

Please wear a
mask at the
setting



Welcome

It is the start to another new academic year and we warmly welcome our new pre-schoolers in Little Dragons as well as our new nursery starters. We look forward to getting to know you all and hope that your children are settling in well.

The staff have an array of exciting activities planned and we love to share them with you via iConnect, ParentZone and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesChildcare>. We also email parents a quarterly newsletter from each room, detailing topics and useful information. Please look out for these in your inbox.



This term we have been able to welcome back Tatty Bumpkin Yoga, Singing with Ellie and Musical Bumps. It is lovely that our extracurricular timetable has resumed as the children get so much enjoyment out of it.



We are excited to be able to now offer Forest School sessions with the help from Lisa Cobbs who has over 5 years' experience working in Forest Schools. The children in Little Dragons, Badgers and Otters will be having these sessions every Friday. The children enjoyed creating their own bug hotel, making necklaces and roasting

Clothing

As the weather starts to get colder and probably wetter, your child will need appropriate clothing and footwear when they come in. A warm winter coat and some wellies is ideal as we do go outside in all weathers!



COVID 19- protocols

PLEASE SOCIALLY DISTANCE AT BACK GATE

- Parents are able to come into the setting for drop off and pick up from 1st September.
- Please can we have one adult per child at pick up and drop off.
- Masks must be worn at drop off and pick up.
- If you have concerns or wish to share additional details, please can you call the office or email childcaremanager@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk

Reminder



For new Little Dragon parents- please be aware we are a NUT FREE setting.

Please do not include any nut products in their packed lunches.

Staff

We are excited to welcome Gabby to Badgers this month.

We bid farewell to Ellie from Moles after 5 years, we wish her well as she pursues a new career in adult care.

We also say goodbye to Alice and Ciara in Moles.

We wish them the best for the future and hope Ciara enjoys her university course.

Congratulations

This month we celebrate two more long serving members of staff.



Debbie celebrates 20 years of working at St George's. She runs our After School Club as well as working in the Otters room.



Sherrell celebrates 10 years of service working as our Catering Manager. We want to thank them both for all their hard work and dedication over the years and here's to many more!

FUNDRAISING

Christmas Fair – Save the Date

We have listened to parents and staff with regard to holding a Christmas Fair this year and have decided to go ahead and make plans to hold it on **Saturday 4th December from 3pm til 5pm**. Please put this date in your diaries and rest assured we will only go ahead with the fair if we are confident it is safe to do so and that government guidelines permit.

We will be holding the fair outside, using the front car park and whole of the playground and would be grateful to hear from anybody who has a marquee/gazebo that they would be happy to lend us for the event. We would also be grateful if you could please start collecting the following :-

- Raffle prizes
- Bottles for the bottle tombola
- Chocolate for the chocolate tombola



As always, we are reliant on volunteers for the fairs to run smoothly and Becky would love to hear from anybody is able to help either setting up, running a stall or clearing up afterwards – please contact her on becky.king@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk.

Letters with information about the fair, how you can help and raffle tickets will be sent out in October.

Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon

If you are up for a challenge and would like to fundraise for St George's, why not take part in the next Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon, which is being held on Sunday 20th February 2022. In previous years we have been lucky enough to have a small team of staff and parents that have taken part and raised vital funds for St George's. Please visit <https://www.letsdothis.com/gb/e/hendy-tunbridge-wells-half-marathon-17725> for details on how to enter and contact Becky on becky.king@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk if you decide to sign up as she can organise a running vest, sponsor forms etc.

Diary Dates



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|------------------------------|---|
| Little Dragons Afternoon Tea | Tuesday 19 th October |
| Little Dragons last day | Friday 22 nd October |
| Holiday Club starts | Monday 25 th - Friday 29 th October |
| Dressing up Week | Monday 25 th - Friday 29 th October |
| Little Dragons back | Monday 1 st November |
| PJ day | Wednesday 10 th November |

Please review us

[St George's Childcare, 7 Chilston Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9LP](https://www.stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk)
(daynurseries.co.uk)

<https://g.page/StGeorgesChildcare/review>

https://business.facebook.com/pg/StGeorgesChildcare/reviews/?ref=page_internal

October Half Term Holiday Club

Bookings for October Holiday Club are open. We still have some available spaces.

