



St. George's CEP Newsletter

Issue 25: Friday 21st March 2025

'Bringing faith and education together'

'Letting our light shine' (Matthew 5:16)

**Do not let kindness and truth leave you.
[Proverbs 3:3]**

Last Saturday at the netball tournament, we started to get the feel for the sun, but I was told we were experiencing apricity (warmth of the sun in winter)! By the end of the week we were enjoying warmer temperatures than places in Europe! The field was enjoyed by the children, who loved having more space to run free. It certainly brings out the smiles in people, so hopefully we get more sunshine to enjoy!

It's been quite a sporty week. Our netball team competed at Knole Academy in the Sevenoaks Primary school's tournament. They played six games in total, scoring 15 goals, winning 3 games, drawing two and coming a very respectable 3rd places out of 15 schools! There's been rugby coaching, for an upcoming tournament, as well as cross country trials, ready for a competition at Sevenoaks School on Monday 31st March! And there has been final rehearsals for our Love2Dance children, who are performing at The Stag Theatre next week!

We had a couple of busy evenings at parent consultations and a Governors Visit this week – how good it is to be able to share how your children are doing in school.

For the children the week has been about crazy hair (and there have been some unbelievable hairstyles on display!) to support the PTAs chocolate fundraiser and red accessories for Comic Relief!

Wraparound Care Update

In response to your feedback on the Wraparound Care questionnaire, we have been working with KCC to secure an outside provider to give us after school care every day the school is open from 3.15-6pm. We are now working with one short listed provider on the details.

However, there are time scales we all need to comply with – therefore both ourselves and outside provider are working towards a Term 6 start.

In the meantime, pre-school manager (Katharine Stanley has said if any parents need support with after school care to contact her via the following email to see if she can help:

stgeorgespreschool@live.co.uk

I will keep you all posted with details as they become available.

Respect Courage Kindness Forgiveness Hope Honesty

You can find out about what's going on at St George's in a variety of ways:

Visit the school website: www.st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk/

Follow us on twitter: @StGeorgesKent and Instagram: stgeorgesceprimary_wrotham

Keep up to date with newsletters on our website and keep an eye on the class pages

Attendance is important and our aim is to achieve **above** 96%.

Whole school attendance this **year** so far is **95.5%**

Attendance this week:

Oak (Year R): 89.6%

Beech (Year 1): 95.0%

Maple (Year 2): 97.3%

Cedar (Year 3): 97.4%

Willow (Year 4): 96.0%

Hazel (Year 5): 95.2%

Sycamore (Year 6): 98.2%

**Congratulations to:
SYCAMORE CLASS
You are the highest attenders
this week!**

For unexpected absence eg illness for example, please call and speak to the school office before 9.30am so absence can be recorded accurately.

If they have an appointment during the school day you **MUST** provide evidence of an appointment.

Any other absence must be requested using our absence request form. This can be found through this link:

Times Tables Rockstars this week:



Maple (Year 2): Raife, Henry & Lucas

Cedar (Year 3): Johnny, Ebba & Lola-George

Willow (Year 4): Finley, Charlie & Dexter

Hazel (Year 5): Kaiden, Jacob & Samantha

Sycamore (Year 6): George, Sienna & Dino

Dojo Points Winning House for this week:

St. Patrick's

'Letting Your Light Shine' (Matthew 5:16)

This corner on our newsletter highlights people connected to our school who fulfill our school vision, this week that honour goes to...

Our School Netball Team



What's Coming Up Next Week?

Next week we are focusing on **Easter** in school. We have Easter Services throughout the day on Monday 31st March. Key Stage 1 kick it all off at 9.15am in the school hall, KS2 take their service to St George's Church with an 11am start and EYFS are celebrating in the school hall 2.15pm arrival.

There will be Easter hat parades, easter egg hunts, easter raffles, sports events, an i-Rock concert, Achievement Cups to hand out..... phew we will be all be ready for an Easter break!

There are 190 days in a school year, which leaves 175 days to spend on whatever you choose.



Officers from Kent County Council's Kent PRU & Attendance Service (KPAS) work closely with families, schools, and other services to promote the regular attendance of children at school.

www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-attendance

POSITIVE ATTENDANCE FOR ALL

School Attendance: A Guide for Parents & Carers



YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

You have a legal duty to ensure your child receives a regular education at school or otherwise, which will help give them the best possible chance of success in life.

If your child is of compulsory school age and registered at a school, but absent without good reason, the school may choose to unauthorise any of those days. This could result in the council taking action against you for each child absent, including:

- A fine (known as a penalty notice)*
- Attendance Prosecution through the Magistrates Courts which could lead to a fine of up to £1,000 or a parenting order being issued.
- An Education Supervision Order (ESO) through the Family Courts.

*Your child's school may apply for the council to issue a penalty notice to you if:

- Your child goes on holiday without the headteacher's permission.
- Your child is absent without a suitable explanation, or none is provided or arrives late after the time the register closes.

*You may receive a penalty of £160 for each child's absence if paid within 28 days, and reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days. However, if a second penalty is issued in a 3 year rolling period the fine is £160 with no option to pay the reduced rate. A third penalty cannot be issued in the 3 year period and therefore you may face prosecution in the Magistrates Court which could result in a maximum fine of £1,000.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Too ill to attend school?

Children can attend school with minor ailments (toothache, headache, stomach ache, cold, sore throat).

If you are unsure how long your child should be absent with an illness speak with your child's school, GP or pharmacist for advice.

Medical Appointments

All routine appointments should be booked outside school hours. Your child's school may request sight of 'medical evidence' (e.g. copy of a prescription, medicine packaging with a label or appointment card). If you are unable to do so the school might unauthorise the absence.

Reporting Absences

It is your responsibility to notify school if your child will be absent and should do this every day until they return. If you do not respond or school has other concerns then staff may decide to visit your home in line with its safeguarding policy to check you and your child are ok.

Absence during Term Time

Your child must not be absent from school:

- For day trips / birthdays / holidays
- If weather is bad or are running late
- To care for other family members
- Due to the illness of a parent or sibling

The school will likely authorise an absence only in very exceptional circumstances, such as in the event of a family emergency.

EVERY DAY COUNTS

Persistent and Severe Absence

Any child with attendance of 90% or below (regardless of the reason for any absences) is considered to be a persistent absentee by the government. This equates to 2 days off school each month. Do you know what your child's attendance percentage is? Any child with attendance of 50% or below is classed as a severe absentee.

If your child is persistently or severely absent the school may arrange a meeting with you to find out what is causing this and what is needed make things better. This may result in the creation of a formal attendance contract or referrals to services such as Early Help.

Punctuality

Arriving late to school is unsettling for your child and can be disruptive to their teacher and other children. It is important your child arrives on time.

If your child arrives late this will be marked as so on the register. If your child arrives very late, this may be logged as unauthorised absence, even if they are in school. Be sure you know the times the school marks pupils as late.

Minutes late per day	Equals days worth of teaching lost per year
5 minutes	3.4 days
10 minutes	6.9 days
15 minutes	10.3 days
20 minutes	13.8 days

