



St George's School

Levavi Oculos : Aim Higher



Volume 5 | Issue 4 | 28th September 2018

Prayer for the week

Psalm 136:26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Chapel - Harvest Festival Service - Sunday 30th September 10am

From the Headmistress

I read something in an educational paper the other day that made me stop and think.

'.....children born into families that read books, newspapers and magazines, visit museums, art galleries, the zoo and stately homes and gardens, take regular holidays, watch the nightly news and documentaries, and talk – around the dinner table, on weekend walks, in the car – about current affairs and about what they are reading or doing or watching – develop what is called a “cultural capital”. Those

children not born and raised in such knowledge-rich environments don't do as well at school because new knowledge and skills have nothing to "stick" to or build upon'. (SecEd. September 20 2018)

The trendy new name may be new, but for many of us who have been in education for a while, the message is very familiar. If I look back on my own childhood I can recall some fantastic experiences, based around much of what is listed above. The "short walk" along the Pembrokeshire coast path, that ended up lasting a whole day, with only 2 cans of coke and a packet of biscuits between us has gone down in family history; we laughed at our inability to plan, and our inability to read a map!; standing on top of the Jungfrau in Switzerland with my mother, knowing that she had saved every penny for 4 years or more to enable us to experience her love of travel and a country that she loved, instilled in me an appreciation of the natural world and spurred me on to be a Geographer (it also taught me the value of saving money). Reading every Famous Five book possibly started off a love of reading. The expectation that we would ALL be home for dinner, and that our day's experiences would be discussed, gave us all a shared interest in each other lives. Being dragged around numerous National Trust Places as a child, inspired me to undertake 3 summers of volunteer work, and has led to 30 years of membership. Even now I love a good documentary, rather than the latest soap or reality TV show....although I must admit the "Bodyguard" did have me hooked!

A child in one of my Geography classes once stood in awe that I knew more than just geographical knowledge and said "you know loads of stuff Miss Barton" to which, on reflection, I agree I probably do. But I only know that "stuff" because I was given that initial experience that has enabled me to "hang" my new knowledge on. It's a bit like having watched the first series of Blue Planet, the second makes more sense and you are able to build on your previous "learning".

Now, you may be sitting there thinking.....that's great, my child does loads of "stuff", which may be true, but the thing to think about this week is..... how much do you do as a family? How often do you talk about the "stuff" that you are doing? When was the last time you discussed something over the dinner table, even if it is only what bizarre and unplanned thing will Trump or Boris do next? I know that family life is busy, and that the childhood I experienced 40 years ago cannot be replicated today, and neither should it be, BUT we do need to question whether we have "lost" some of that "culture capital" that allows our children to build a complex knowledge and understanding of a whole range of life experiences and ideas.....and therefore the ability to "stick" one skill to another.

Miss B

Click on the link [MissB_at_StGs](#) and follow me on Twitter

Please be reminded that should you wish to contact the Headmistress you may do so via her PA's confidential email account admin@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE EMAIL ADDRESS hbarton@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk WHICH IS NO LONGER IN USE.

News and Events



If you enjoy singing then why not come and join the St George's School Music Society Choir. [Read More](#)



Chess Club
For all the latest news
[click here](#)



Harvest Festival
Service - [Read
more.....](#)

Reminders and Notices

Admission to Year 7 Day School at St. George's for siblings of current and past students

A Reminder

It has reached that time of year again when applications for places in Year 7 for the next academic year are required. This is a reminder all parents who have children born between 1st September 2007 and 31st August 2008 who are intending to participate in the Secondary Transfer process for a Year 7 place in September 2019 to ensure that:

- You have applied on line to your local authority by Tuesday 31st October 2018.
- You have filled out a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and returned it to the school by Friday 26th October. This is very important. The form is available to download from the website. Church forms will be available on the Open Evening on 5th October 6-8.30pm.

If you have a child in the school who currently has a day place in Year 7 to Year 13 and as long as both children live at the same address, you will be able to tick the sibling criterion (Admission Criteria 3) providing the sibling's Name, Form and House.

If you have a child who has a sibling who is a former pupil of the School on day school roll for more than three years, and for whom the School has a record held on the School's management system, and as long as both children live at the same address during that three year period, you will be able to tick the former sibling criterion (Admission Criteria 4) providing the former sibling's Name, Form and House.

Should you have any questions or concerns please contact Alison Brown, Admissions Officer at the school on 01582 716277

Notice to all Year 7 Parents

Please note a change in the calendar for Mon 12th and Tue 14th November: the Places of Worship visits are now NOT taking place; this is due to cancellation from our provider. I apologise to all the parents and students who might feel disappointed. There will be another RE trip during activities week in the Summer.

