

Welcome

We are sure you will have noticed the renovation work on the offices and reception (even if you didn't notice all of the workmen before Christmas). Please feel free to drop by the office to see the staff and the new welcoming reception area. It has taken a couple of weeks longer than expected but we hope you will agree that it is a wonderful improvement.

A BIG thank you for your support!

A huge thank you to everyone who has made a donation, volunteered, come along to our events and organised their own fundraising. Thanks to you, in 2017 we have:

- **Provided subsidised childcare places for 21 children**, with a total of 1391 sessions. These have made a huge difference to local families who are struggling, for example due to illness and financial hardship.
- **Bought new teacher chairs for all the rooms in the nursery.** This means our staff can sit comfortably at the children's level and interact with them much more easily.
- **Bought new toys to help our children play and learn**, including a sensory cube for Little Dragons, a chemistry set for Moles and wooden instruments for Squirrels.
- **Undergone a technology upgrade**, with tablets and the iConnect system replacing time-consuming paperwork.

We couldn't have done it without you! If you'd like to fundraise for St George's, please speak to Ellie in the office or email ellie.stewart@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk

Hand Sanitiser

I am sure you have seen the new hand sanitiser by the front door! Please help us to stop the spread of germs around the building by using it on your way in.

Nursery News

Squirrels

Squirrels have had a fantastic start to the year. We have had plenty of new children settling in and have been exploring different mark making activities, our favourite was rice and lentils in a tray with diggers. They liked filling and emptying the loads and burying their hands. We have also been reading lots of book and talking about emotions with the older children in small groups.



Moles

Moles have spent January incorporating numbers and colours into their play. As part of their coloured themed messy play they have used red and blue cous cous moulding it into shapes and making marks in it.



They have also been working on their skills with scissors making, colouring and identifying shapes for their board. They have made a construction box full of toy nuts and bolts, teaching the children to hammer, twist and pull.



Badgers

Would like to thank everyone who supported them at their nativity before Christmas. The children all had a wonderful time and enjoyed having their families come and watch them. The event helped to raise £212 to go toward equipment for the Badgers room. With this they have bought some new toys. They have been learning about polar animals and are getting ready to explore Chinese New Year in February.



After School Club

After School Club have been looking at the Arctic and learning about polar bears. They made a mother polar bear and her cubs to decorate by the stairs. They have been using encyclopaedia's to find new information about the Arctic.



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Little Dragons



Little Dragons have been busy working on their child led topic of Dinosaurs. Here they are making a large dinosaur out of recycling. They have also been making fossils, all the while welcoming their new friends who have only just joined them and settled in with their friends.



Kitchen

The kitchen work hard to make sure every child has a balanced meal that fits their dietary requirements. It is important to most of our children that they are being treated the same as their peers. This is an important part of menu planning and causes Sherrell to think carefully about how she can make all of the children's meals look similar. One of the ways we do this is through use of quorn to mimic minced meats in a variety of dishes.

Fundraising

Thank you to our recent supporters

A big thank you to St Mary's Frittenden who raised £766 for St George's through carol singing collection, and the Glenn and Phyllida Earle Family Fund who have donated £2000 to fund our subsidised childcare places. Also a huge well done to

Registered Charity No: 802017

Zsuzsi who has raised nearly £500 for Moles and the garden.

Run or cycle for St George's

Take on a challenge this year and help raise money for St George's! You could join our Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon team on Sunday 18th February, or take on an epic Olympic-route cycle in RideLondon – Surrey 100 on Sunday 29th July. Get in touch with Ellie at ellie.stewart@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk or chat with her in the office.

Dates for the diary

9 th February 2018	Last Day of Term for Little Dragons
12-15 th February 2018	February Holiday Club
18 th February 2018	Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon
19 th February 2018	Little Dragons Re-starts
29 th March 2018	Little Dragons Last Day before Easter
30 th March and 2 nd April	Bank Holidays. St George's is closed.

Don't forget if you have any questions about your child's care or St George's in general then please let us know.

Thanks so much for your support,

Morgane and the St George's team