

DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS

It's been a busy few days at St George the Martyr School, with staff and children settling nicely back into the rhythms and routines of the new school year. Very excitingly, class ambassadors and house captains have been announced.

It was such a joy to be able to make these announcements to the whole school together in the hall.

The novelty has still not worn off! Please read on to find out more about this.



**Best wishes,
Mrs Rebecca Harris Headteacher.
Miss Taryn Jackson Deputy Headteacher.**

The Funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

By Rev Jamie

In my job as Priest-in-Charge of St George the Martyr parish church, I often have to officiate at funerals, and I always consider it an honour to do so. I consider it an honour because these are always deeply personal and deeply moving occasions.

A funeral is where families come together to remember the person who has died and to say goodbye. The funeral of Her Majesty the Queen on Monday was no different: it was a deeply personal family moment, which we were all allowed to witness. Who can forget seeing Prince George (9) and Princess Charlotte (7) dressed in black, there to remember their "Great Granny", give thanks for her life and say a final farewell.

But, of course, this was also so much more than a family occasion: this was the most extraordinary funeral any of us has ever witnessed. World leaders flew in from all over the globe; the spectacle of military precision, pomp and pageantry was overwhelming; the great crowds were unbelievable; the glorious music and moving ceremony were forever memorable. It goes without saying: the funeral of our Queen was very, very special. No matter what a funeral looks like, however, the main reason I believe funerals are very special is because they are times of not only looking back and remembering: they are also about looking forward with hope. We all journey through this life: we're born, we live, we die.



But the Christian belief is that life here on Earth is not everything. The Christian belief is that the time we have here is just a start and that, when we die, we step into the true beauty of life everlasting, in Heaven with God.

How amazing it is to have the offer of the same hope that our dear Queen had: hope of a new beauty and dimension of life beyond death. I've heard passing through death described as being a bit like when a drab little caterpillar enters into a chrysalis and emerges as a beautiful butterfly, now in glorious technicolour and free to fly. Our Queen believed that Jesus offers us all the very real hope of the eternal life and perfect love of Heaven.

And so, today, we can celebrate that her life has not ended: it has only just begun!

House Captains



The Year 6 House Captains will have a number of jobs to do over the coming year. Each week they will be responsible for collecting important data from the teachers, calculating averages and updating the House Points display. During whole school events, they will represent their house and support younger children showing compassion, honesty and integrity.



Rossetti House:
Arya & Adam I.

Garrett Anderson House:
Adam M & Afreen.

Charles Dickens House:
Roisin & Rumaysa.

Coram House:
Lateefa & Abdul.

Class Ambassadors

The class ambassadors are important representatives of their class. Part of their role includes showing new children around the school, helping them to settle in. It also involves telling classroom visitors all about their learning for the day.



RECEPTION: Iqra & Zayn Abdullah.
YEAR 1: Jessie & Yameen.
YEAR 2: Millie & Ela.
YEAR 3: Havanna Rose & Iyan.
YEAR 4: Samia & Hana.
YEAR 5: Laylah & Alina.
YEAR 6: Ciara & Mateo.



Gold Star of the Week



This week's Gold Star Award winner is **Arya Ali**.

Arya shines bright in the world and her infectious thirst for knowledge and skills is rare in Year 6 and in life. She is compassionate and caring and always brings the joy to the Year 6 classroom.

Arya is the epitome of St George's values. She works hard, cares for others and is an inspiration to all around her. Arya has really helped me to settle in as a new teacher at St George the Martyr and I am extremely lucky to have her in the Year 6 classroom. Keep shining Arya! We are all behind you.

What the children enjoy about playtime at St George the Martyr

Nursery children enjoy playing in the Nursery playground, where they have access to a range of fun, stimulating physical activities.

The children enjoy building their gross motor skills and exploring the natural world around them.

Reception children have very much enjoyed using the KS1 playground during their morning break and making friends with the Nursery children in the Nursery playground after lunch. They have demonstrated excellent determination to climb the climbing frame safely and have worked together to build wonderful houses and bridges with the wooden building equipment.

Year 1 have enjoyed being in the playground and making the most of the Autumn sunshine. We have used the playground for outdoor learning in maths and science this week - observing trees and plants and using the number lines in the playground to find 'one more' and 'one less'. Kamil has enjoyed playing football and looking at the flowers, whilst James has enjoyed looking at the birds. Luna has enjoyed playing basketball with her friends.

Year 2 children tell us how much they are enjoying their time in the playground. Taseen said, "I enjoy playing tag with Anton," whilst Tessa likes playing shows with her friends.

Year 3: During playtime the children have been enjoying skipping rope and basketball. In the sensory garden, children worked together to build different objects using Lego and wooden plants.



Year 4 are really enjoying their playtimes. Zaynab-Jannah thinks it is great being together in the playground. She likes being able to access the KS1 playground for skipping. Destina is pleased we can mix with the other classes. Rafaella likes that we have a longer morning break and Antonia thinks it is great that we can have an extra day of football.

