

Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
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Confidential Fax: 01474 561536

Website: www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk
Email: office@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk
Executive Headteacher: Mr Stephen Carey BA Hons

Newsletter April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

A huge amount has gone on in school this term including World Book Day, fundraising, live performances and visiting universities. We have also been able to return to normal worship in the church and the school hall and this has re-enforced the sense of community that is so important to Saint George's.

Well done to all the pupils who have made progress in their Accelerated Reader Star tests. The improvements are amazing. 21 pupils in years 7-9 have gained the maximum score of 16 years and 6 months. Special congratulations go to Darius, Isabella, Lukan, Fin, Alfie and Frankie who have made combined progress of 20 years and 11 months!

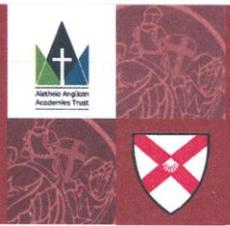
We have really enjoyed the chance to have live performances again and I am sure that any of you who went to see the school production of Aladdin will agree that it was a fantastic show. It was lovely to see the pupils up on stage, enjoying themselves and showcasing their wonderful talents. I am so proud of what they achieved. Congratulations to the school choir for the performance at the Woodville Halls in the Trust concert. Over 300 pupils from across the trust took part which was a fabulous sight! It was particularly special to see pupils from both the primary and secondary phase on stage together. A huge thank you to the Performing Arts team who gave so generously of their time to make these events happen.

The careers day that took place this week was a great success. Over 30 exhibitors were in school talking to the pupils about their future pathways. A huge thank you to all the companies who gave up their time to come and speak to our pupils and to Mrs Jordan who worked so hard making the event happen.

This term it has been lovely to see pupils take part in new opportunities that we have not been able to provide for a while. This is such a key part of their school experience. I know staff are busy planning more trips and events for the pupils for later this year. I am very grateful to all the staff for their huge commitment to the pupils.

Next term we get into exams season with year 11 and 13. Exams start in the week beginning 16th May and will continue until the end of June. I know the pupils are working hard revising to make sure that they are prepared for the exams. There are some revision classes happening over the Easter break and the pupils have all been given a timetable of when they need to be in.





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As was mentioned in last term's newsletter, we will be moving to a new IT system from the start of next term. This will mean that you will need to download the Arbor app to replace Edulink. The IT system will be down from 3pm on Friday 1st April. Arbor will be up and running from Tuesday 19th April. Details of how to log in are contained later on in the newsletter.

In term 5 we will be holding a consultation about school uniform. We appreciate that costs are escalating, and some aspects of the uniform are expensive, particularly the blouses. We will be looking to see how we can reduce the cost and how we can make the uniform suitable for all pupils.

As always, thank you for all you do to support your children and to support Saint George's.

I hope you have a very peaceful Easter break.

Matt Lillie
Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of Term 4, I thought it would be timely to update you on a few key areas.

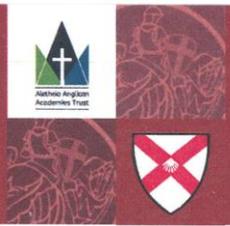
Easter Egg Reward Hunt

At Saint George's we are always keen to celebrate every kind of success. Star of the lesson and ethos points are given as a reward for academic success, effort, eco award, worship award, library prize and exceptional performance. They are, therefore, a clear measure of all-round performance. We would like to congratulate every student who has proudly been earning Achievement Points. We would like to congratulate the top 100 students in the school who enjoyed their afternoon taking part in the Easter Egg Reward Hunt on Thursday. We look forward to our reward trip to Thorpe Park in term 6.

Pupil Conduct

Recent visits from our School Governors were extremely positive as they observed lessons where students were focused, collaborative and ambitious in stretching themselves in their learning. Our students are a real credit to Saint George's School and their parents.





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Uniform

As we approach the summer term, we thought it would be useful to remind you of our expectations in terms of uniform. Please ensure students have smart black shoes and full school uniform for the start of term. Students are expected to wear their blazers and lanyards daily. Skirts are worn to the knee (or just above) and must not be rolled up, along with socks worn below the knee. Please would you check the length of your daughter's skirt and ensure it reaches close to the knee. Facial piercings are not permitted in school. Cosmetic additions that students may enjoy during the holiday such as nail and eyelash extensions must be removed before we return on Tuesday 19th April.

Attendance

It is important that every student attends school every day and on time in order that they may give themselves the very best chance of success. We expect all students to have high attendance. We know that missing days costs grades and causes gaps in learning. Should you need support in improving the attendance for your child, please do not hesitate to contact the attendance officer or the pastoral team.

Exams

With the exam season fast approaching, we thought it would be useful to include some advice on how students can cope with exam stress and some strategies for revision.

Coping with Exam Stress



Let your trusted friends and family know if you are struggling

so they can be there to support you, encourage you and offer a listening ear. You don't have to go through this alone. Keeping it all in will only make things worse in the long run, so don't be afraid to open up.



Ask for help. Think about all the practical support you need

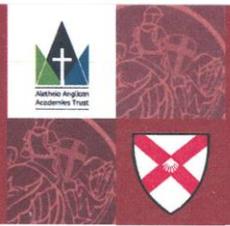
and be honest with yourself about it. You are allowed to ask for help. Talk through your concerns with your teacher/tutor who can let you know what support your school, college or uni can offer you. They will have spoken to lots of students before who are going through similar things.



Try finding a study group, or start your own

Working through problems with other students can be a nice way to keep your social life going and boost your morale.





