

A MESSAGE FROM MRS SYRADD, OUR HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents,

Another term has flown by at St David's and the arrival of Spring weather has made us all feel cheerier. This term has been super busy with a fantastic Science Week alongside many other trips, events and the Carroty Wood residential. We enjoyed a fabulous St David's Day of celebration, and it was a joy to watch the children interacting with their Dragon families and showing such confidence with their Eisteddfod poetry recitals.

Today, we took part in a wonderful Easter celebration assembly - the Easter bonnets on display were simply amazing! Thank you to the children who made a fabulous effort to take part and to all the parents who helped and encouraged this.

We have been so proud of our Form 6 children who have achieved some excellent results this year with 5 grammar school places, 38 independent school places and 48 scholarships between them. Every pupil got the school of their choice, and this is all particularly impressive when remembering that there are only 14 pupils in Form 6 this year. A reminder that we still have a couple of remaining places in Nursery and Reception 2025 with spaces now filling up for September 2026 & 2027 in these year groups.

I wish you a wonderful Easter break with your families, hopefully spent enjoying adventures and

making memories together. I look forward to welcoming you back on Wednesday 23rd April.

> Mrs Sarah Syradd Head Teacher



"Working hard is important. But there is something that matters even more, believing in yourself," Harry Potter.

SPORT

SPRING TERM 2 UPDATE

As we wrap up another exciting and action-packed term, it is fantastic to reflect on the breadth of sporting opportunities our pupils have embraced. From the first whistle to the final finish line, our young athletes have showcased enthusiasm, determination and teamwork across a variety of sports. Participation has been at the heart of everything we do, ensuring as many of our wonderful pupils have had the opportunity to engage in competitive and recreational sport, fostering both skill development and a love for being active.

HOCKEY

The term kicked off with our mixed hockey fixture against Royal Russell for Years 3 and 4. Our young players displayed great teamwork, resilience and an ever-growing understanding of the game. It was fantastic to see so many pupils enjoying their time on the pitch and embracing the challenge of competitive hockey in a friendly environment.



SWIMMING

Swimming has provided an inclusive and enjoyable challenge for pupils across Years 4 to 6. Our fixtures against Royal Russell and Banstead Prep saw our swimmers push themselves in a range of strokes and relays, developing their confidence and technique in the pool. It has been wonderful to witness the enthusiasm with which our pupils take to the water, embracing both individual and team events with great energy.

FOOTBALL

Football has been a key feature of our term, with opportunities for both boys and girls to compete. Our Year 5 and 6 girls played a fantastic match against The Hayes, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and teamwork. This brought our Croydon League to a close, finishing proudly in 2nd place! The boys from Years 3 and 4 participated in a tournament at Royal Russell, where they put their skills to the test against a strong variety of teams. Additionally, our mixed football fixture saw Years 3 and 4 take on Royal Russell, further developing their match play experience in a fun and supportive setting.



CROSS COUNTRY

A highlight of the term was our participation in the SLH Cross Country Series, where pupils from Years 3 to 6 took on a challenging course with determination and perseverance. Cross country running is an excellent opportunity for pupils to test their endurance and mental resilience, and all those who participated should be proud of their efforts. The final race is tomorrow (Saturday 5th April) so we wish all the competitors the very best of luck!

SPORT

NETBALL

Our mixed netball teams had a busy term, with fixtures against Croydon High and Royal Russell for our Year 5 and 6 pupils. It was brilliant to see both boys and girls engaging in the sport, working together to develop their passing, movement and shooting skills. The matches were played in great spirit, and our pupils showed excellent progress throughout the term.

TABLE TENNIS

A new addition to our competitive sports calendar was mixed table tennis for Years 5 and 6. Pupils demonstrated quick reflexes, strategic thinking, and great sportsmanship in what was a fast-paced and engaging fixture with eight tables in action! We look forward to seeing this sport continue to grow in popularity.



LOOKING AHEAD

As we look forward to the next term, we are excited to build on the fantastic sporting engagement we have seen this Spring. Cricket and athletics will take centre stage in our fixtures, offering pupils the chance to develop their skills and compete across multiple disciplines.

