

**From the Head Master**  
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## HEAD MASTER'S NEWSLETTER

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015

Dear Parents,

I can't quite believe that we are now in October and, indeed, only a few weeks away from the half term break! There have been a tremendous number of events taking place in school over the past few weeks and I hope you will enjoy reading about these. As is customary, I will highlight various key dates and events taking place in school next week and look further ahead to the following week.

### **Recent events and fixtures**

Mr. Mitchell writes;

#### **Football**

Our boys have been extraordinarily busy on the football field with every boy in the school representing the school on multiple occasions throughout the first few weeks; 41 football matches and 4 tournaments have been played in just four weeks and I thank all of the boys for their continued commitment to St George's sports. I have detailed some of the highlights from the last fortnight below.

#### **Holme Grange U11 Football Tournament**

Two St George's Colts teams (Years 5 and 6) attended the annual U11 tournament at Holme Grange and performed remarkably well. Our A and B team were formidable in the group stages and as a result they both progressed to the Cup Semi-final. However, in a cruel twist of fate, STG As were drawn against STG Bs in the semi-final and after a valiant B team effort, the A team progressed to the final with a 2-0 win. STG Bs then defeated St Edward's to deservedly claim third place overall and the A team went on to beat Yateley Manor 1-0 in the final. It was a brilliant winning performance from the A team and an equally impressive one from our Bs to claim 3<sup>rd</sup> place out of 8 teams in a predominantly A team tournament – there is real strength in depth in the Colts this year!

#### **Dolphin U11 Football Tournament**

Our Colts A team players were back in action at the Dolphin tournament last week. This twelve-team tournament is always hugely competitive and demands a high calibre of football. STG beat St Piran's, Beechwood and Bishopsgate to win their



group and progress to the semi-finals. A tense match against Holme Grange saw STG win 2-0 and progress to the final against St Edward's. Goals from Corban Smith and Caylan Vickers saw the Colts A team win their second tournament in less than a week. A very talented team of footballers!

### **U9 Community Football Tournament hosted by St George's**

On Tuesday afternoon, five local schools came to St George's for our annual Community Tournament. St Francis (Ascot), St Edmund Campion (Maidenhead), St Margaret Clitherow (Bracknell), Eton Wick and The Queen Anne School (Windsor) all entered teams this year and the tournament was made even more competitive by all of our Year 4 boys taking part. St George's made up three teams - The Lions, The Pumas and The Tigers. It was the Tigers that fared best. After beating Eton Wick in a nail-biting penalty shootout in the semi-final, STG Tigers took on St Francis in the final. St Francis were a strong and physical team and despite the Tigers' ferocious effort, St Francis won 2-0. Thank you to all the local schools for attending and we look forward to welcoming them all back next year.

### **Matches vs Sunningdale**

The highlight of our fixtures against Sunningdale came from our U13s. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI have had a tough start to the season, however, they fought back in true STG style last week. After going a goal down, a strikers finish from Oscar Pincus and a 30-yard wonder goal from James Button ensured a second half come-back.

### **Matches vs Holme Grange**

Last Friday, all of the boys in Years 3 and 4 took on Holme Grange. The U8As continued their strong start to the season by winning 1-0. A free-kick from Harry Evans was the only goal scored in a very close game. The U9s also had some excellent results, particularly the A team who won 6-2.

### **Matches vs Denmead**

On Wednesday, all 52 of our U11 boys took on Denmead in their weekly fixtures. It was a delight to see so many of our players representing St George's and the school had some excellent results. The Colts A team won 6-2 (fantastic strikes from Caylan Vickers and Elliot Dudko), the Colts B team came out on top in a 4-3 thriller and the Colts C team won 6-0. I must also mention Giles Mowbray - his Development team may have lost the game 3-2 but his half-way line wonder strike will be sure to stay long in the memory of the players and supporters.

### **Matches vs Leighton Park**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> team finally got their wheels in motion this week in a closely contested match with Leighton Park. A brace from Will Mumford meant that the honours were even in a 2-all-draw. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI maintained their rate of success with a 2-1 win against Leighton Park. A Man of the Match performance and two goals from Dan Ormond helped the team to their second consecutive win.

Whilst reporting results and reviewing our matches is a lot of fun, the real success comes from seeing so many of our boys enjoying playing regular football and taking pride in representing our school.

Well done to all for your efforts so far!

### **Netball**

Miss Holborough writes;

Very well done to all the Year 5 and 6 girls for playing some fantastic netball in their first fixtures of the season on Wednesday. The year groups were divided up with some girls playing in a tournament at the Marist School and some girls playing in a fixture against Dolphin School.