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Revision Tips



Try breaking it up into chunks and creating a daily timetable

so you know what you want to study when. This can make revision feel less overwhelming and much more manageable.



Be realistic about what you can achieve in a day

An unrealistic revision plan won't help you and will put you under unnecessary stress.



Make sure you take regular breaks from studying

Your brain cannot concentrate for hours at a time.



Not everyone studies the same way

Some people prefer to read, others find it helpful to make notes or draw diagrams, while others prefer to talk things through. Do what works for you.



Focus on you and don't compare yourself to others

It can be really stressful when you think everyone is doing better than you, spending more time on revision than you, or just not stressing out as much as you. But we're all different and that's ok. Remember, your friends don't have their results guaranteed – life is unpredictable – and they might well be feeling just as worried as you are.

Extra support over the holidays

Samaritans



Whatever you're going through, you can contact the Samaritans for support.

Opening times: 24/7

[116123](tel:116123)

jo@samaritans.org

Samaritans

Childline



If you're under 19 you can confidentially call, chat online or email about any problem big or small.

[Sign up](#) for a free Childline locker (real name or email address not needed) to use their [free 1-2-1 counsellor chat](#) and email support service.

[Can provide a BSL interpreter](#) if you are deaf or hearing-impaired.

Hosts [online message boards](#) where you can share your experiences, have fun and get support from other young people in similar situations.

Opening times: 24/7

[0800 11 11](tel:08001111)

Childline

The Mix



Offers support to anyone under 25 about anything that's troubling them.

Email support available via their [online contact form](#).

Free [1-2-1 webchat service](#) available.

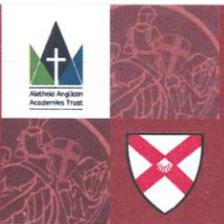
Free short-term [counselling service](#) available.

Opening times: 3pm - 12am, seven days a week

[0808 808 4994](tel:08088084994)

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Students keeping themselves safe

We would like to remind you about the organisations you can access to support your child's mental health.

SANE is a leading UK mental health charity working to improve the quality of life for anyone affected by mental illness: www.sane.org.uk

YOUNG MINDS a support charity building a movement where all young people get the mental health support they need: www.youngminds.org.uk

NHS - Find support about mental health for children, teenagers, students and parents: www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/

MIND a UK charity offering advice and support to empower those experiencing a mental health problem: www.mind.org.uk

STEM4 a charity that promotes positive mental health in teenagers. Offering a range of free apps to support young people: www.stem4.or.uk

CALM APP - the number one app for sleep and meditation. For those wanting to experience better sleep, less anxiety and lower stress: www.calm.com

On-line Support information

NSPCC a charity which offers a range of online advice on keeping children safe online:

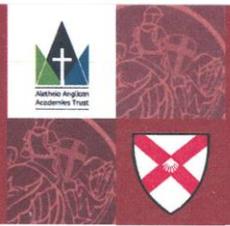
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

INTERNET MATTERS founded by BY, Sky, TalkTalk, and Virgin Media, supports parents and carers to navigate the ever changing digital landscape: <https://www.internetmatters.org/>

SAFER INTERNET CENTRE a partnership of three leading UK organisations with a goal to make the internet a safe place for children and young adults: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

CEOP Child Exploitation and Online Protection command. A website where people can report online abuse or targeting: <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>





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Pastoral Notices

We have seen an increase in students having their noses pierced this term. Facial piercings are not permitted in school. Existing nose piercings should only have small, clear nose studs and be of the utmost discretion. We would strongly advise you discourage your child from having their nose pierced in term time. Any visible piercings are required to be covered until removed and may result in the child working outside of the classroom environment until resolved as part of our basic expectations on personal appearance and uniform.

Can we also remind you that, hoodies and trainers are not part of school uniform and should not be worn at any time. Leisure wear or jumpers should not replace a coat in cold weather and may be confiscated.

If your child has a medical reason for wearing trainers, a note must be provided and signed by a community leader.

Should you need any financial assistance with uniform and PE kit, please don't hesitate to contact the Pastoral Team.

Thank you for your support.

Arbor

Arbor is the new school management information system. This is where we store all the information about the children. This will be replacing SIMs, which is our current system, and Edulink, which is the app that is used to access your child's information.

- Over the Easter break you will receive an email from the IT support team.
- The email will contain a link for you to click on that will take you directly to the Saint George's Arbor website.
- Click the 'First time log in' option in the bottom lefthand corner
- Enter your email address
- Click 'Set Password'
- You will need to set up your Arbor account in a normal browser so that you can enter your child's date of birth when the pop-up window appears.
- Once you have set your password, you need to agree the terms and conditions to your dashboard.



Saint George's Church of England School

Log in

Log in with Microsoft

Or

[First time logging in?](#) [Forgot your password?](#)

Log in

Trouble logging in? Click [here](#) for help

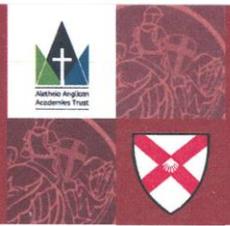




Saint George's
Church of England School

Part of Aletheia Anglican Academies
Trust (Company No. 07801612)

ALL DIFFERENT
ALL EQUAL
ALL FLOURISHING



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Below is a link to a short guide about using the Arbor app

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFCuC1NyH5U>

If you need any support, please contact



01474 531493

it@aat.uk

01474 531493
WhatsApp

@aatitsupport

@aatitsupport

<https://support.aat.uk>
- Live Chat
- Knowledge Base

