

From the Head Master
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HEAD MASTER'S NEWSLETTER

16th October 2015

Dear Parents,

The half term break is almost upon us and there are many highlights to look back on as we celebrate the recent successes and achievements of the children. I hope you will enjoy reading about these. As always, I will highlight various key dates and events taking place in the first few weeks after half term.

Recent events and fixtures

A team of 32 swimmers travelled to York House School for a very exciting Gala on 5th October. Our swimmers ranged in age from Year 4 to 8 and for many it was their first time in a more serious competition and we had a good mix of boys and girls competing.

The meet started with relays and our swimmers performed extremely well and really set the tone for the individual races which followed. St George's cheered their team mates to the rafters and the pupils continued to swim really well, winning many races. We had a few hairy moments with our swimmers bravely hurling themselves off the blocks – lack of confidence was certainly never a problem!

After a quick match tea we received the results and were delighted to hear that we had won the competition. The final scores were: St George's 104 points, York House 88 points and St. Martin's 64 points.

Thank you to all the parents who travelled to Rickmansworth to support us.

Mrs. Barlow

Senior Football

Our U13s and Colts teams took on St Edward's last week. The 1st team continued their winning streak in a 7-a-side match winning by 10 goals to 2. It was a great, passing performance with Max Evans achieving an excellent hat trick. The Colts A, B and C teams were also in full flow with 3 convincing wins. A fine defensive performance from Nicholas Pierce was one to note in the A team's 4-1 win and a Christian Daly hat trick for the C team was one to remember.

Very well played to all the boys for representing the School so well.



Junior Football

Our U8 teams travelled to St Neot's and took on St Neot's and St Piran's. Each team played both schools in some closely fought matches. Although there were many drawn matches, St George's were undefeated in all six games. A wonderful strike from James Windsor for the B team saw them gain a victory over St Piran's. Well done Year 3!

The U9 teams hosted St Neot's last Friday. The B team were involved in a very tense game with St Neot's and whilst they played tremendously, they eventually lost 2-1. The A and C team however were on top form. Jacob Butcher deserves a special mention for scoring all 4 goals in the A teams victory.

Some brilliant performances Year 4 – well done!

Football Tournaments

Last Saturday, St George's hosted a group of regional Prep Schools in our annual U10 Football Tournament. With 12 teams in attendance, the competition was fierce – luckily, our Year 5 boys were on top form! In their group they beat Holme Grange B, Bishopsgate, Eagle House, Hall Grove and York House B to set up a final with Holme Grange A. A 2-0 win was enough to bring the trophy back to St George's. An excellent team performance from everyone involved.

Last Sunday, our Colts A team travelled to Bradfield College for their annual 7-a-side tournament. This is one of the biggest and most competitive tournaments in the region with 20 of the largest schools in the South East in attendance. Our Colts A team were remarkable on the day. In the group stage, we drew with Shrewsbury House and Oratory Prep and beat Cheam 2-1. This meant we came 2nd in our group and were drawn against Elstree in the Quarter-Final. A wonder goal from Corban Smith and a nice finish from Will Gillies saw St George's win 2-0 and setting up a semi-final vs Lambrook. Caylan Vickers was on fire in the semi-final and after a close 1-1 draw after extra time, penalties were the decider. Xander Brown pulled off some sensational saves (he didn't concede any penalties!) and Elliot Dudko coolly slotted home to see STG progress to the final. Here, St George's took on Shrewsbury House again and this time, we won 1-0.

St George's will hold the trophy this year – we are very proud of our Colts teams' achievement!

Mr. Mitchell

Netball Tournament at Epsom College

Another successful afternoon for the St George's U10 and U11 netball teams. The U10 girls came runners up after losing out during golden goal extra time. The U11s also put up a fight to secure third place overall. Despite the rain, wind and rather wintery conditions the girls played some fantastic netball and they thoroughly deserved their second and third place victories. Well done girls!