Some **Year 5** pupil's comments: "I like that we get to have both KS1 and KS2 in the playground. I also like the equipment." Atousa.
"I like the new Library, and how we can read at the playtime." Ella.

Year 6 have quickly adapted to the new playground, thoroughly enjoying the great space they have with a range of activities from sports to technical games such as chess. Year 6 come back to class with energy ready to learn.

This week in **Destination Reader lessons KS2** children have been **Asking Questions**



Asking questions is seeking information.

We ask questions when reading for two main reasons:

- So we think more deeply about the whole text.
- So we check our understanding as we read.

To help your child at home, ask them to demonstrate this strategy when they read to you at home. If you have any questions about reading, please speak to your child's class teacher at the end of the day.

Year 4

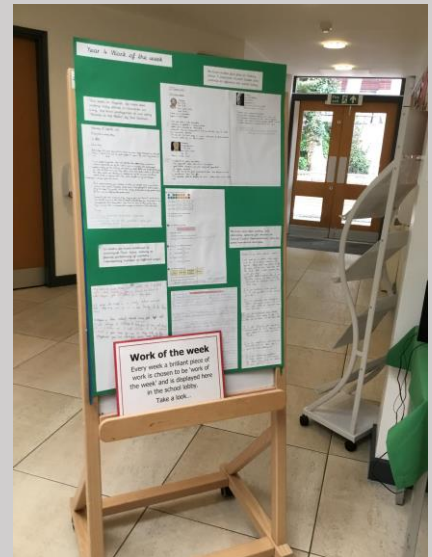
Work of the Week

This week in English, we have been writing diary entries in character as Lucy, the main protagonist in our story "Wolves in the walls" by Neil Gaiman.

In Maths we have continued to investigate place value: looking at flexible partitioning of numbers (representing number in different ways).

We have written fact files in History about three important Ancient Greeks who continue to influence our world today.

We have also been writing, and delivering, speeches for election as School Council representatives.



Drop off and collection arrangements

- Thank you so much for all your patience and support at the start and end of the day. We are settling into good routines, which helps the children to have a good start to their learning each day.
- **Please continue to drop off your child between 8.45 and 8.55am. The gate will close at 8.55am and the registers at 9.00am. After this time, your child will be marked in as late.**
- If you are late, please bring your child to the John's Mews entrance where they will be signed in as 'late' and collect a red card.
- At 3.30pm, the teachers will dismiss each child from the class line after they have said goodbye to them individually. Thank you for helping us at the end of the day to keep all our children safe by not removing your child from their class line before this has happened.
- Please collect your child promptly at 3.30pm.
- Any messages for the teacher should be phoned through to the school office.

Our staff are here to help you at the start of the day. A member of the office team will be in the playground to take messages and answer any questions, alongside our Deputy Headteacher, Miss Jackson and myself.

School uniform and shoes

- Plain black shoes or plain black trainers should have a rubber sole suitable for playing and being active. School shoes which do not have grip or slide easily will be unsafe for children in the playground.
- On PE days, children come into school wearing their PE kit. Please remember this includes black trainers.

School Christian Value

This half term our school Christian Value is **Determination**. This week in Collective Worship we talked about The Queen's great **Determination** and how she worked right up until the very end of her life..

Our reflection for the week

Determination

"If at first you don't succeed try and try again". Sometimes things can be difficult but if you persevere and show determination the rewards are plentiful and you will achieve success and excellence.



**Attendance
Matters**

Every student. Every day.

Please remember the importance of your child being at school on time and being in school every day.

Holidays during school term time will not be authorized.



Draft Local Area SEND Strategy - consultation

Have your say on our draft strategy by 22 September

Respond via the link below or email us at sendstrategy@camden.gov.uk



 camden.gov.uk/sendstrategy  

Do you have any questions about school life?

We are of course, really happy to answer any questions about school, no matter how small. Do phone the school office to ask questions or ask to arrange an appointment to speak to the class teacher. You can also speak to myself or Miss Jackson (Deputy Headteacher).

A member of the office staff will also be available in the playground in the morning. If you are worried about something, see us straight away. Don't let a little worry turn in to a big one. We also like to hear your good news. It helps to keep us going with a smile.



Mrs Rebecca Harris
Headteacher

Prayer

We thank you for your steadfast love, your protection and your guidance. We thank you for our school and for all those in our school family. May our school be welcoming, may it be encouraging and may friendship flourish here.

Amen

Information for Parents

Packed Lunch Policy

May we take this opportunity to remind parents of our packed lunch policy. Over the last few months it has come to our attention that children are bringing in food that does not meet our packed lunch policy. Children on packed lunches should be given a healthy and balanced packed lunch as per the table below. We are asking that packed lunches comply as follows please:

- Water or milk - (no fizzy or sugary drinks)
- Plain biscuits
- No confectionery, including sweets and chocolates
- No coconut, nuts or nut products (due to children having allergies)
- No fried food (burgers, chicken nuggets, chips)

If your child comes to school with a packed lunch that does not meet these requirements we will give them a school meal and you will be charged on ParentPay. If you would like a copy of the full policy please ask the office or see the school website. We must make sure we keep in line with our healthy school status and thank parents for their help with this.

