



*Working together for the achievement of all.*

Dear Parents and Carers

A big warm welcome to the new academic year 2019-2020. We hope that you had a wonderful summer break and are refreshed and ready to begin the new school year.

Ms Slater and myself are very happy to introduce ourselves to you as your new Head of School and Executive Headteacher respectively. In my role as Executive Headteacher I will be overseeing both St. George's Hanover Square CE Primary School and St. Barnabas and St Philip's CE Primary School, Kensington and Chelsea. It is lovely to return to St. George's; some of you may remember me when I worked at the school on an interim basis in 2014. Before this I worked with the school in an advisory capacity. Ms Slater will be based at the school full time and will be your first port of call and the "go to" Headteacher.

We have been very busy over the summer holiday getting ready for the new school year and we are excited to welcome on board our new team of teachers.

As the first letter of the year, please read on and find lots of important and useful information which will help us all to have a smooth start.

## **Our Golden Rules**

During the first week of the new term, the children will be introduced to our new Golden Rules. These will be used throughout the school and displayed in every classroom.

Do be kind	We do not use unkind hands, feet or words
Do be safe	We do not fight or rush around
Do listen	We do not call out or interrupt
Do work hard	We do not waste our own or other peoples' learning time
Do look after property	We do not damage school or personal property
Do be honest	We do not mislead or try to cover up the truth
Do move quietly around the school	We do not shout or run

## **Birthdays**

We are delighted to announce that you can wear your own clothes on your birthday!

If it's your birthday over the weekend or during the holiday, you can wear your own clothes for a day when you come back to school.



## Church

St George's is a Church of England School which shapes its ethos. It also means that we are supported by the two churches of our Parish, St George's Hanover Square and the Grosvenor Chapel. An act of collective worship is held at the Grosvenor Chapel every Friday morning during term time at 9.15am which all parents are invited to attend. We also have one or two major Services every term at one of the two churches, to which all parents are invited.

St George's Hanover Square and the Grosvenor Chapel have active Sunday Schools at their 11am Sunday Services. If you would like your children to attend Christian Secondary Schools, you will need to actively participate in a congregation. Please note that according to selection criteria, attending our acts of collective worship do not constitute such participation.

## Mobile Phones

Children in Year 5 and Year 6 are permitted to bring mobile phones to school. These must be handed into the school office where they will be kept in a secure place at the start of the day and collected at the end of the day. Once on school premises, mobile phones must not be used by pupils without permission from a teacher. Pupils are not allowed to use them at the end of the school day while still onsite without permission from a teacher.

## Walking Home Alone

If your child is in Year 6 and you would like them to walk home on their own, please complete the Home Alone form attached and return it to the office by the end of this week. Your child will be allowed to walk home alone once the form has been returned to school.

## Food and Drink

### Break time snacks

All children in Reception and KS1 are eligible for a portion of government funded fruit per day. Please see below for examples of snacks children can bring for their break time.

Our healthy snacks **must not contain nuts**.

Things you can eat for your break-time snack	Things you cannot eat for your break-time snack
Fruit 	Fruit winders 
A plain biscuit 	Biscuits with jam, chocolate or any other extras 
A plain cereal bar	A cereal bar with chocolate on it
Vegetables e.g. carrot sticks 	Crisps 

## Packed Lunch

### All lunches could include:

- At least one portion of fruit and or vegetable (this could include dried fruit)
- Meat, fish or other source of non-dairy protein (e.g. lentils, chick peas, hummus)
- A sandwich that includes a savoury filling (e.g. egg, tuna, cheese, cooked meat)
- A starchy food such as bread, pasta, rice, noodles
- Dairy food such as cheese, yogurt, fromage frais
- A biscuit not coated in chocolate
- Crisps (baked or other low fat options if possible) or other such snack such as savoury crackers, breadsticks etc
- A bottle of water

### Packed lunches should avoid:

- Confectionery such as chocolate bars, chocolate coated biscuits and sweets
- Sausage rolls and pies should only be included occasionally
- Fizzy drinks

## Packed lunch boxes

Please ensure that your child brings a packed lunch box which is clearly labelled with their name (and not a plastic bag). Lunch boxes are going to be stored in the dining hall.

## Snack boxes

Please ensure your child's snack is brought in in a clearly labelled container which will be stored in the classroom.

### **Special Diets /Allergies**

The school recognises that some pupils may have verified medical conditions requiring special diets or cultural/religious beliefs which may impact on diet.

**Nuts, nut products (e.g. peanut butter, Nutella) and kiwi fruit should never be sent to school because of allergy concerns. Children are not allowed to share food items for this same reason. If these products are brought into school, on the first day the child will be asked to sit away from any children with known allergies and you will be informed.**

### **Medicines and Allergies**

Our SENCO is currently updating all the Health Care Plans for our children. She will be contacting you over the next couple of weeks in order to make sure that they are all accurate and up to date. Please remember that if your child needs to have any medicine administered to them, you need to fill in a form at the office. Please note that medicines should be administered at home, unless absolutely necessary.

