

May Bank Holidays- St George's is closed

Monday 1st May- Early May Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May- Extra Bank Holiday for the Coronation

Monday 29th May- Spring Bank Holiday

Welcome



St George's has had another fun filled month; the children have been enjoying the slightly warmer weather outside and celebrating our favourite Patron Saints Day- St George's Day!

Summer Menu

Our new Summer Menu is starting on Tuesday 2nd May. The kitchen team have worked hard to create a varied and healthy menu across a 4-week period. We have emailed parents a copy and you can also find it on our website.

[Summer-Menus-2023-.pdf \(stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk\)](https://stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk/Summer-Menus-2023-.pdf)

Parents Evening

We are pleased to hold our annual Parents Evening on Thursday 18th May. Please speak to your child's keyworker to arrange a time to meet with them to discuss your child's progress and development.

Little Dragons appointments 5-6.30pm

Nursery appointments from 6-7.30pm

Staff

This month we welcome back Ellis after maternity leave and she will be covering the Senior Childcare Leaders' days off in different rooms.

We are also welcoming a new member of staff, Emma, who will be starting in our Badgers room in May.

Information

30 hours funding

Don't forget to renew your 30 hours funding codes, you will be emailed a reminder every 3 months to check you are still eligible.

[30 hours free childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

St George's Summer Fair Sat 24th June from 11am-1pm Save The Date



Since the sun is back and summer is fast approaching, we are beginning preparations for our annual summer fair. It's always a fun afternoon, with plenty of refreshments, activities and games to get involved in. We have the wonderful [Kazzamataz](#) booked in to perform for the children, she was a hit with both the children and adults last year! Please save the date; Sat 24th June from 11am to 1pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

If you'd be able to volunteer to help us with the fair, we're looking for plenty of helpers for various jobs: for example, setting up table and marquees, running a stall, clearing up at the end. Just let our Fundraiser [Jo](#) know if you can help.

Join us to learn some Makaton!



Makaton is a multi-modal language programme that can be used with babies, children and adults to develop language and literacy skills, whilst building confidence and social skills. Signing while speaking, has been shown to encourage the development of communication and language skills in babies and young children. You can use Makaton to:

- Build your baby's first communication skills
- Support verbal language acquisition in toddlers
- Assist a toddler or child who experiences communication or learning difficulties
- Help children & adults who are learning English as an additional language

Join us for a Makaton workshop with Rachel Downs, Makaton Trainer. See her Facebook: **BabyandToddlerSingandSign**.

We're delighted to be able to offer this workshop to St George's parents and carers for a discounted price of only £5. Please sign up in reception!

Allotment

The allotment improvement was generously funded by Kent County Council via the Combined Members Scheme and Cripps Tunbridge Wells. We have purchased a new shed; a water butt and new decking platforms as well as updating the flooring.

The preschool rooms have Forest School every Friday afternoon and use the allotment for this activity. They children have great fun learning about nature and learning new skills.

Each room has their own vegetable patch and the children love spending time in the allotment, planting seeds and tending to their vegetables.



Diary Dates

St George's CLOSED	Monday 1 st May
Coronation party	Friday 5 th May
St George's CLOSED	Monday 8 th May
Parents Evening	Thursday 18 th May
Little Dragons last day of term	Friday 26 th May
St George's CLOSED	Monday 29 th May
Holiday Club Starts	Tuesday 30 th May



May Half term Holiday Club bookings are now open.

Please email to check availability and for a booking form.

holidayclub@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk

Please review us



Follow St George's Facebook page to see the fun activities that the children and staff enjoy!

Squirrels



Squirrels have been spending a lot of time in the garden over the last month or so. They have been able to explore and develop their gross motor skills. The children have been climbing, driving the cars, running around with their friends and lots more. Squirrels have also enjoyed seeing their friends who have moved up to the next rooms.

Hedgehogs

This month Hedgehogs have made lots of Easter crafts, including bunnies, chicks and Easter eggs.

Hedgehogs did their very own Easter egg hunt and the team have enjoyed speaking to the children about what fun things they did over Easter Bank holiday weekend.

The children and staff also celebrated Earth day by fishing out plastic from our 'ocean' and decorated shields for St George's day.



After School Club



The children have planted more bulbs into our garden and will start sowing seeds soon.

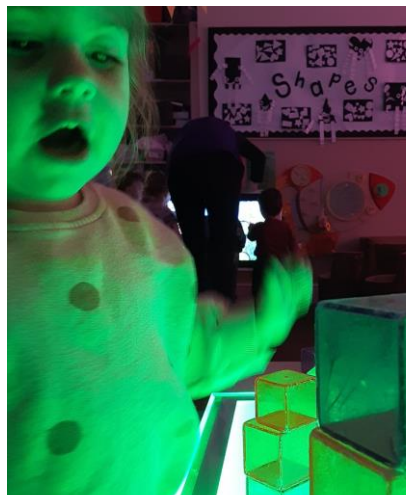
They've had fun over the past few weeks making lots of Easter themed crafts, including eggcups, marbling eggs and cards.

The team arranged an Easter egg hunt and the children had to find two card-shaped eggs in exchange for chocolate treats.

Moles

In preparation for the Coronation weekend, Moles have been making flags using sponges, glitter and paint. The children loved this activity because they used different materials to create their flags.

An activity they have really enjoyed is playing with their sensory toys. They used their hands to create patterns on the interactive board. The children used colourful blocks to build towers and match colours to one another, this sparked a conversation about all the different colours there were.



Little Dragons



It has been lovely to see all of the children back in Little Dragons after the Easter break and hearing about some of the things they had done at home.

The children have loved the dressing up clothes change from superheroes and princesses to adult clothing and accessories! If you have any old phones, hats, necklaces (with big beads) or handbags we would love to have them.

The role play area has been transformed into a hairdressing, barbers and beauty salon, your children have styled hair, massaged and given facials, enjoying being employees and customers.

Last week we learned about Earth Day and recycling and celebrated St George's Day.

We are looking forward to Coronation Week, dressing up in our finery, making snacks fit for a King and some fabulous crafts.

Coming up this term: International Food Celebration (details to follow)
Parents Evening 18th May – please remember to book a slot!



Otters

Otters enjoyed celebrating Easter! We made lots of lovely crafts, played Easter games, including lots of egg hunts and made some yummy treats for snack!

We have enjoyed thinking about Spring and have been excited to watch our caterpillars growing! The children made their own caterpillar creations out of playdoh and other materials and we looked at the life cycle of the caterpillar!

Our Spring Hop-A-Thon fundraising event was a huge success and we managed to raise a fantastic £103! A big thank you to everyone that supported it, we couldn't have done it without you! The children did their races brilliantly and sung their songs beautifully!

We also celebrated St George's Day, with the children making a dragon craft, St George's cross pictures and decorating biscuits!



Badgers



As the weather is getting nicer, we have been spending lots of time outside and have been practising our gymnastics on the mats. We have also got our allotment ready and are planting our vegetables ready for harvest.

The children have been very into doing hair, so we have had some hairdressing sessions and Deniz has been flexing her styling abilities.

The children have also been interested in dinosaurs and we have learned a lot about palaeontologists and finding fossils.

Each key person has a separate piece of paper on a pouch to the left of Badgers gate. If you do not know your child's keyworker, just ask.

Please can we ask that parents do not carry their children up the stairs as we aim to promote independence in Badgers to prepare them for school.