

Welcome

Closed for Easter

Please note St George's will be closed from Friday 7th April for Easter and will reopen on Tuesday 11th April at 7.30am

Spring is definitely in the air and it is lovely to see the blossom on the trees.

St George's had a visit from three lambs and all the children (and staff!) loved meeting them! The children were very gentle stroking them and some of the Otters children even named them - Tiny, Lottie and Twinkletoes!

Thank you to Debs and her daughters for organising the visit.



Living Eggs



They arrived on Monday 13th March and 9 eggs hatched. The children, staff and parents always love to see them grow and get bigger once they've hatched. This year's chicks were enormous by the time they left us!

Car Park

Please can we ask parents to **only park in allocated bays** in the car park. Please do not to park next to the minibus as it blocks the exit. We appreciate it can be frustrating not to find a space to park but please be patient and mindful of other drivers.

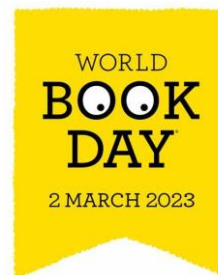
Information

30 hours funding

Don't forget to renew your 30 hours funding codes, you will be emailed a reminder every 3 months to check you are still eligible.

[30 hours free childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

World Book Day



World Book Day is always one of our favourite times of year! We celebrate it over the whole week so everyone can participate. We love to see the children dress up as their favourite characters. Thank you to everyone who made such an effort.

Join us to learn some Makaton!



Makaton is a multi-modal language programme that can be used with babies, children and adults to develop language and literacy skills, whilst building confidence and social skills. Signing while speaking, has been shown to encourage the development of communication and language skills in babies and young children. You can use Makaton to:

- Build your baby's first communication skills
- Support verbal language acquisition in toddlers
- Assist a toddler or child who experiences communication or learning difficulties
- Help children & adults who are learning English as an additional language

Join us for a Makaton workshop with Rachel Downs, Makaton Trainer. See her Facebook: **BabyandToddlerSingandSign**. We're delighted to be able to offer this workshop to St George's parents and carers for a discounted price of only £5.

Please sign up in reception!

Online safety

At St George's we promote the use of educational platforms and apps to aid children's development. This is done through use of tablets, laptops, and our interactive table which the children have supervised access to for short periods.

A tablet is one of many resources which can support children to explore, investigate, and develop their own ideas and explore different materials. For example, using a magnifying app to look at insects.

Some of our favourite apps are sensory fireworks, YouTube kids where we love to watch sign language songs and mathematics videos and Duolingo.



It is important that we provide children with the knowledge of how to use technology appropriately and safely.

If your children search online independently, it is important to ensure safe search settings are activated on your search engines. Alternatively, you can use a child friendly search engine such as Swiggle.

Below is a link to a screen time parents fact sheet.
[rcpch screen time parent fact sheet - final.pdf](#)



Diary Dates

Little Dragons /ASC last day of term	Friday 31 st March
Easter Holiday Club starts	Monday 3 rd April
St George's closed	Friday 7 th - Monday 10 th April
Easter Holiday club ends	Friday 14 th April
Little Dragons / ASC new term starts	Monday 17 th April
Matthew Walker Photography at the setting	Tuesday 18th April until Thursday 20th April

Holiday Club



Easter Holiday Club bookings are now open.

Please email Kate to check availability and for a booking form.

kate.foulkes@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk

Please review us



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

Squirrels



Squirrels have been very busy recently! We have celebrated the Holi festival on the 8th March by exploring colours through messy tuft trays and making patterns with paint in bottles and with colourful sand.

The children loved having the chicken outside their room. They looked at Spring as well as farms and we made chicks, sheep, cows, pigs and daffodils.

The team have also had lots of dance parties in the room, complete with bubbles and disco lighting!

Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs have been exploring Spring. We have made a new Spring display board with the children's crafts including caterpillars, tulips, plant pots, easter eggs and lambs.

The children loved seeing the lambs in the garden too and were very excited to see some chick's hatch!

The staff had so much fun face painting the children and it happened to coincide with St Patrick's Day, so of course, a shamrock was included!

We have also been speaking about Mother's Day and hope all of our mummies had a great day!



After School Club



The children have enjoyed celebrating lots of special days this month including Pokemon day, St David's day, World Book Day, World Wildlife day and Mother's day. Some of the children potted some beautiful bulbs and lovely cards.

Our craft activities have had a Spring and Easter theme. The children have decorated wood egg cups and made metallic marbled eggs.

They have also painted a new canvas that will be displayed in the building.

Moles

Moles favourite book this month has been The Very Hungry Caterpillar and the children made their own caterpillars and butterflies using paint and other materials.

The room have been preparing for Easter by making eggs, bunnies and chicks using pipe cleaners, feathers and sequins.

The children have been getting messy with a few science inspired activities, including making cloud dough and explosions using baking soda and vinegar.

The team have welcomed some new children to Moles and they have settled in really well.



Little Dragons



The Little Dragons children have been fascinated by the arrival of Spring, noticing and talking about the changes they are seeing in nature. We were delighted to meet the lambs that came for a visit, it was lovely to be so close to them and touch their soft wool.

The children have also been excited to have the Living Eggs at St George's, it was amazing to be able to see the chicks as soon as they hatched, and even more exciting to be able to gently hold and listen to them cheeping.

Little Dragons had lots of fun celebrating World Book Day, with dressing up and storytelling, the highlight was joining in a Bear Hunt, the children were great at using their imaginations and making sure the grown-ups weren't scared! Some of them made up their own animal hunt stories, encouraging their friends to be brave on their quests while they traversed difficult terrains.

Easter Bingo has been a great success. Lots of parents have bought their bingo cards to join the fun and help raise funds for new resources.

Otters

Otters loved celebrating World Book Week. We liked seeing all the different costumes that the children dressed up as and enjoyed sharing some of their favourite stories with them.

We explored some of the children's interests by looking at whales and dinosaurs, when some of them spoke about trips to the museum in London.

International Women's Day was a success and the Otters learned about famous inspirational women from history, including Rosa Parks, Amelia Earhart and Queen Elizabeth. We looked at books and explored some new toys to help them understand.

Finally, we absolutely loved our trip to the Assembly Hall Theatre! We went to see Room on The Broom and the children sat beautifully and enjoyed a bus ride there.



Badgers



This month we welcomed the lovely chicks to the nursery and the children have been fascinated by them and enjoyed cuddles and strokes.

For the last few months, badgers have grown some bulbs and these were given away to lucky Badger mummies for Mother's day! We have started looking at Spring and preparing for Easter and the nicer weather has meant we are enjoying spending more time outside.

We had a lovely last snow day earlier this month and it was a nice way to say goodbye to winter.

World book day was a great success. Thank you to everyone who dressed up and thank you for bringing in your favourite books for us to read.