### **Class assemblies**

We have been working hard to adjust our class timetables in order to maximise key learning time. With this in mind, please note the new time for class assemblies which will now be held at 3.00pm on Thursdays. We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating your child's learning.

### **PE Kit**

In order for the children to be able to take part in every PE session, increase the amount of time spent in lessons and reduce the number of lost items, we are trialling a new system from September. On their allocated PE day, children will wear their PE for the whole day. They will continue to wear their school uniform jumper, blazer, coat and hat as usual. On their PE day they need to wear a white T-shirt with red trim, white shorts or red tracksuit bottoms and black or white trainers. Thank you for your patience and support with this new way of working.

### **Transition from Reception to Year 1**

As part of the annual transition from Reception, Year 1 children come into the playground unaccompanied. This helps them to develop greater independence and confidence as they enter Key Stage 1.

### **Trips and Workshops**

You will no doubt be aware that schools across the country are experiencing financial challenges. St George's is no exception to this. In practical terms this means that we are now having to tighten our belts and look closely at ways to make our budget balance. We passionately believe that school trips and workshops are an important part of our children's curriculum and wish for them to continue, but we need your help with this. From September we will now be asking parents for financial contributions in order for our trips and workshops to go ahead. In cases of extreme hardship please come and have a word with Ms Slater.

### **Secondary Transfer**

If your child was born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009, you will need to apply for a secondary school place by 31 October 2019. If you submit your application after this date without a valid reason, your application will be considered after all of those which were submitted on time. For more information please speak with our School Business Manager, Dorcas Baukovic or see this very useful link for more information.

<https://www.westminster.gov.uk/transferring-to-secondary-school>

### **Communication**

Part of your child's success depends on good professional working relationships between parents and school staff. Teachers are always available for quick messages at the end of the school day and if you would like to have a longer meeting we encourage you to arrange an appointment with your child's class teacher via the school office. If you wish to email any member of staff, we would ask that you contact them via the office email (and not their individual email) ([office@sghsprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@sghsprimary.co.uk)).

## School Priorities for 2019-2020

Our Year 6 SATs results are not yet as good as they could be. When the final results are available, we will share them with you. With this in mind, we have carefully planned our priorities for the year ahead and will be focusing on raising standards in reading this term. Key Stage 2 will be following Destination Reader which is a carefully structured programme. The approach involves daily sessions incorporating whole class modelling, partner work and independent reading to deliver structured daily reading sessions at KS2. The programme encompasses the key principles of effective reading provision whilst instilling a passion for reading.

We need your help with raising standards in the school, particularly with attendance and punctuality. Our attendance for 2018-19 was 93%, which is well below the national average of 96% (2017-18). Although 93% sounds high in reality it equates to many lost days of school. If children are not in school they can't learn and quickly fall behind their peers, making it harder to catch up. Thank you in advance for your support with this important aspect of school life.

### Uniform

We would also appreciate your help in making sure that children come to school wearing their correct uniform. Please also ensure that your child only brings in school uniform rucksacks from now onwards. Please see uniform flyer attached.

### Dates for your diary

<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Year 1 and Year 2 Parent Curriculum Meeting</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Year 3 and Year 4 Parent Curriculum Meeting</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Year 5 and Year 6 Parent Curriculum Meeting</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Reception Parent Curriculum Meeting</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Reception parent workshop – tapestry and reading records</b> at 2.45pm - 3.30pm
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Year 6 parent meeting - secondary transfer meeting and Sayers Croft</b> at 2.45pm – 3.30pm
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Year 2 class assembly</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>Year 1 and Year 2 parent workshop – phonics</b> at 2.45pm – 3.30pm
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	<b>Year 1 class assembly</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Year 3 – Year 6 parent workshop - Destination Reader</b> at 2.45pm – 3.30pm
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Year 3 class assembly</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Year 4 class assembly</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Thanksgiving/Holy Communion at St. George's Church</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Anti Bullying Week</b>
<b>Monday 11th November</b>	<b>Parents' Evening</b> at 3.45pm – 5.45pm
<b>Tuesday 12th November</b>	<b>Parents' Evening</b> at 3.45pm – 5.45pm
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Year 5 class assembly</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Children in Need day</b>

<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b>	<b>Year 6 class assembly</b> at 3.00pm
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Smile Train Concert</b> at 7.00pm
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Nativity Performance</b> at 9.30pm and 2.00pm
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Carol Service Grosvenor Chapel</b> tbc

Thank you for taking the time to read this first letter of the new school year. We look forward to working with you and to a busy and successful time ahead.

Best wishes

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