



# St. George's CEP Newsletter

Issue 5: Friday 3rd October 2024

*'Bringing faith and education together'*

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

**Our value this term is RESPECT  
Treat others as you want to be treated.**

**[Luke 6:31]**

A wonderful start to our week with the Year 5 (Hazel Class) Bible presentations. Led by the class who performed so well, in particular 'The Bible Rap' which is not easy to learn! Each of the children were presented with a Bible with a personally chosen inscription from a member of the Wrotham Parish. What a generous gift they each received!

The rest of this week has seen really engaging lessons in foundations subjects across the school. Year 1 (Beech Class) impressed me with their rhythm and beat in their music lessons, not just with their singing of 'The Menu Song' but using percussion instruments too!

There's being some fruity exploration and biscuit making in our Food Tech lessons, editing skills in Year 5 (Hazel Class).....



...and Year 6 (Sycamore Class) headed into London on the train to the Science Museum for a great day!

And let's not forget our Year 3 and 4 Hockey Team who came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Sevenoaks Partnership festival!



**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/](http://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 96%.

Whole school attendance this week is **95.8%**

Attendance this week:

Oak (Year R): 96.0%

Beech (Year 1): 89.7%

Maple (Year 2): 96.3%

Cedar (Year 3): 88.9%

Willow (Year 4): 96.1%

Hazel (Year 5): 97.5%

Sycamore (Year 6): 95.5%

Whole school: 94.5%

**Congratulations to:  
HAZEL 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:

<https://forms.gle/3dVUrxXZt9v5REKR9>

**Times Tables Rockstars** this week:



Maple (Year 2): Jacob

Cedar (Year 3): Darcey

Willow (Year 4): Roxana

Hazel (Year 5): Charlie

Sycamore (Year 6): Isabel

Dojo Points Winning House for the year so far:

**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...

**Radley MacLeod**

Player of the tournament at the Year 3&4 Hockey Festival this week!

### **Can You Help?**

**Our P.T.A. committee are a very hardworking group but need your help!**

**They have been so successful in putting on a vast range of fundraising activities which the children not only really enjoy but also generate funds which go back into the school for the children to benefit from.**

**However, without help these events cannot run.**

**Please come along to the PTA coffee morning or afternoon coming soon so you can hear about how you can get involved!**

# Bringing faith and education together “Letting our light shine” (Matthew 5:16)



Bringing **faith** and **education**  
together

## Our week in pictures...



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](http://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

