

5th September 2025 - Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

This Week in School

I am happy to report that we have had a wonderful start to the new school year, and the children have settled in very nicely. We held a whole school welcome assembly on Thursday morning, which looked at the wonderful possibilities of having a 'Fresh Start' in each year group. The children's behaviour was exceptional, and hopefully sets the tone for a fantastic year ahead.

A big welcome to our new parents and pupils! Please look out for our newsletter every Friday, as you will find out important information about key events and dates here.

Attention Year 6 Parents:

The online form for secondary and upper school applications will open on 15th September 2025.

The closing date for secondary school place applications is 31st October 2025.

Please note –as a school, we have no involvement in the secondary admissions process and it must be completed by parents.

Please read the following important message from the Admissions Team at Somerset Council:

If your child is due to transfer to secondary school next September, please be aware that places in Taunton and Wellington are limited due to a high birth rate. It is really important that you apply on time (deadline 31st October) and choose 3 preferences of school. We also strongly recommend you include your catchment school as one of your preferences.

If you do not include your catchment school among your preferences and are refused your preferred school, we cannot guarantee your child a place in the local area. Your child may then be offered a place at a school further away, and you may be entitled to travel assistance.

Find your child's school catchment area here:

<https://service.somerset.gov.uk/find-your-school-catchment>

Read the Somerset Secondary School Admissions Guide here:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/secondary-admissions-guide/>

Locate the page related to applying online here, containing all the links needed for a secondary school application, here:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/starting-at-a-secondary-upper-school-in-september/>

Sign in to the Citizen Portal and start your child's secondary school application form from Monday here:

https://emsonline.somerset.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

Meet the Teachers – Wednesday 17th September – Years 1-6

You are invited to attend our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions at 3pm on Wednesday 17th September from 3.05pm onwards. Your child's new teacher invites parents to visit the classroom to have a look at some resources and will informally introduce themselves. It is an excellent opportunity for teachers and parents alike to say hello and put a face to the name. When you introduce yourself, it is helpful to say which child's parent you are, as with a sea of new faces, it can be tricky for staff to recognise this. Meanwhile, I will hold an assembly in the school hall for pupils at 3pm. The children will be available for collection from their usual collection points from 3.25pm.

Understand Phonics for EYFS/Reception Class Parents

A separate meeting will be held for Reception Class parents to hear about how Phonics works in the EYFS. Mrs Goode will write directly to parents with further details about this session.

Parking at St George's School

Please see the attached letter with information on the use of the limited parking facilities at school, during drop off and pick up times. We are pleased to offer parking through the use of our one-way system during these times. The rules are in place, first and foremost, to keep pedestrians and cyclists safe, alongside easing congestion and ensuring a smooth-running system. Parents may choose to park off-site if they find the rules too restrictive. **Please DO NOT park outside of the school grounds (outside any of the blue fencing) as you will risk incurring a hefty parking fine.**

Clubs at St George's

Mr Chidgey will run the usual paid sporting clubs for pupils at the school this year (3.30-4.30pm).

Mondays – Football – Years 1, 2 and 3

Tuesdays – Basketball – Years 1, 2 and 3

Wednesdays – Football – Years 4, 5 and 6

Thursdays – Basketball – Years 4, 5 and 6

Please contact Mr Chidgey directly to confirm prices and availability.

Alongside this, our teachers will run some free clubs, as part of our inclusive extra-curricular offer at St George's. The office staff are putting together a timetable for this, and this will be shared with parents very soon.

Best wishes,

Edwina McDonnell

Headteacher

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday 10th September – Start of School Mass in Church – 9.30am. All welcome.

Wednesday 17th September – 'Meet the Parents', 3.05pm in classrooms for your child's respective year group.

Sunday 19th October – Harvest Mass at Church, 9.15am

Monday 20th October – Parents’ Evening, 5.00 - 7.30pm

Tuesday 21st October – Parents’ Evening, 3.00 - 5.30pm

Thursday 23rd October – KS1 Harvest Festival Service in School, 9.30am

Friday 24th October – KS2 Harvest Festival Service in School, 9.30am

Saturday 25th October – Sunday 2nd November: SCHOOL CLOSED (Half-Term)

Monday 3rd November – SCHOOL OPEN