



WELCOME

It is hard to believe that Christmas and the New Year was only a month ago, but we've packed lots of exciting activities already in the first few weeks of the new year.

The children have all enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year and will soon be getting creative in readiness for Valentine's Day and Pancake Day in February.

Please check out the newsletter for all this month's activities in your child's room.

Office staff

We thought it would be helpful for you as parents to know who the office staff are and what our responsibilities are...

First up is Nenita – our Acting Childcare Manager.

Nenita joined St George's in 2015 and she worked with the children in Badgers and was a keyworker. In 2018 she became our Deputy Manager and in November 2019 she has taken on the role as Acting Childcare Manager whilst a colleague is away on extended leave.



Each of our Childcare Managers have rooms that they manage, Nenita oversees Moles and After School Club and she would be your first port of call to discuss any issues with.

Nenita always has a smile on her face and is happy to help. She has wonderful and creative ideas for the children most recently the dinosaur area in the garden.

NEWS/ INFORMATION



On 12th February we are holding a 'St George's Bake Off' -the children from each room will help make a traybake and display it in reception for tasting and scoring by the parents and staff. The winners will receive a trophy!

May the yummiest cake win!!

Singing with Ellie



Ellie comes back from maternity leave in February – we are looking forward to her return.

Instagram

You can now follow us on Instagram 'stgeorgeschildcare' as well as Facebook and Twitter.



Car Park



We would like to remind you to park only in the marked bays in the car park.

Whilst we appreciate it can be frustrating having to wait, double parking has caused some friction in the past and can prevent other parents from leaving the car park in order to free up new spaces.

BUILDING WORK UPDATE

Exciting times! The building work in the rear extension of the building started on the 15th January and most of the demolition and clearance is now complete.

We are on track for the opening of the new Badgers, Otters and Hedgehogs rooms in early April.

Over the coming weeks, our staff will begin to discuss the transition plans with parents of all children who will be moving. In addition to this we will be sending out a written communication to parents regarding the move.



We are pleased to announce we shall be having a delivery of eggs from Living Eggs South East in the spring – we can't wait to see them hatch again!



Diary Dates



Little Dragons last day	Friday 14 th February
Holiday Club	17 th -21 st February
Little Dragons return	Monday 24 th February
Shrove Tuesday	Tuesday 25 th February
World Book Day	Thursday 5 th March
Mother's Day	Sunday 22 nd March
Little Dragons last day	Friday 27 th March
Easter Holiday Club	Thursday 1 st April

Staff

- We will be welcoming a new member of staff, Jade, to Badgers in February.
- We will be saying goodbye to Chloe in Badgers - we wish her well in her job as a Teaching Assistant.

Fundraising

The St George's Charity Dinner



This event is being held at the Mercure Hotel in Pembury on the evening of Saturday 28th March, tickets are £50 and include prosecco on arrival, a 3-course meal with half bottle of wine and disco. If you would like more information or to buy tickets please contact Becky in the office or email her on

becky.king@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk.

Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon

We have some charity places for this year's Half Marathon, which is being held on Sunday 16th February at 9am. If you are interested in taking part and fundraising for St George's for new toys and equipment, please contact Becky, details as above.

Squirrels

The children in **Squirrels** have been exploring different textures and materials. They have used a selection of tools to create their own pictures.

They loved experimenting with the different colours using their hands to make new colours.



The children showed great enthusiasm helping to make playdough using a big wooden spoon. They watched intently and were curious as the took it in turns to help stir the mixture.

February Holiday Club

There is still space left in Holiday Club this February- which run from Monday 17th - 21st February 2020.

It is open to children from Reception age to 11 years old.

The hours are 7.30am-1pm or 1pm to 6.30pm or all day.



Moles

Gallery



Moles have been busy making their woodland animal board. They have created bears, hedgehogs, foxes, moles and butterflies using a variety of resources and materials such as forks, strong and sponges.

Following their interests of cooking the Moles team organised for the children to make hedgehogs rolls using pumpkin seeds for spikes.

This helped hone their fine motor skills- picking up the pumpkin seeds in a pincer grip and pushing them into the dough.

They also had fun celebrating the Chinese New Year and tried prawn crackers and noodles.



Badgers

Badgers have been celebrating Chinese New Year- playing with noodles and tasting Chinese food and writing their own Chinese menus to use in the Badger shop.

They have been doing lots of winter crafts including making penguins, snowflakes, polar bears and messy play fun in the tuft tray! The group have been discussing the different types of weather you see in the winter- snow, ice, rain and wind!

The Badgers children have visited their new rooms a few times and they turned into mini builders using saws and hammers to survey the rooms! Some children even got to paint the walls before they got knocked down- all the children and the Badgers team are very excited to move into their new homes!



Little Dragons

Little Dragons have had an enjoyable start to the New Year. We have welcomed some new children and they have settled in well.

We have been talking about Chinese New Year and have been starting to do some crafts and looking forward to trying some Chinese food. We have been making the most of the wet weather and have been enjoying some wet weather activities and games in the garden.

This term we shall be continuing with our Winter topic and our new topic is Under the Sea. We have already made a giant octopus and are starting to make some mini aquariums this week.



Linking in to the Under the Sea topic we are going to Pets at home this term to look at and buy some new goldfish for our aquarium and see some of the other animals they have. It is going to be an exciting term!

After School Club

The **After School Club** children are now back after a wonderful Christmas break and have lots of ideas on topics for the New Year.

This term they are looking at *Winter Sports* and some of our children are bringing in photos of themselves in the snow, skiing, jet skiing and ice skating.

The children will be celebrating Chinese New Year along with the rest of St George's as well as designing posters about pollution.

