

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from everyone at St George's! We hope you have a wonderful and restful time!

December 2019



We are delighted to announce that St George's has been rated as 'Outstanding' again by Ofsted after their visit to us on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

We are incredibly proud of all our staff for their continued dedication and who provide the best care possible for the children at St George's.



What a fantastic time we have had this year here at St George's! The children have done so many wonderful things; they have had visits from the local Fire Brigade, GP's, and Folly Wildlife Rescue

and taught them about keeping safe and different kinds of animals you might find in the wild.

The children (and staff!) particularly enjoyed seeing the eggs hatch in the incubators and see the chicks develop when we had them here in April- look out for them again in March next year!

The children really enjoy being outside and have been getting messy in the mud kitchen and climbing on the new climbing frames. They have been on trips to the local parks and Little Dragons and Badgers did brilliantly during their Sports Days in the Summer.

We have made great use of our new minibus we acquired in January by taking trips to nearby woods for pond dipping and walks to explore nature. We are excited to be able to offer some Forest School Activities in the Spring like fire pit sessions- so watch this space!

The staff work hard to provide an assortment of messy and sensory play in the rooms and they have created great artwork for the display boards. The children from each room have recently produced some new artwork on canvases for the walls on the staircase.

We end this year celebrating our 'Outstanding' rating from Ofsted and we look forward to even more adventures in 2020. The building work is due to commence in the New Year and the two new rooms should be open in the Spring!

Many thanks to you all for your continued support of St George's.

## **WELCOME**

### 30 hrs Funding reminder

If you have had a reminder to renew your 30 hours code- please do so ASAP otherwise you will lose out on funding.

### **Sickness Policy**

Our Sickness Policy states that if your child has suffered a bout of sickness or diarrhoea that they are not allowed to return to nursery until 48 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. We ask that you stick to this policy to prevent the spread of illnesses to other children and staff.

### <u>Car park</u>

-Please only park in designated bays

-Please don't leave your car running in the carpark when you come in and collect your child/ren. We want to ensure that the children leaving and arriving at the setting do not inhale unnecessary car fumes.

Many thanks









**Diary Dates** 

# Holiday Club

### Holiday club

We still have spaces left on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> January before the schools return.

If you would like a form please come and see the office or email <u>kate.foulkes@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk</u>



St George's closes	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec at 1pm
St George's	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>
reopens	January 2020
Holiday Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 2020
Little Dragons	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>
return	January
Building work due to commence	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January
Little Dragons last	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>
day	February
Holiday Club	17 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> February
Little Dragons	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>
return	February

# <u>Staff</u>

 Sadly, Chanelle from Squirrels is leaving at the end of month.
We wish her well for the future.

# Fundraising

Thank you so much to everyone who helped with our Christmas Fair, either by donating prizes for the raffle/tombola, buying raffle tickets, sending back decorated children's bags, volunteering on the day and of course coming along to enjoy the fair. Over £2,700 was raised, which is amazing! £2,300 of which is profit and will go towards buying new toys and equipment for all the children to enjoy.

So far this year with the events that we have organised – St George's has raised £6,724!! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

The St George's Charity calendars are selling well but we still have more for sale, at only £6.50 they make great Christmas presents and a great memory of your child's nursery days - all the children whose parents signed their permission are included in the calendar. There is a sample calendar in the hallway, and they can be purchased from the office.

#### Save the Date

We will be holding a St George's Charity Dinner at the Mercure Hotel in Pembury on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – more details to follow early in the new year.



# Squirrels



Squirrels have been getting into the Christmas spirit and making tree decorations out of salt dough and making a giant Christmas tree for the display board. For this they used puffy (which is made from shaving foam,

PVA glue and green paint) as it has a wonderful texture.

They also met Father Christmas and received a present- some children were a bit hesitant, but it was fun watching them open their presents.

The staff have brought in some festive glasses and the children have had a giggle trying them on.



### **Funding forms**

If your child is entitled to Government funding (the term after they turn 3 years old) please come to the office to sign the paperwork.

Term dates: We only receive 38 weeks of funding from the government and out of 'term time' you are invoiced at the full rate. Sometimes 'term time' differs to the school term dates -if you would like copy of the funding dates please see the office.

# Moles

# **Gallery**



**Moles** have had a creative month getting ready for Christmas. They have used a variety of media and materials to create icicles, penguins, snowmen, Christmas trees and stockings to use in the room and on their display board.

The children have been baking this month to and used an icing bag to pipe icing onto their cakes- the children concentrated very well to decorate their cakes.

The weather hasn't stopped the children from enjoying the outside they had fun making bubbles by dipping fly swatters in washing up liquid.

The Moles team would like to thank everyone who helped bake and buy cakes for their cake sale this month- they raised over £50!



## Badgers

**Badgers** would like to thank everyone who attended the Badgers nativity- the room raised £271 which will go towards new equipment in the new year.

The children enjoyed a Christmas party with Kazzamataz and they had a visit from Father Christmas and a picnic tea.

The Badgers theme in January will be 'Winter' and the team will be looking at weather and artic animals with the children.





## Little Dragons

Little Dragons have had a wonderfully Christmassy last few weeks of term. The Christmas concert was a great success and we would like to thank all the parents and grandparents who supported the children. We raised £110 for resources for Little Dragons.

The children have made a lovely Winter display for the Little Dragons room and have enjoyed making crackers, calendars and Christmas decorations at craft time. At circle time we have been talking about what we do at Christmas and singing Christmas songs.

We also had an amazing party with a special visit from Father Christmas and our brilliant entertainer Kazzamataz.



# After School Club



The children enjoyed a Christmas party with Kazzamataz which was great fun for all.

The children are allocated points for good behaviour and helping the staff and they have added up for this term and 1<sup>st</sup> prize went to Leo who won a stocking full of treats. 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to Alice who also won a stocking prize.

The overall school to for the most points was Claremont school and all the children who attended also won prizes.