### **Tournament at The Marist**

Well done to the Year 5 and 6 netball teams who started the season as they mean to go on, by securing a double win at the Marist School's tournament. Both teams were unbeaten throughout the afternoon and played some fantastic netball to a very high standard. Well done to all the girls who played and a big thank you to the parents for their support. What a way to start the season!

### **Match against Dolphin**

Also, well done to both the Year 5 and 6 teams who played in the fixture at Dolphin School. The Year 5 girls had some tough competition; the Dolphin girls were mainly Year 6s and their strength and physicality proved challenging for our girls. The girls played some fantastic netball throughout the match, but unfortunately Dolphin had the upper hand and beat us 4-1. Fantastic sportsmanship was shown from the whole squad as the girls did not give up and worked hard until the final whistle. Some of our Year 5s then helped out our Year 6s in a mixed team against Dolphin. This team came out fighting and, with some excellent passing and movement around the court, secured us a 6-1 victory.

### **U8 and U9 against Dolphin School.**

The netball season is now well underway at St George's with all girls having played in their first fixtures of the term. The U8 and U9 girls set out on a sunny Friday afternoon for their first fixtures against Dolphin School. The excitement and nerves, especially from the Year 3 girls, was evident during our walk to the Leisure Centre.

The girls enjoying some half time oranges!



In the Year 3 matches the Red team started the afternoon off with some lovely netball. The girls were making some very accurate passes and were starting to think carefully about putting the rules and skills they have learnt this term into action. With a huge parental fan club behind them and the support from the blue team, the girls managed to score some lovely goals and secure a comfortable 5 - 0 win. The Blue team then had their chance to shine. With the excitement from the first match, the girls started off with some excellent movement down the court, getting the ball straight into our shooting duo. An early goal gave the girls some confidence and the excellent passing and play continued to show throughout the game. The girls continued to score goals, securing a 6 - 1 victory. A fabulous afternoon of netball, and for the girl's first matches in Year 3, both teams should be very proud of their fantastic teamwork and effort.



In the Year 4 matches the girls were raring to go from the start. The U9 A team started off with some excellent passing and movement down the court resulting in an early lead. The defending and teamwork throughout the court was lovely to see and the girls kept their focus, securing a 4 - 0 win over the opposition. The U9 B team have been working exceptionally hard in lessons and I have been impressed with their focus and determination to learn new drills. Again, some lovely passing and defending was evident, however a few sloppy passes gave the opposition the chance to grab an early lead. The girls then pulled a goal back which made way for a tense second half. The girls battled until the end, but Dolphin snatched a late goal resulting in a 1 - 2 loss.

I was very impressed with both teams and look forward to an enjoyable season of netball with all the girls.



## **Other News**

### **Year 4 Science**

On Thursday Year 4 were invited up to the Science Lab for their much anticipated lesson. Dressed in lab coats the children were able to observe sheep hearts, hold and examine them and then cut them up. They looked at how blood enters and leaves the heart, the thickness of the muscle and the different chambers. Despite initial trepidation the children settled down and made excellent scientific observations and discoveries.



### **Mrs Dewar**

### **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

A huge 'thank you' to everyone who helped make the Macmillan Coffee Morning such a success. We lost count of how many cupcakes were consumed but are very grateful for the donations which have reached the grand total of **£1,388** boosted by the most inventive cake created by Mrs. McDade for a silent auction.

### **Boarding House**

It has been a busy time in the boarding house, including pizza night, baking in aid of Macmillan and a visit to Eton Kennels.

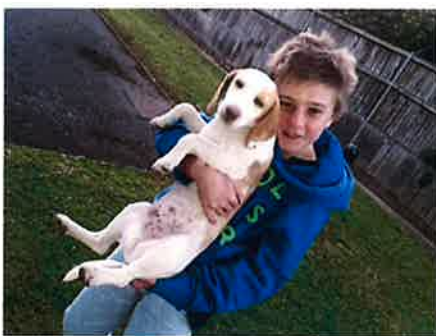
The choristers enjoyed a night of pizza after Evensong, courtesy of James Vivian, Director of the Chapel Music, and are already looking forward to their next special night coming soon.

Last week, we rearranged the Wednesday activity to coincide with the Macmillan fundraising event at school on Friday. Boarders baked some wonderful chocolate chip cookies with the help of Mrs McDade, and helped to increase the wares on offer at Friday's coffee morning.



