



## REMINDER:

**Masks need to be worn  
at drop off and pick up**

## Welcome

The snow has melted, flowers are beginning to bud and even the evenings are staying lighter, so it must be almost Spring!

Spring is always such a fun time at St George's, there is a lot to look forward to in the coming weeks. We have lots of activities and craft planned for March including dressing up all week (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> March) for Book Week and World Book Day, Mother's Day and St Patrick's Day.



We are looking forward to welcoming of the After School Club children from St Johns from 8<sup>th</sup> March and hope we can have the children from other schools joins us again as soon as restrictions are eased.

We have been pleased to welcome back several members of staff who have been away sick for the past month, we are so pleased they are feeling better. Unfortunately, we do have others who are still very unwell. All the team continue to send them our best wishes and hope they are on the road to recovery very soon.

## Staff

We have asked some of the office staff to work from home where possible during this lockdown. There will a Childcare Manager in the office each day and the staff will still be contactable every day via phone and email.



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

<https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesChildcare>

## COVID 19- protocols

### **PLEASE SOCIALLY DISTANCE AT THE BACK GATE**

- **Squirrel/ Badger and Otters parents:**  
-To ease congestion by the back gate, only 2 people can enter at a time
- Please can we have one adult per child at pick up
- Masks must be worn at drop off and pick up.
- If you have concerns or wish to share additional details, please can you call the office or email [childcaremanager@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk](mailto:childcaremanager@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk)



We are very excited to have a delivery of eggs to St George's on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

We had our first experience with them in 2019 but sadly missed the chance last year due to the first lockdown.

The eggs arrive with us and live under a heat lamp until they hatch. They stay with us for several weeks, so the children get to see them develop and grow feathers.

# Fundraising

We are pleased to share with you our first Fundraising newsletter of 2021- please click on the link so catch up on our latest news.

<https://stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Parents-Newsletter-Fundraising-edition-February-2021-3.pdf>

## **BIG THANK YOU FROM BECKY**

We know how difficult everything has been during the last year for everyone and nobody could have envisaged that this pandemic would still be with us! Even so, we have been very touched to receive many offers of help and support by lots of lovely parents and staff during the year, for which we are truly grateful. We really cannot thank you enough for your kindness and generosity - we are always pleased to receive your emails regarding fundraising ideas, volunteering opportunities (once restrictions are lifted) and obviously your donations - THANK YOU EVERYONE!

If you require any further information on any of the topics covered within the newsletter, or absolutely anything fundraising, please contact me on [becky.king@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk](mailto:becky.king@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk) - I would really love to hear from you.

Many thanks once again for your support.

*Becky*

## Diary Dates



|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Book Week-dressing up           | Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> -Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March          |
| South East chicks arrive        | Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March                                 |
| Little Dragons last day of term | Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> March                               |
| St George's closed              | Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April-Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> inclusive |
| Little Dragons new term starts  | Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April                                 |

## Information



### New room newsletters

We are **SPRING-ING** into March with new quarterly St George's room newsletters.

This will give the staff in Squirrels, Hedgehogs, Moles, Little Dragons, Badgers and Otters, a chance to share even more of the activities that the children have engaged in, as well as their plans for the upcoming months.

We aim to send them by the end of March.

### Easter Holiday Club



We are pleased to be able to run our Easter Holiday club from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April.

If you are interested in a place, please email

[kate.foulkes@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk](mailto:kate.foulkes@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk)

## Request for donations for Moles Sensory Room

Ellie and the Moles team are looking to turn an area of their room into a dark sensory room, which will not only help children with additional needs but benefit all the children. If you or anyone you know are able to donate any of the following items, we would love to hear from you:

- black or dark fabrics
- sensory toys and light up toys
- different textured toys or items to go in sensory baskets
- fairy lights
- old locks /switches /handles/doorknobs etc for a busy board
- scarf material - lots of bright colours

## Squirrels



The staff have thought of a variety of ways that the children can show their creativity.

We have used crayons, glue, tissue paper, rice and pasta to make our very own masterpieces.

Using their hands to feel different textures and exploring is an important part of discovery and learning.

The children had lots of fun being creative and were very proud of their final piece and taking them home to show their parents.

## Hedgehogs

This month Hedgehogs have enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year. The children have enjoyed baking traditional Chinese cookies, painting and decorating lanterns and the children enjoyed



trying prawn crackers, spring rolls and soy sauce. We then enjoyed lots of messy play using red and gold coloured noodles.

Hedgehogs have also been having fun flipping their 'pancakes' that they made as well as trying the pancakes that they got for tea with lemon, sugar and syrup.

Hedgehogs would also like to say goodbye to lots of friends who have recently moved to the Moles room!

Next month Hedgehogs will be exploring 'things that grow'.

## Moles

### Staff

Our new members of staff are settling in well and we are pleased to welcome Louise to the Badgers room.

### Review Us



<https://g.page/StGeorgesChildcare/review>



This month, Moles have enjoyed making their Chinese New Year board and learning about shapes and colours to make a display board.

They have also been getting busy by making salt dough handprints and painting them in lots of bright colours. They have also enjoyed baking cookies.

Moles are starting to create their own sensory room which we're very excited about!"



# Little Dragons



Little Dragons have continued with their winter topic and were very excited to see some snow last week. They have had lots of outside play, throwing snowballs and sliding down the ramp in a breadbasket which was made even better with a layer of snow on it for speed!

We learned about some of the origins of Chinese New Year celebrations, dressed up in red tunics and danced making lots of noise with our drums to scare away the Monster Nian!

We have been thinking about shapes and colours, playing games and working with different types of construction media. We have also been enhancing our communication skills by starting to learn some Makaton signing.

In preparation for school (and life!) we have been putting lots of practice into managing coats, shoes, wellies independently.

# Otters



February has been a busy month for Otters. We have joined in with lots of fun activities around Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and Pancake Day, including food tasting, lots of role play and craft for our families. Our dragon dance for Chinese New Year was a great success - make sure to watch it on St George's Facebook page!

We also saw our first snow of the year and the children had lots of fun throwing snowballs and using the slide as a sledge!

In March we will be looking at Spring, Mother's Day and St Patrick's Day and look forward to warmer weather and lots more fun activities to come - watch out for Otters' posts on St George's Facebook Page!

# Badgers

This month Badgers celebrated Valentine's day by sending home cards for our loved ones :) We spoke about who we loved and why.

Then we celebrated Chinese New year. We spread it over two weeks and made spring rolls, money pockets, lanterns, and fans. As well as talking and watching videos about what and why it is celebrated.

We also had pancake day and made little pancakes called poffetjes in Holland.

The children are still really interested in dinosaurs and we discuss them often. Recently I explained to them why there are no dinosaurs around now and showed them videos of meteors to show them what scientists believe happened to them.

We have welcomed three new members of staff this month. Shelin, Jason and Sue have settled well and are in the process of getting to know the children and learning the routine.

