term.

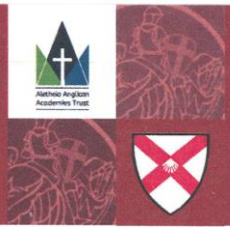
Kind regards

Emily Hartley & The Pastoral Team.



Social media is a website or app that enables users to communicate and engage with others online. Used safely social media is great! But used incorrectly, it can cause pain and suffering. Please support us in educating the students in safe use of social media.





Best practices for parents and carers

■ Know what privacy features are available

There are a range of privacy features and parental controls you can set up on social media accounts. These often include preventing unwanted contact from strangers and limiting the exposure of posts. Consider what restrictions work best for your family, ensure age restrictions are adhered to, develop understanding within the household of safer internet use and consider how privacy features could be lifted as time goes on.

▲ Have a conversation

Social media gives a lot of freedom towards how children and young people express themselves. It's important to discuss the risks associated with engaging with strangers online, giving out too much personal information, sharing content that may be harmful or posting content that can damage someone's reputation. Discussing these areas can help them navigate social media in a way that allows them to experience the benefits whilst also being aware of the potential risks.

● Be available to talk

Children and young people can encounter issues online that may cause upset or panic. Ensure that you or someone you trust is available to talk to them no matter what issue they may be having. Try to help them resolve the problem without causing more worry and know where to go for further support if the situation calls for it e.g. correct reporting channels and helplines such as Childline etc. Allowing family members to feel confident to come forward for support can help prevent problems from growing.

◆ Prioritise wellbeing

Social media can offer many benefits towards children and young people throughout their development but it can sometimes bring negative effects that may result in poor mental health if not managed correctly. Ensure rules and boundaries are in place at home to make sure family members are able to step away from social media and enjoy family time offline. Maintain a healthy offline/ online balance and know when to put devices down.

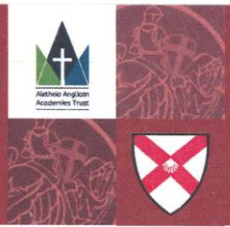




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Reading at Saint George's

"Books are a uniquely portable magic" – Stephen King

At St George's, we recognise the value of reading regularly for all our pupils; it not only supports literacy, which will in turn improve the quality of work in all their subjects, but it also stimulates imagination, supports positive mental health and gives our pupils the chance to broaden their horizons.

To guide pupils through a suitable reading journey and support them to choose appropriate books, we invest in a programme called **Accelerated Reader**; you can find more information on the programme in the [parent guide](#). It allows teachers to monitor reading progress and offer additional support and guidance where necessary.

Reading is an integral part of the English curriculum and time is given to allow pupils to read independently using Accelerated Reader every day throughout KS2 and KS3. We encourage parents & carers to speak to their children about what they are reading at school and please do not hesitate to contact their English teacher if you have any questions or concerns.





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Eat DRINK AND be with SCARY **PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE OCTOBER HALF TERM 2022** 
COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL

ASDA CAFE

Kids eat for £1 all day, every day with no adult spend until the end of 2022

TOBY CARVERY

The Kids Eat For £1 offer will be available from October 24th to 28th with the App

FRANKIE & BENNY'S

Adults Eat Free with every under 11 child throughout all the UK Half terms

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

FUTURE INNS

Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL GREEK

Kids eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

TESCO CAFES

Kids Eat Free with any purchase of fresh fruit by an adult throughout all the UK Half Terms

MORRISONS

Spend £4.99 after 3pm daily & get one free kids meal (usually all day during half term)

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat breakfast free with every adult breakfast, daily from 9am - 12pm.

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto during Half Terms

FARMHOUSE INNS

Kids eat for £1 when you sign up to their email list before October 26th 2022

YO! SUSHI

Kid's eat free all day, Monday to Thursday until 29th October 2022

SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Only valid Wednesdays but on all day

IKEA

From October 11th kids get a meal for 95p or £1.50 from 11am - All day, every day.

ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

One free children's meal per paid adult meal 12-5pm daily throughout the holidays

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Monday to Thursday

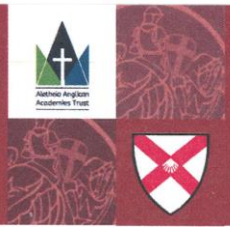




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Should your child need mental health support in the holidays, please use the below charities and organisations.

Kooth is an online and confidential service giving help and advice about emotional health kooth.com

Access a free chat services using Kooth.com.

NELFT - mental health direct support line (24/7) - 0300 555 1000 nelft.nhs.uk

24 hour #mentalhealth crisis line 0300 555 1000

Mental Health Crisis Line for children and young people, their families and carers if you need urgent support or advice

We are #Hereforyou

NELFT NHS Foundation Trust

Childline for immediate support around a variety of issues - 0800 1111 childline.org.uk

ChildLine 0800 1111

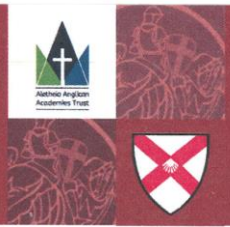




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Release the pressure for immediate support - Text Kent to 85258 (www.release the pressure.uk)