For a booking form, please email kate.foulkes@stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk



Squirrels



For September Squirrels have been enjoying lots of different autumnal arts and crafts that have been used to decorate the rooms, including painting the windows and making sunflowers.

They've also been making the most of utilizing the sensory room in smaller groups using the new light and sound sensory toys they bought.

After School Club

The After School Club have welcomed some new children this September, many coming from Otters and Badgers group.

They are all settling in very well, with the other older children helping them with all the new routines.

We have also been harvesting our large onions and runner beans for the kitchen to use.



Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs had lots of fun in the garden playing hide and seek. The children loved hiding in different areas around the garden waiting for an adult to find them.

The children have enjoyed exploring their new sensory cube this week, we have also made sensory bottles and have some new sensory balls in our sensory corner.

Another activity the children have liked this month is water play; we filled the tubs with bubble mixture and the children splashed about with shells and toy boats.

The room said a sad goodbye to Ellie who left Hedgehogs last week, we wish her luck at university!



Moles



The children had a 'science week' at the beginning of the month. They had fun experimenting with items that were able to float and sink.

They also made boats out of kitchen foil for the items to float on. They discovered milk, food colouring and washing up liquid moves colours around. Skittles and water make rainbow patterns. Vinegar & bicarbonate of soda makes an eruption and they've used pipettes to transfer coloured water into test tubes!

The Moles children have enjoyed getting creative with mark making and craft activities.

Little Dragons

It has been wonderful to welcome lots of new children to Little Dragons and of course to welcome back a few from last year! Everyone is settling in really well and getting used to the routine, we feel lucky to have such a lovely group of children and families to spend the next year with.

We have already had lots of fun getting to know each other, making new friends and exploring our indoor and outdoor environments here at St Georges.

We are focusing our current topics on 'what we know about ourselves, our families and pets' and 'Autumn' as the end of summer definitely feels like it's here.

Lunch boxes: if you put grapes, small tomatoes or cocktail sausages in the lunch box please cut them lengthways, they are a choking hazard when they are whole.

We are a completely nut free setting so please ensure you do not include anything that may contain nuts, (for example chocolate spread often has hazelnuts in it).

Date for your diary- Afternoon tea at Little Dragons 19th October at 1.30pm. Details to follow.



Otters



This month we have been looking at Under the Sea and Pirates, celebrating the annual Pirate Day/Week. We have been making lots of sea creature crafts, with the children's jellyfish and turtles being proudly displayed around the room. We have made cupcakes, using sweet treats in the shape of fishes to decorate. The children worked on their colour skills, using magnifying glasses to search out and sort sea creatures in the water (shredded paper!)

We also enjoyed a few trips out; a particular favourite of the children was a trip on the minibus to Pets at Home, to buy our new fish Dotty and Bolt.

We have searched out treasure in the park as part of our Pirate topic and the children were thrilled to discover the Pirates had left them a treat back at nursery. We have created a pirate ship which has been used in a number of role-play activities and have been crafting treasure maps, hats and swords.

Badgers

This month we have been very busy. The children read a book about Egyptian mummies and got very interested in them, so we wrapped some people up like mummies and made mummy biscuits.

We got a visit from a lovely guide dog called Reagan and learned about why some people need dogs to help them and how they are trained to be help.

And we also had a visit from Freddie the tortoise

We have managed to get out to the park a few times this month as the weather has been so lovely.

Forest school has started on Friday afternoons. the children have really enjoyed it and have roasted marshmallows over a fire with Lisa.

The children have also enjoyed building dens this month, both inside and in the garden.