Lacrosse

This week the girls have been enjoying some pop lacrosse in their games lessons. They learnt how to scoop up the ball, how to cradle the ball to protect it from their opposition and how to pass the ball effectively. A fabulous afternoon and lovely to see lots of smiling faces!



Miss Holborough

Inter-House Tennis rain did not stop play!

Despite a short three week delay the Inter-House Tennis at Eton College Courts finally got underway on Monday 12th October and Tuesday 13th October.

Two seeded pairs from each age group took to the Courts. The U9 and U11 House teams competed on Monday determined to get their respective House off to a winning start. A few volleys, smashes and baseline shots later the scores were in ready for the U13s to play the deciding matches the following day.

The overnight scores were as follows; Victory with two points and some work to do, Vindictive with five points in second place, Rodney with seven points looking favourites to take first place and Revenge on four points with ground to make up.

On Tuesday the seniors took to the Courts unaware of the overnight scores determined to carry on their House's hard work. At 11.10 the final shot was played and the scores were:

1st- Rodney with 14 points, 2nd –Revenge with 10.5 points, 3rd – Vindictive with 6 points and 4th – Victory 5.5 points

Well done to all who took part and thank you to Mr Pierce for enabling us to use the Eton Courts.

Mr. Wright

Year 1 trip to Windsor Castle

Year One enjoyed their outing to Windsor Castle and were enthralled as they went back in time and imagined they were getting ready for a banquet over 100 years ago. All of the children have learnt interesting facts about the fire at the Castle and it was wonderful to show them the monument and lantern room where the fire started.



Year One also enjoyed a visit from Mrs Clark, who is a Doctor, who explained to the children the importance of healthy eating and how to look after their bodies.

Expeditions Day

Year 5 set foot into the wild on Thursday with a trip to Whipsnade Zoo. The children were able to see some wonderful animals from around the world and were given the opportunity to touch Esmerelda, the Zoo's snake! We arrived just in time for the lemur's breakfast and also watch an incredible bird display with parrots, hawks and macaws flying over our heads. The children were impeccably behaved and after a lot of walking and fresh air, I am sure they slept well last night!



Years 7 and 8 went to the Sutton Life Centre. They took part in a variety of workshops designed to make them think about certain life skills involving Internet safety, drugs, public transport, the environment and fire. They also had a talk from a policeman. The Centre has a virtual house, street and railway station and a 360° projection room.

It was a thought provoking day which they all thoroughly enjoyed.

Year 6 spent the day at "Rugged Earth Adventure", where they had the opportunity to work in teams building shelters in the forest, directing each other through obstacles, making a fire without matches and even cooking their sausages over a fire for lunch. The focus was on team building and survival in the wild. Everybody had a brilliant time and at the end of the day, the pupils' verdict was: "this was the best trip ever!"





Whilst other Year Groups were walking around the zoo or camouflaging themselves in the forest, **Year 4** were sat in lessons. On arrival at the Victorian School at Guildford Museum they were met on the pavement by a Victorian teacher and taken into their lessons. For the entire morning they experienced what it would be like to be a child in a Victorian school. The lessons involved sewing (girls only), drawing, handwriting skills, bible study and maths. At playtime the children were given Victorian toys to play with. They worked hard, **IN SILENCE**, all morning. Not only did they have to sit with their hands behind their backs but they had to stand to give their answers and end each answer with, "ma'am."



It may sound like a rather strange day out but they all had a really good time and embraced the experience. We were very proud!

Mrs. Dewar

World Maths Day

On Wednesday 14th October all pupils in Years 3 – 8 took part in World Maths Day, the global online maths competition. The computer rooms were buzzing with intensity as the pupils strived to answer as many mental arithmetic questions as possible in a series of 20 one minute games. This event has been embraced by the children, with many taking the opportunity to spend time practising since the warm up for the competition began on 1st October. On Monday certificates were presented to more than 30 pupils who had gained over 1000 points in their warm up games the previous week. We will be checking our World Maths Day results over the next few

days but in the meantime the Mathletics website is still available for use for St. George's pupils until the end of October. Certificates can be achieved on a weekly basis by attaining more than 1000 points in any given week (Monday to Sunday). Perhaps something to do over half term to keep skills sharp!