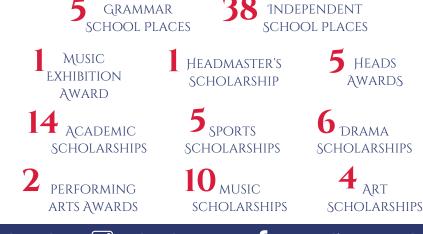
A highlight will be Sports Week, culminating in our much-anticipated Sports Day, where all pupils will have the chance to showcase their talents and enjoy a celebration of sport. Additionally, we are thrilled to support participation in the Restless Triathlon, an event that will challenge our pupils across swimming, cycling and running. Hopefully, lots of staff, parents and families will be there volunteering and soaking up the action! We are also excited to take on the challenge of the Mini Marathon, an initiative we hope will become an annual tradition for St David's, fostering a culture of endurance, determination and community spirit. A huge thank you to all the pupils, parents and staff who have supported our sports programme this term.

Your enthusiasm and commitment to sport at St David's are what make it so special.

SUMMER TERM UNIFORM

A reminder to Parents that children should all wear SUMMER uniform after Easter, including boaters for the girls and caps for the boys. Full uniform lists for each year group are available on the website.





) 0208 660 0723 🅀 www.stdavidsschool.co.uk

O[°] st.davids_prep

f St.David's Prep School

SCHOOL TRIPS

F4 TO CSI EASTER

Form 4 became Detective Inspectors at Christ Church, Purley. At CSI Easter they had to try and solve 'The Case of the Missing Body'. In their 'squads' they studied fingerprints, tried to break secret codes, investigated the crime scene, listened to witness statements and performed scientific experiments in the 'lab'. They each had a notebook to record their findings and at the end of their investigations, using the evidence they had gathered, they had to conclude what had happened to Jesus on the Friday, whether he had actually died, and what had happened to his body. They thoroughly enjoyed this interactive way of learning about the Easter story.

F5 TO KNOLE HOUSE

Form 5 visited Knole House and learnt about the history of Knole, dating back to Henry VIII. They took on different roles from servants (such as the housekeeper) to wealthy people (such as the Spanish ambassador) and dressed in costumes as these characters.

They then had a tour of Knole House and tried to count the leopards (the symbol of The Sackville family) which decorated ceilings, staircases and the Great Hall.

The children enjoyed the picnic outside and the walk in the grounds with deer roaming in the distance.

A fantastic day was enjoyed by all!

FORM 1 TO HEVER CASTLE

Form 1 visited Hever Castle. We had an interesting tour around the castle where Henry VIII lived with one of his wives. Then we met some birds at a Birds of Prey talk including a falcon and a hawk. The day ended with a trip to the adventure playground and the maze. Luckily, we found our way around and made the coach home!

0208 660 0723 🕀 www.stdavidsschool.co.uk

SCHOOL TRIPS Form 2 to Brooklands

MUSEUM



As part of our 'History of Transport' topic, Form 2 enjoyed an exciting trip to The Brooklands Museum on Tuesday 1st April. The children explored different modes of travel by air, land and water, learning about how transport has evolved over time. A highlight of the day was the Loopy Gliders and Peg Racers workshops. It was a fantastic hands-on learning experience that brought history to life!



FORM 4 TO CARROTY WOOD

On 19th March, Form 4 left for their first ever residential trip to Carroty Wood. Our class slept in Hornbeam house. There were 2-5 people in a dorm. The majority of us slept in bunk beds but a few slept in singles. All of us were really happy when we found out who our roommates were and enjoyed spending the time together.

We did activities such as den building, climbing, low ropes, swimming, bridge building and high ropes. Some of us were able to overcome our fear of heights. We really enjoyed pedal karting, especially when we had the opportunity to race each other.

The food was amazing! Most of all we loved the ice cream sandwiches which were a scoop of ice cream between two chocolate chip cookies. We even asked Mrs Syradd and Ms Rogers to introduce them to the school lunches as they were very tasty!

On the Thursday evening, we had a campfire where we burnt a lot of the wood we had used for making our dens earlier in the day. At the campfire we sang a variety of songs such as 'Have you ever seen a penguin come to tea?' We toasted marshmallows and they were deeeelicious!

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Ms Rogers, Mr M, Mrs Payne, Mr Dobson and Mrs Syradd for organizing the trip and making it the best trip it could possibly be!

By Audrey and Sophia (Form 4)

🕒 0208 660 0723 🕀 www.stdavidsschool.co.uk

O st.davids_prep

St.David's Prep School

SCHOOL TRIPS NURSERY TRIP TO LITTLE

STREET

Nursery children had a wonderful time visiting Little Street, exploring imaginative role play and fully immersing themselves in lots of different roles. From becoming vets and firefighters to chefs and builders, the children had a blast using their imaginations and discovering new ways to play. It was a fantastic day filled with creativity and fun! A big thank you to the parents who joining us — your support made the experience even more special, and we really appreciate it.