### Boarders go Beagling!

Last Wednesday the boarding numbers swelled by almost 100% as we visited the beagle pack at Eton College. Everyone had a great time playing with the puppies, which, as well as being a lot of fun for all concerned, also helps to socialise the pups. After almost an hour of fun and frolics, it was bed time for the puppies! Once they were safely tucked up for the night, the children had the chance to meet the older dogs, and what a lot of dogs there were! All the dogs were very friendly and mostly well behaved. A few naughty ones tried to avoid going back into their kennels for the night, but the St George's wranglers were on to them and helped with the round up. We would like to thank Wayne, at the College, for all his help and for being such a generous host. This was definitely a trip all the children agreed they want to do again, and again and again.



As further developments in the boarding house continue a pace, we are seeing more requests for flexi boarding. Please do use the following contact details to be in touch:

[allison.onions@stgwindsor.co.uk](mailto:allison.onions@stgwindsor.co.uk)

[jonathan.onions@stgwindsor.co.uk](mailto:jonathan.onions@stgwindsor.co.uk)

Oh, and do now follow us on our new twitter account [@stgboarding](https://twitter.com/stgboarding) for boarding tips, photos, announcements, and forthcoming events.

Mr. & Mrs Onions

## Year 3 Classroom Activities

Year 3s have been designing their own sweets using adjectives and persuasive language. Their designs were fantastic with lots of good ideas and mouth-watering tastes. Tommy Harding won the golden ticket (see picture below)

Sebastien Marples shows the year groups fantastic Capital City prep - the children have certainly visited some amazing places.



Mr. Wilson

### Staff News

Parents will be very sorry to learn that **Mrs Ann Clark** will be leaving St George's at October half term having taken the decision to retire. Mrs Clark joined St George's in September 1999 as School Secretary and Head Master's PA. Since then, she has worked for four Heads and has seen the school grow significantly. As you all know, Ann is an incredible fount of knowledge about everything in the school and parents and staff alike all recognise her as the first port of call for information about events and activities at St George's.

Ann will be sorely missed by the whole school community and we shall be celebrating her significant contribution to the school nearer the time of her retirement. I am sure that the whole St George's community will join with me in expressing to her our sincere thanks for everything that she has given to this school as we wish her much happiness and a well earned rest in her retirement.

An announcement regarding Ann's successor will be made in due course.

### The week ahead

#### Week 5 – Theme: People who make a difference

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October: 4.00pm - Swimming gala v York House (away)

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October: 2.00pm – Year 2 football v St Piran's (home)  
4.00pm-6.00pm – Nursery to Year 2 Parent/Teacher meetings (PPH)

5.15pm - Evensong and Tour of Chapel for new parents in the Middle and Upper School. (Parents new to the Pre Prep have a tour in the Lent Term).

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October: Book Fair taking place all day (Victoria)  
from 1.00pm- Senior Fixtures as calendared  
7.00pm – Barcelona Tour parent’s meeting (Victoria)

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October: 5.30-7.30pm – Nursery to Year 2 Parent/Teacher meetings (PPH)

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October: Junior Fixtures as calendared

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October: 9.00am - U10 Football tournament at St George’s with twelve visiting schools taking part.

### Looking Further Ahead

Some key dates for your diary:

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October: Form 5ZH Parent/Teacher meeting (OBH)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October: 9.30am and 2.15pm – Nursery and Reception Harvest Festivals (Victoria)  
3.00pm – Pre Prep Concert (PPH)  
from 2.30pm – Senior fixtures as calendared  
2.30pm – Inter house netball (Years 5 -8)  
5.15pm – Chamber Choir sing Choral Evensong in St George’s Chapel

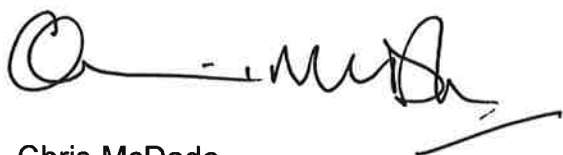
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October: **EXPEDITIONS DAY FOR PUILS IN YEARS 3 – 8**  
(specific details have been sent out to parents in respective year groups)

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October: 8.40am - Chapel Assembly for pupils in Years 3-8  
(parents are warmly invited to join us).  
10.00am – Years 1 and 2 Harvest Celebration (Gym)

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October: A reminder that Half Term begins at 6.00pm.

This has been a very busy and successful past few weeks; congratulations and ‘well done’ to all the pupils for contributing so much to the wider life of the school. I think they have all richly deserved a well earned rest over the next two days and I wish you and your families a very happy and relaxing weekend.

Warmest best wishes



Chris McDade