



Welcome

With less than a month until Christmas, St George's is definitely in the festive spirit!

We have a wonderful tradition of using our windows for a St George's Advent calendar. The rooms have been busy making and decorating beautiful Christmassy pictures for each day of Advent, please keep an eye out from Friday 1st December when you drop off and pick up as well as on our Facebook page for pictures

<https://facebook.com/StGeorgesChildcare>



We now have a beautiful Christmas tree in our hallway. The children and staff had a great time adding the lights and baubles.

We are very grateful to Treework for donating the tree to us this year. The setting looks lovely and festive and is making us feel very Christmassy.

Mayor's Toy Appeal

Like every year, we are supporting The Mayor's Toy Appeal. If you'd like to purchase an extra gift for a child in need, there are tags on the Christmas tree for suggestions of what to buy.

If you buy the gift please bring it back to us, unwrapped with the tag attached. Many thanks.

Staff

Our Senior Childcare Leader (SCL) Esther in Badgers will be leaving just before Christmas. We want to thank her for 5 years' service and wish her all the best for the future.

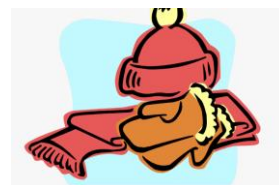
Information

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)

Warm weather clothes



Please can you make sure your child has warm clothes and outerwear as the weather is now much colder. The children go outside to play everyday no matter the weather!

Parents questionnaire



Thank you to all the parents who have completed this year's questionnaire.

We really value your feedback and there is still time to complete the survey before 20th December 2023.

[St George's Parent Questionnaire 2023 \(typeform.com\)](https://typeform.com)

Christmas Fair

We are all really excited about the Christmas fair. If you would like to volunteer for the event, please contact Jo, our fundraiser

jo.bailey@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk



Please join us for lots of festive fun, games, stalls, raffle and especially to visit Father Christmas!



Santa's grotto



Mulled wine, mince pies, hot chocolate and other refreshments



Facepainting, crafts and much more!

Donations



Please feel free to bring in any homemade cakes, biscuits etc and provide a label with the ingredients- NO NUTS please.



There is still time to bring in your red bags, to be decorated by the children. There is a prize for best decorated bag too!



Diary Dates

Little Dragons Carol concert	Friday 1 st December
St George's Christmas fair	Saturday 2 nd December 12-2pm
Otters Nativity play at St John's church	Tuesday 5 th December 9am-12
Hedgehogs Activity morning	Wednesday 6 th December 10-11am
Little Dragons last day	Friday 15 th December
Badgers Christmas show	Monday 18 th December
Christmas Holiday club	Monday 18 th to Friday 22 nd December
St George's closes	Friday 22 nd December at 6.30pm
St George's reopens after New Year	Tuesday 2 nd January 2024
Holiday Club- one day only	Tuesday 2 nd January 2024
Little Dragons return	Monday 8 th January 2024

Please review us



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

Squirrels

Squirrels have been busy this month! We celebrated Diwali and bonfire night by exploring colours and making sparkly fireworks.

We also used potato stamping to create our own poppy fields for Remembrance Day. Now, we are looking at winter and starting to prepare for Christmas!



Hedgehogs

This month Hedgehogs have enjoyed celebrating Remembrance Day by making poppies using paint and tissue paper.

The children also enjoyed exploring Diwali and made colourful lanterns using dabbers and made diyas using clay and glitter.

The staff are trying to encourage some independence and have been practising pulling our zips down and taking off our wellies!



After School Club



The children in After School Club have started to make Christmas crafts and activities, including making a bauble which contains a ribbon with exactly how tall they were in 2023.

Some of the older children have loved using the pool table and teaching the younger ones how to play.

We have now started a Christmas jumper design competition and can't wait to see their creations!

Moles

Over the last month we have been celebrating the change in season. We explored the way that leaves change over time, took a trip to Sainsburys to buy pumpkins and baked pumpkin cupcakes.

We had our Pyjama week, where all the children and staff wore their pjs. We had a teddy bears picnic and raised some money with a bake sale. We have celebrated many birthdays and began to say goodbye to some of the older children who are starting their new journey onto Badgers or Otters.

Moles would also like to welcome Andrew to the team, he will be our SCL and is looking forward to bringing some exciting changes to the room.



Little Dragons

Little Dragons have been using recyclable materials to make decorations for their room.

The children helped to create a wonderful gingerbread house to play in around the climbing frame as well as a huge cardboard Christmas tree. These have been covered in their handmade decorations.

During World Nursery Rhyme week, the children practised Christmas songs in readiness for their concert on Friday 1st December.

Thank you to the parents for attending the Christmas craft fundraising evening, it was great to see you all making delightful decorations and enjoying hot chocolate and mince pies!



Otters

During Spooky Week the children drilled patterns in their pumpkins with Robert and we had various messy / water trays and art and craft activities, exploring spiders, ghosts and potions! There were some fantastic costumes and we had scavenger hunts to be rewarded with special treats!

Otters explored Fireworks and the colours and sounds that they make. We used our own instruments to give it a go, with the children producing a lovely video (see Facebook). We also had a reply from the King and Queen for our Coronation card, which was very exciting.

We celebrated Remembrance Day, speaking about all the brave soldiers and animals that fought for us! The children made lovely poppy crafts and played in a messy tray!



Badgers



Badgers have started practicing their Christmas songs they will be singing at their Christmas show! The show is on the 18th December from 2:30 till 4:00 and includes hot chocolates, mulled wine and treats.

We have enjoyed the cooler weather, but could we ask that parents please provide scarves, gloves, warm coats, HATS and a jumper to wear in the room please, thank you.

We have started our Christmas crafts and the children have started talking about Christmas presents.