

Welcome



This month has flown by and Christmas now seems a distant memory! We are enjoying the days lasting longer so Spring is on its way soon!

The children have settled back into their nursery routines and we are welcoming lots of new families to the setting.

We have lots of exciting plans for this year and looking forward to sharing them with you all in the coming months.

Staff

Huge CONGRATULATIONS to our wonderful Childcare Manager, Teresa, who celebrated her 25th anniversary of working at St George's earlier this month! Thank you for all your hard work and dedication over the years!



Information

Strep A/ illnesses

Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, but it is highly infectious. Therefore, look out for symptoms in your child, which include a sore throat, headache, and fever, along with a fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. On darker skin, the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-update-on-scarlet-fever-and-invasive-group-a-strep>

If your child is unwell, please do not bring them into nursery.

Assessments and Observations

Please be aware that the staff carry out statutory assessments on the children when they first start, then a 2-year check in conjunction with the health visitor and finally, an assessment is carried out by their keyworker before they leave us to go onto Primary school or another setting. Other assessments are carried out as and when deemed necessary.

Their keyworker will also carry out observations on their key children each term.

Invoices

We send out our invoices at the beginning of each calendar month and ask that they are paid in full by the end of that month.

You can pay by in cash, by BACS, childcare voucher or Tax-Free Childcare.

If you set up a TFC account – please can you let the office know your child's unique code.

[Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare)

Interested in learning more about speech & language development in children?

We have several spaces left at our workshop evening. Tuesday 7th Feb, 7pm.

Please register in reception to attend.

Date for your diaries: Race Night Fundraiser!

We're looking forward to a fun Race Night on **Friday 10th March**. Please save the date and come along for a sociable evening and win some cash and prizes!

Tickets will be £15 per person, to include your entry, race entertainment from Paul's Race Nights, and dinner. It should be an exciting and sociable evening, with opportunities to hedge your bets for some cash winnings and fun prizes!

Further details and how to register coming soon.



Could your workplace sponsor a race?

If your workplace could sponsor a race, we're also looking for 8 race sponsors.

It costs £20 to sponsor a race and the companies sponsoring each race will be announced on the night by our MC, and their logo and info featured in our race brochure.

Getting the races sponsored will help us meet our fundraising target of £1,000 for this fundraising event.



Diary Dates

Little Dragons Coffee morning and raffle	Tuesday 7 th February
Little Dragons end of term	Friday 10 th February
Holiday Club	Monday 13 th -17 th February
Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon	Sunday 19 th February
Little Dragons return	Monday 20 th February
Race Night	Friday 10 th March

Please review us

[St George's Childcare, 7 Chilston Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9LP \(daynurseries.co.uk\)](#)

Facebook



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

www.facebook.com/StGeorgesChildcare

Holiday Club



We have a few afternoon spaces left for our February Half Term Holiday club.

Please email kate.foulkes@stegeorgeschildcare.co.uk for a booking form.

Easter Holiday Club dates will be released before the end of February.

Squirrels



This month Squirrels have been very physical. We have a new mini trampoline, kindly donated by one of our parents- thank you very much! The children have loved learning how to jump up and down on it, some children have sat on their bottoms and moved up and down that way. We have also had the soft play in our room and the children have enjoyed, making towers, climbing on it, jumping off it and rolling around on it. Doing these activities with the children has helped them build their confidence to try new things, explore gross motor skills and most importantly take risks.

Hedgehogs

In the month of January, we have welcomed back the children after the Christmas break. We have welcomed new starters and said goodbye to the children who have moved up to Moles- they seem to be settling in really well! We have been very excited about our new toys including a brand-new kitchen which we bought from our fundraising money. We have also enjoyed the new busy board also we bought with our donated money. Hedgehogs have celebrated Chinese New Year! Where we have carried out various craft activities and participated in trying Chinese delicacies! We also made some yummy biscuits to celebrate Burns night! Lastly, Hedgehogs had a great visit from Zoolab, thank you to the parents who joined in, keep your eye out for pictures on Facebook!



After School Club



This term the After School Club's topic will be Wintertime. The children have had a fabulous snowball fight in the garden and painted snowmen. They've had their pictures taken as snowmen and snowwomen!

The children will be choosing new equipment and toys with the money raised from the Christmas photo shoot- thank you to all the parents for their generosity.

Moles

This month, Moles have enjoyed Musical Bumps sessions. The children loved to sing and dance. The team have been setting up a sensory area with lights and different textured toys.

Moles have also been getting crafty making Chinese Lanterns and towards the end of the month they made their own "CDs" and talked about their favourite songs.

We now have a dance teacher who visits every 2 weeks and everyone, including the staff, love learning new dance moves.

Moles are looking forward to National Reading Week between 30th Jan and 5th Feb and will be dressing up as their favourite characters!



Little Dragons

Little Dragons have enjoyed welcoming some new children since returning after the Christmas break. The children were excited to explore their new flower shop and tractor role play area together, finding things to sell in the shop and learning about plants and seeds. Over the next few weeks, we will be choosing things to plant in our allotment patch and thinking about what we will need to do to look after them.

Coming up this term:

Chinese New Year festivities 23rd January to 27th January. National Storytelling Week 30th January to 3rd February – if anyone would like to come in and share a special story with the children, please let us know.

Coffee Morning and raffle 7th February (9 – 10.30)



Otters

Badgers

We hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and the children have enjoyed being back! There was lots of talk about how Christmas is over, so we spoke about the New Year. The children came up with their own New Year's Resolutions and made a display board!

We have had lots of role play fun, from doctors and nurses to babies and small world play with the car, with the children particularly enjoying some new traffic light toys we purchased with some of our fundraising money.

The children have also enjoyed lots of stories, with Jack and the Beanstalk being a recent favourite. We made a tuff tray with a big beanstalk and magic beans, before stacking the plastic crates in the garden and jumping off them!



It has been great to see everyone after the break and lovely to hear about all the presents everyone got.

This month we have settled back into our regular routine and the children have been especially fascinated with Dinosaurs. This has led to some great activities and learning opportunities to create new games such as dinosaur footprints and making dinosaur habitats.

The wet weather has allowed us to explore more indoor action games and the children have started to come up with their own, such as the stepping stone game and squeak piggy squeak.

The children have also enjoyed the cold and frosty weather and playing with the ice.

We have started to talk about birds as we are taking part in the RSPB Birdwatch week! We will be sending home some resources so everyone can take part when they are out and about.