Moving on to secondary school

The high quality teaching and supportive environment at Camden's secondary schools aims to help every student reach their potential. Whether your child's aim is a place at a top university, an excellent apprenticeship or landing a great job, Camden secondary schools are high achieving and ambitious for all students.

The next round of Year 7 applications for 2023 entry begins from 1 September 2022. You need to apply before the deadline of 31 October 2022.

Link to apply:

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

Parents Workshop at St George the Martyr

NEILA HIRANI AND DEBORAH KAISER WILL BE RUNNING A SERIES OF WELL BEING WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS AT THE SCHOOL ON THE FOLLOWING DATES.

All sessions will start at 9:00 am.

- **Tuesday 1st November**
- **Tuesday 8th November**
- **Tuesday 29th November**
- **Tuesday 6th December**
- **Tuesday 17th January**
- **Tuesday 7th February**



Information for Parents

Moving on to Secondary School event Monday 26th September at St George the Martyr

St George the Martyr is hosting a "Meet the Parents" event on **Monday 26th September from 5.30 to 6.30pm**. Please come along and join the discussion about local Camden secondary schools. There will be a panel of children and parents/carers representing their school bringing an up-to-date and honest account of their education experiences. You are encouraged to ask any question that is important to you when choosing a secondary school for your child.

St George the Martyr Year 5 and 6 parents are invited to join any one of the "Meet the Parents" autumn events-see below.

Registration will be in advance by Eventbrite.

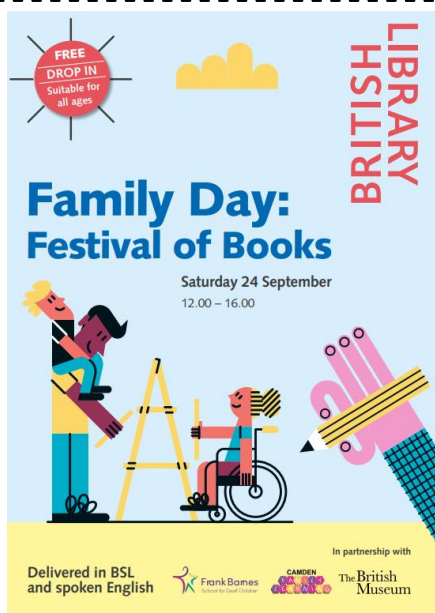
<https://StGeorgeMTP26thSept.eventbrite.co.uk>



Moving on to Secondary School event Wednesday 28th September at Arlington House, Camden Town

Find out more about how to apply to Camden secondary schools and the admissions process at our Moving On event for parents of Year 5 and Year 6 pupils at Arlington House, Camden Town, on **Wednesday 28th September, from 4.00pm to 6.30pm**.

You will be able to speak with Headteachers, student ambassadors and staff from Camden secondary schools, as well as talking to the Camden Admissions Team. Please register at Eventbrite.co.uk - search for 'Camden Moving On 2022'.



Take part in an exciting Family Day inspired by books and storytelling at the British Library. Join us to make, touch, sign and explore, as we create, share and celebrate stories.

This event is fully accessible for families.

Information for Parents

Please see below key dates for your diaries this term:

Friday the 30th September: Academic Review Day for parents. The school will be closed for children this day and a creche will be available as usual throughout the appointment times.

Week beginning 17th October: Whole School Equalities Studies

Tuesday 22nd November. Phonics workshop for Reception and Year 1 parents.



Can you play some tunes on the recorder?
Are you in Year 4 or above?

Then join **Camden Youth Recorder Group**

Thursdays in term-time 4.30 - 5.45
Regent High School, Chalton Street, NW1 1RX

Cost: £61.10 per term - possible to pay in instalments
(£3 per week if having free school meals)

Whole School (optional) Homework

At St George the Martyr, we would like to create a display to commemorate the late Queen Elizabeth II. Below you will see images of the Queen during her reign.

We challenge you to recreate one of these images using any media you choose. You could try collage, sketching, printing or any art technique you like.

Please hand your images to your class teacher by Friday 30th September 2022.



SGTM WEEKLY AWARDS

Attendance

CLASS	PERCENTAGE
Nursery	91.6%
Reception	91.4%
Year 1	95.1%
Year 2	95.9%
Year 3	94.1%
Year 4	93.7%
Year 5	100%
Year 6	96%
Whole School	95%

Well done Year 5!

Reading

CLASS	PERCENTAGE
Reception	97%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	75%
Year 3	82%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	98%

Star learners / Christian Value certificates

Class	Star Learners	Christian Value
Nursery	Layla	Arissa
Reception	Sezen	Beatrix
Year 1	James	Aishah
Year 2	Benjamin	Mohammed K
Year 3	Nadira	Abidah
Year 4	Zaynab - Jannah	Harry
Year 5	Douglas	Lina
Year 6	Fiona	Maison