Well done to everyone who took part and practised so diligently.

Miss Hewson

Other News

Holiday Art Activity

Mrs. Saunders and Mrs. Pollock will be running an Art Club in the Half-term holiday on Thursday 22nd October and Friday 23rd October from 9.30am to 12.30pm. If your child is in Reception to Year 3 and would like to participate in this Club then please e-mail: sally.saunders@stgwindSOR.co.uk.

Boarding

Time has flown by in our first half term in the boarding house. The latest adventure has been bowling at Absolutely 10pin in Slough. Taking centre stage (literally!) at the bowling alley, Matron Katy and Mr Onions were treated to a vast array of techniques incorporating speed (and lack of....), zigzagging, rolling, bouncing!, and blindfold bowling. All hail Zach Roberts, King of the Pins, with a mighty score of 119 leaving us all trailing in his wake. Before returning for tuck, Top Gear, and bed, there was time to sample the arcade.

The boarding house itself is beginning a refurbishment programme which will continue throughout the year, including a new paint job, new posters and pin boards with photos and essential boarding information. We know the boarders will love their new environment.

If you would like to see what's happening at STG Boarding, are interested in finding out more about boarding, or are being pestered by your children at home ("Please may I board?? Pleeeeeease????") and are at breaking point, why not get in touch and meet us for a tour and a chat?

Oh, and remember to follow us on twitter [@stgboarding](https://twitter.com/stgboarding) for photos, tips and news.

Mr. & Mrs. Onions

Harvest Celebrations

On Wednesday and Friday, Pre-Prep gathered in the Gym for our annual Harvest Festival. Nursery and Reception told the story of 'The Little Red Hen' while Year 1 and 2 acted out 'The Little Grey Cloud'. The Gym looked festive, decorated with

Harvest baskets, scarecrows and even a Harvest Moon. Congratulations to all the children for their clear speaking and for leading the school in such joyful and exhilarating singing.

Many thanks to all for the wonderful cakes which were donated to local Care Homes and Thames Hospice. They were gratefully received.

Mrs. Adriano

The Week Ahead

Week 7 – Theme: Teamwork

Monday 19th October: 6.30-8.00pm – Year 8 Parent/Teacher meeting (Gym)

Tuesday 20th October: 7.15am – Netball and Football Tour to Barcelona departs

Wednesday 21st October: 2.30pm – Fixtures as calendared
Please note: There will be **NO** Burnham Gymnastics Club after School.

HALF TERM BEGINS AT 6.00pm

Looking Further Ahead

Some key dates for your diary after half term:

Tuesday 3rd November: 5.00pm - Music Theory Exams (venue will be confirmed by Mr Wilkinson)
6.30pm – Year 7 Parent/Teacher meeting (Gym)

Thursday 5th November: 6.30pm – Year 7 Parent/Teacher meeting (Gym)

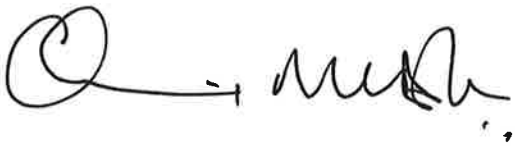
Saturday 14th November: Parent's Group Quiz Night (details about this very popular and fun evening have been circulated by the Parent's Group)

Weds 18th – Fri 20th November: Class based Assessments for pupils in Years 4 to 8.

Saturday 21st November: Lantern Parade and the switching on of the Christmas Lights in Windsor

This has been a very busy and successful first half of the Michaelmas term and I know that the children are ready for a well earned break. Whatever your plans for the mid term holiday, may I wish you and your families a very enjoyable, safe and restorative break and I look forward to seeing everyone on 2nd November.

Warmest best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris McDade', written in a cursive style.

Chris McDade
Head Master