Mrs G.Payne
(Deputy Director of Learning for Humanities)

Enrichment Opportunities - Suitable for: able students in Year 11 or Year 12 who are considering applying to Oxford or Cambridge University - [Read more.....](#)

MEDICAL INFORMATION

[HPV Immunisations - Please click on this link](#)

[IMPORTANT MEDICAL INFORMATION](#)

Vacancies

[CLICK HERE](#) TO VIEW ALL CURRENT JOB VACANCIES AT THE SCHOOL

Letters Home

[Year 8 Study Tour to Brittany 2018](#)

PE Fixtures

Please ensure you are following or have access to the Boys & Girls twitter account for any late notice changes to fixtures. The last few weeks have been very frustrating due to the home pitches being unplayable and we are glad to have been able to move games to the away venues.

[Rugby and Lacrosse Extracurricular Update](#)

[Girls PE Extra Curricular Programme](#)

[@StgeorgesboysPE](#)

[@StgeorgesgirlsPE](#)

PSA

You can contact the [PSA](#) at psa@stgeorges.herts.sch.uk

Parental Support

Keystone

It's never too early to book

Raising Confident Children and Tackling Their Fears - Sold Out
Mon, 1 Oct 2018 | The Maltings Theatre, St Albans (0-12 years)

Understanding and Managing Anger in Children
Mon, 8 Oct 2018 | The Maltings Theatre, St Albans (0-12 years)

Understanding Adolescence - Positive Strategies for Parent
Mon, 5 Nov 2018 | The Maltings Theatre, St Albans (6-12 years, Teens)



SPACE is a charity supporting Parents/Carers in Hertfordshire of children and young people on the Autistic Spectrum, ADHD or related conditions [Read more.....](#)



Join us for a joint Harpenden Secondary Schools Drugs Awareness Evening -
Monday 5th November 2018 7.00—8.00pm (first come first served basis) Fowden Hall, Rothamsted Conference Centre [Read more.....](#)



Please find attached a flyer for the upcoming **FREE 6-week Parent/Carer Education Programme being held at STAGS** starting on Tues 6th November and for the following five Tuesday evenings, 7 pm - 9 pm.

These sessions, for parents and carers of Secondary aged children, will be facilitated by Mental Health Involvement Worker for Carers in Hertfordshire and delivered by a qualified trainer and a support trainer.

These courses are specifically aimed at parents/carers of secondary aged children and young people who are using a Child and Adolescent Mental Health service – this can include the specialist CAMHS Clinics, Community Counselling, School-based Counselling (Safe Space) or Step2, or whose children have been identified as experiencing a difficulty with their mental health i.e. low mood/depression, anxiety, self-harm, eating disorder.

Please note: places are limited - so act promptly if you would like to book a place on this course. Do please share this with parents who may be interested.

Further details and how to book can be found on the flyer [Read more...](#)

Supporting our Students and Staff in the Wider Community



A number of St George's students are taking part in the Harpenden Musical Theatre Company's production of 'Oliver!' [Read More....](#)



We are pleased to announce that St George's has organised a clothes & shoe collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for the 2019 Rugby Tour [Read more...](#)

Supporting those who make a contribution to our School

[Fashion Show In Aid of Elizabeth's Legacy of Hope and the Angus Lawson Memorial Trust](#)

Community

To find out what's happening in our Community please [CLICK HERE](#)

What's New

[Wanted: Voice For "Walking in the Air"](#)

Working in partnership STAGS, St Albans Plus and DSPL7 would like to invite parents and professionals to..... Thursday 18th October 2018 from 2.30pm to 7pm at St Albans Girls' School

[Wellbeing Village](#)

[County Wind Sinfonia](#)
Autumn Workshop

Come join us for a workshop on Wind Band repertoire Conducted by Royal Northern College of Music professor Mark Hero

Calendar

September 2018

Sat 29

- Lacrosse and Netball v St Swithuns, all teams, Away, am
- Rugby v London Oratory, 1st and 2nd U14A and B, U12A and B and C Home, U15A and B and U13A and B and C Away

Sun 30

- Harvest Junior Chapel, 10am, School Uniform

October 2018

Mon 1

- 4pm Teaching Team Time- preparation for Open Evening
- St George's Parents' Prayer Group 8pm, email ruth.key@gmx.com for venue.
- Year 10 Geography Trip to Queen Elizabeth Park

Tue 2

- New staff induction 4-5pm Gr13
- Year 12 Art Trip to Tate Gallery leaves breacktime

Wed 3

- U15 County Lacrosse tournament at St. Georges, pm
- Herts Under 18 Rugby Tournament at Haileybury, 1st XV, all day

Thu 4

- Year 12 Biology Trip to Rothamstead Research, am

Fri 5

- Open Evening, school closed from 11am



