



Working together for the achievement of all.

Dear Parents and Carers

As November draws to a close, a new chapter begins for St. George's Hanover Square School – and that is Christmas! Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are energetically rehearsing for the Nativity, which they are performing this coming Thursday and are sounding and looking divine. We also are busy preparing for our Christmas Fair which will run straight after our Carol Concert on Tuesday 17th December from 4pm – 5pm in the school grounds. With all this festive cheer in mind, consider this our Christmas bulletin, in which you will be able to read all about our exciting plans and how you can get involved in creating a special Christmas 2019 for our school community.



Choir

The SMILE train Carol Service was a roaring success! Thank you to all the parents who attended and supported our local community at this special time of year. The children performed amazingly well and we would all like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Georgina Wright who is our Choirmaster and without whom we would not be able to represent our fabulous school with such skill, confidence and tunefulness. Thank you too to Mrs Saddington and Mr Roney who attended and supported the children.

The choir will be performing on Tuesday 10th December at the Community Carol Service at Grosvenor Chapel at 7pm. It would be wonderful if we could show similar support at this Service too. There can never be enough Christmas at this time of year.

Stars of the Week ☺

Each week, teachers choose one child in their class who has demonstrated exceptional learning or our Christian Values of Friendship, Kindness, Respect, Creativity, Forgiveness and Honesty. A big well done to the following children.

		Our wonderful Stars of the Week				
Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Mylo	Eden	Soledad	Toby	Farida	Nour	Liani

Attendance	
Reception	97.6%
Year 1	95.7%
Year 2	96.9%
Year 3	94.1%
Year 4	96.3%
Year 5	96.3%
Year 6	98.3%
Total	96.5%

This week we have just fallen 0.5% short of our whole school target of 97%. Please let's aim to get it back to a healthier percentage next week.

Well done to Year 6 with 98.6%.



Lates	
Reception	1
Year 1	5
Year 2	7
Year 3	8
Year 4	3
Year 5	6
Year 6	5
Total	35

Let's not forget pizza time!



We have checked and currently we have 48 children with 100% attendance and 100% punctuality so far since half-term.

We might be needing to hire out the whole of a restaurant if we carry on with such great figures!

Christmas Fair

Let's make this a Christmas Fair full of fun and festivities!

We need your help!

Following a meeting with some of the parents we have decided that we will be able to pull together the following exciting events on the day:

Beverages and delectable smorgasbord of festive treats from around the world

Santa's Grotto

KS2 disco and snacks

KS1 entertainment by Toni Macaroni

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a community and share the hope, peace, love and joy that comes at Christmas time.

Please come and speak to Ms Slater as soon as possible if you are able to help. In order for you to volunteer and help set up the event we will need to get you DBS checked.

One of the things that the money raised will go towards is special computing workshops at the Camden Learning Centre (CLC) for each year group over the remaining academic year. Below is a small rationale behind why we are doing this.

Creative Computing Curriculum visits

Technology is an essential part of everyday life, pupils must develop computational skills to prepare them for the digital world. The National Curriculum identifies the importance of pupils developing not only competency and confidence in the use of technology but also to develop an understanding of the fundamental principles of computer science.

The CLC supports the delivery of the computing curriculum through a wide range of offers including whole/half day class visits to the CLC for pupils from EYFS to KS2, delivered by experienced CLC staff. These sessions support teachers to deliver specific aspects of the computing curriculum including coding, video editing, creating a blog or app and exploring augmented reality.

Advent Events at Grosvenor Chapel

Tuesday 10th December at 7pm is our very special "Community Carol Service" and on Sunday 15th December at 11am our children's Sunday Club will perform an Advent Play and Nativity. If you would like your children to be involved please come to our Sunday Club on Sunday 8th December 11am, run by the Rev'd Santou Beurklian-Carter.

Uniform

Well done to Year 2 for winning the uniform cup this week. They looked extremely smart with their ties done up, shirts tucked in. Well done Year 2.

Trips and Packed Lunches

As a school, we are keen to be environmentally friendly. From January onwards, we will be asking parents to provide rucksacks with reusable containers or paper bags inside in order to protect our environment. This will be shared on trip letters too. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Christmas Lunch

As if Caterlink school dinners couldn't get any better, they are running a very special Christmas Lunch Menu on Tuesday the 12th December, the very same day that St George's watch Scroogical in the gym.

If you would like your child to participate in this festive feast, please let Mrs Baukovic know and she will sign your child up.



**Tuesday 12th December
Christmas Lunch Menu**

Roast Turkey served with Chipolata Sausage, Sage and Onion Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce and Gravy
or
Feta, Spinach and Cranberry Whirl

Herby Roast Potatoes,
Honey Glazed Carrots & Garden Peas
Cranberry Bread

Dessert
Christmas Pudding OR Ginger and Orange Cake
Satsuma's

Only £2

caterlink
lead us the imagination

Website photographs on Monday

We had a professional website photographer come in on Monday. Even though it wasn't the most uplifting of days weather-wise, the children were wonderfully behaved and looked fantastic in their uniforms. The photographer commented upon how well behaved they were and how welcoming the school was, so thank you, the children and all the staff for making sure that the morning went smoothly.

Attendance

Life only provides one chance to gain a childhood education. The process raises achievement and enhances success in later years. Failure to attend school results in missed opportunities disrupts a child's education and impacts on his/her attainment and life-chances.

As a result of this St George's Hanover Square CE Primary School is very proactive in ensuring good attendance. We work closely with parents on matters relating to attendance. Persistent and unexplained absences are followed up by the schools attendance officer. Good attendance is encouraged through a comprehensive and effective reward system.

Authorised Absences

These are absences where there are genuine reasons for a child being off school. In most cases this is for an illness which would mean attending school would make that illness worse or could be passed onto other children.

Unauthorised Absences

These are absences where there is no justifiable reason as to why a child is absent. This also includes children who are regularly absent even if a call is made to the office giving a reason.

Holiday Requests

We aim to minimise the amount of lost term time holidays taken in order to maximise the educational potential of every child. This can be achieved with the support of parents/carers by ensuring holidays in term time are not taken in school time unless there are exceptional circumstances. There are 175 days each year when your child is not in school when holidays should be taken. Absence for any reason during term time interrupts a child's education and disrupts educational progress. If your child is absent in the week prior or post the Christmas break, we will be asking for medical notes to support authorised absences. Learning takes place until the end of term, so please make sure that your attendance remains fantastic until the last day at 2pm.

- Pupils who take 10 days leave during term time can achieve only a maximum attendance of 94.7%, even if there are no other absences through the year.
- Research suggests that children who are taken out of school during term time may never catch up on work missed.
- Taking a child out of school in term time may give them the unspoken message that it is acceptable to be absent from school during term time.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 5th December	Nativity Performance at 9.30pm and 2.15pm
Tuesday 10th December	Community Carol Service at Grosvenor Chapel at 7.00pm
Tuesday 17th December	Carol Service Grosvenor Chapel 2.15pm
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas Fair 3.30pm – 5.00pm
Thursday 19th December	End of Term 2.00pm

Thank you for all your support, it is much appreciated.

Best wishes

Ms Petra Slater, Head of School and Mrs Rebecca Harris, Executive Headteacher