

St George's Hanover Square CE School, South St, Mayfair, London W1K 2XH

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Harris **Head of School:** Ms Petra Slater

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Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term.

It has been so lovely to see how well the children have settled into their learning. They have an exciting half term ahead with looking forward to their new Geography topics, which will be enhanced by the addition of new class atlases and maps.

When you come along to Academic Review Day on Friday, please take a moment to enjoy looking at the displays outside the classrooms which show all the wonderful History learning which happened last term. Enjoy testing your children on their historical vocabulary too!

We are also making great inroads into improving reading, with our ambitious goal of raising reading attainment and progress across the school. Our thanks to Miss Carmichael for leading on this important area. We passionately believe that reading is fundamental to accessing the wider curriculum, which is why we have put our energies into raising its profile in the school.

Here are some of the things which we have put in place for our children:

- New reading books which are precisely pitched to the needs of each child
- New book areas in each classroom, including cushions and little rugs
- The introduction of story time each day, which is enhanced by lovely resources, including reading lamps in the shape of books!
- The implementation of the Read, Write, Inc. programme in Reception, Years 1 and 2. This is a highly effective strategy for helping children learn and blend their sounds.
- The implementation of the Destination Reader programme in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6. This is another highly effective strategy for supporting children to develop their understanding of reading strategies e.g. predicting/infering and giving them the essential tools for discussion and debate.
- A newly developed Reading Room in school, which houses all our essential reading resources which support these programmes.
- A refined home reading systems which enables children to feel successful, by taking home a book which matches their current reading level, as well as a book to share with an adult and read for pleasure.
- Home reading rewards which enable children's successes to be celebrated.
- Regular visits to our local Mayfair library

Other exciting developments include work by the staff and children on our new vision, motto and values. Enjoy reading out latest draft which has been shared with the children. Some of the children are already able to talk about the new vision which is heartening to see. Your thoughts would be warmly welcomed, so come along on Academic Review Day and pop your comments in the envelopes under the new display in the foyer.

Our Vision and Motto



Let your light shine in the world as Jesus did, with compassion, thankfulness and hope.

Our school motto is based upon the biblical link Matthew 5: 14-16

"You are the light of the world...let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

This is demonstrated across our school by:

- **Respect** which helps us value.
- **Encouragement** which helps us learn.
- **Perseverance** which helps us achieve.
- **Care** which helps us flourish and serve others.
- **Aspiration** which helps us shine.
- **Reverence** so that we embrace the wonder of God's creation.

The staff and Governors strongly believe that each and every child needs to find their own special place in the world and feel confident enough to shine in their own special way. They can only do this if we provide them with an excellent education, and teach them how to care for others, be grateful for the small things in life and always have hope, even when life is challenging.

Our Six Christian Values

As a community, we have identified **six core values** that are woven into the very fabric of the school. All members of the school community-pupils, staff, governors, clergy are role models for these.

Compassion A deep awareness and sympathy for another's suffering

Integrity The quality of having strong moral principles e.g. honesty, decency, fairness, equality

Forgiveness Excusing a mistake or offence

Perseverance Keeping on trying, even though it is difficult to succeed

Respect Regard highly, value, honour

Responsibility A form of trustworthiness, being responsible for your own actions

Other news includes the arrival of our new website, which will be with us shortly. Watch this space... It will show our new vision and also our lovely brand new logo, which looks like this which you can see on the top of this letter (please don't worry about the logo on the uniform. We will introduce the new logo over time.)

So, lots of exciting things are happening at St George's. Thank you for all your support and encouragement.

Best wishes

Mrs Rebecca Harris
Executive Headteacher

Ms Petra Slater
Head of School