

At St George's we are proud to be one family of lifelong learners who know that they are special to God. Our family is built upon a strong sense of belonging and mutual respect. Our community gives our children the freedom to flourish and succeed.

Headteacher: Ellen Peyton

Assistant Headteachers: Dawn Ardern, Hazel Murphy & Michelle Fahey

Newsletter – Friday, 1st May 2020

A flourishing fellowship; learning today with God by our side

WEEKLY NEWS

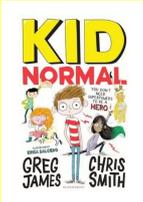
We hope that you are keeping well and safe. It has been a time to offer encouragement to one another and to notice and appreciate the positives in this challenging time. We thank you for all the thoughtful and positive feedback on the learning grids and the support that the school is giving. The teachers and teaching assistants have enjoyed chatting and hearing how well you have all been doing during their phone calls this week. If you have missed your call, don't worry they will try again next week to reach out and connect with you. It is great to hear that our community have been supporting each other via class WhatsApp groups too. Hence, we thank our parent reps for relaying your positive messages and bringing concerns and issues to our attention. We certainly are 'all in it together' and in true St George's style our community spirit is flourishing whilst we look after each other's physical and mental well-being. Father Richard has recorded his first virtual 'home collective worship' which he invites you to attend on <https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgebickley/videos/571709623450834/> where he teaches us about the origin of the rainbow and our virtue of thankfulness. This will be a weekly session so please remember to join him for spiritual guidance. In conjunction with the Oak Academy, Gavin Williams MP the Secretary of State for Education and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby also leads us in a national assembly talking about hope on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgdhOstV6il> This week, the Trust members and Head Teachers are consulting with staff to advise the Department of Education on the best way forward once lockdown is relaxed. We do not know yet when this will happen, but we are hoping it will not be too long now. In the spirit of Nelson Mandela dig deep to find your patience, positivity and keep going under pressure. We know that some are worried about your children falling behind but please do not worry. You are doing a great job and honestly, you are your child's first teachers in this world. Look what you accomplished with them in those 4 or 5 years before school. You are enough. The teachers will ensure that the children will continue to flourish and succeed when we all back together again. Have lovely weekend from all the St George's team.

Reading corner

During this difficult time, what's better than snuggling up with a good book or goodnight story. Join in with today's Pyjamarama festival on <https://www.booktrust.org.uk> There'll be loads of activities and events for children to take part in – the only requirement is that they're done in pyjamas! Although libraries are closed you can find digital services that they are offering on Libraries Connected <https://www.librariesconnected.org.uk/page/librariesfromhome> Vooks is an online library of animated read aloud storybooks. They are ad free. You can sign up and get one-month free trial so if you're running out of books to read give it a go! <https://www.vooks.com/parent-resources>

If you fancy a festival next weekend, head to The Big Book Weekend <https://bigbookweekend.com> a 3-day virtual festival, taking place on MyVLF.com, that brings together the best of the British book festivals cancelled due to coronavirus, featuring the biggest names in books alongside unknown debut authors and rising talents.

Thank you to the year 6 children who have been recommending books that they have enjoyed to their teachers. Please do let us know what books you have enjoyed so we can share them too. Mrs Sawyer recommends:



Murph Cooper starts a new school where his classmates can all fly or control the weather or conjure tiny horses from thin air. Murph needs to quickly find his extraordinary skill because there are revolting supervillains lurking nearby, their minds abuzz with evil plans. Time for Kid Normal to be a hero!

Please do not worry if you have not had a chance or have been unable to email us as we know lots of amazing things have been going on behind the scenes. However, we would like to acknowledge and celebrate the following children: Mr Motton was impressed with Elise's fabulous storyboard on Hansel and Gretel, Tristan's super poster on the 'Bullet Train' and Lily's amazing drama retelling of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Mrs Hatton wanted to say happy birthday to Zachary Ch, Zaiyah-Rose, Alice and Dylan, who celebrate their birthdays in a new way. Mrs Powell was impressed by Francesca for creating her own working water dispenser.

Miss Yielding loved Darcey's imaginative indoor garden design for her flat (made with household objects), clearly inspired by all the gardening she has been doing and Jake and Joshua's brilliant Lego stop animation of the Easter story, that must have taken hours to make. Miss Callaghan applauded Amelia for her motivational audiobook on girl power filled with lots of inspirational words on what it means to be a good friend. Miss Newnham enjoyed: reading Oliver and Lily's imaginative creative writing; Anna's powerful poem on the natural world; Imogen's professional standard comic strip on the Battle of Bosworth and hearing that Santino has conquered Active Learn! Mrs Murphy enjoyed reading Oliver and Camille's fantastic pieces of writing, which were of a very high standard. She also loved Elsie's Powerpoint about North America and Halle-Jay's timeline about herself! Mrs Sawyer commented on how positive, happy and upbeat Lexi is. She has been doing woodwork, making houses for birds and a den for her cat and Mrs Williams loved all the photos that Alex has sent in showing the range of interesting activities he has been doing at home. Mrs Coyle praised Max for cracking telling the time on an analogue clock. Well done everyone!