FORM 3 TO THE BRITISH WILDLIFE CENTRE

Form 3 had a fantastic trip to the British Wildlife Centre on Thursday 3rd April. We really enjoyed hearing about the pole cats, rats, foxes, deer and otters as well as many other animals. Our keeper who showed us around for the day was so knowledgeable - we really came away feeling that we had learned a lot of new information about the wildlife around us. Some of us also purchased a little memento for us to remember our visit!



ROAD SAFETY

A big thank you to the whole school community who have been working together to be more considerate when parking outside school; it really has made a considerable difference. Thank you to all of you who signed the petition for a zebra crossing. We secured enough votes to have our petition heard at the next



Council meeting on 16th April. Mrs Syradd has 3 minutes to speak to the panel, who will then decide on next steps. We will let you know once we have further news.



PLAYGROUND UPDATE

We are delighted to share the plan for our new playground equipment and markings to enhance the top playground since it was renovated in the Summer. Following designs from a variety of providers, alongside feedback from the pupils as to what they would like their new playground to look like, we have decided on the following design:



This will be installed during May half-term. We would like to express our gratitude to the PTA who have contributed £10k towards this project. We are excited for the opportunity for pupils to use this after halfterm.

VISITING FRENCH Theatre COmpany

On Monday 24th March, Forms 3-6 were treated to another fantastic performance by our visiting French theatre company. The play told the story of an English student who has won a trip into Space. On board the spaceship, only French is spoken and he struggles to understand the commands before disaster strikes! With plenty of humour and even a few frights, this year's play was thoroughly enjoyed by all of our Key Stage 2 pupils. Audience participation and a hint of panto 'he's behind you' humour made for a memorable afternoon.



ECO WARRIORS "WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK"

Walk to School Week is an annual five-day walking challenge and takes place between 19-23 May 2025. As part of the Eco Warriors efforts to make the school cleaner and safer, we will be encouraging all pupils to take part this year. Families will be encouraged to park further away from school and walk at least 10 minutes each day. This will cause less traffic nearby, reduce emissions in the air around school and support their mental health. The Eco Warriors have made this map below which shows the outlines of where you could park to walk 10 minutes together to school. More information to come next half term!



SCIENCE WEEK

Our Science Week was an engaging and educational experience for the children. A professional nutritionist led workshops tailored to different year groups. Martin Tanner, a science expert, delivered assemblies on change and adaptation in human flight. Lastly, Science Boffins, ran workshops funded by the PTA. The day began with an assembly, followed by class workshops on Playful Polymers, where students made slime. The excitement continued with a rocket launch on the playground. A Science Poster Competition also ran alongside the week, with winners earning a visit to Royal Russell's large rocket on the Friday. The week was a great success, with diverse activities and strong PTA support contributing to its impact.



🕓 0208 660 0723 🕀 www.stdavidsschool.co.uk

O st.davids_prep

F St.David's Prep School

ASSEMBLIES

FORM 1 CLASS ASSEMBLY

Form 1 put on a fantastic performance for their class assembly, Turrets and Tiaras. The assembly began with a retelling of "The Princess and the Pea", setting the stage for a magical journey through castle life. The children then shared their thoughts on what makes a great prince or princess before proudly showcasing their stunning dragon eye artwork, created in art lessons with Mr. MacGregor.

Next, two young guides took the audience on a fascinating tour of the castle, introducing a variety of characters, each with an important role to play. The assembly concluded with an original version of a well-known song, rewritten by the children to celebrate everything they had learned about castles.

The entire class did an incredible job memorizing their lines, speaking with confidence and bringing their performance to life.



FORM 2 CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Thursday 3rd April, Form 2 delivered a fantastic assembly, showcasing their learning on the theme 'All Around the World.' As part of Geography, they explored the continents and the diverse countries within them. In English, the children wrote their own playscripts inspired by a traditional African story. Their assembly brought these stories to life.

EARLY YEARS MOTHERS' DAY ASSEMBLY

Thursday 27th March saw our Nursery and Reception children put on a truly heartwarming Mother's Day assembly, sharing their love and appreciation for their wonderful mummies. The children were so excited to prepare for this special event, eager to create something memorable for their guests.

The assembly was filled with joy as the children sang beautiful songs, filling the room with smiles and even a few happy tears! They proudly presented the handmade cards they had worked so hard on, along with seeds they had carefully planted and bright daffodilssmall tokens of their love and gratitude.

A huge well done to all the children for their enthusiasm and effort and a big thank you to all the mummies who joined us for this special celebration. It was a lovely assembly and we hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did!



f St.David's Prep School

MUSIC



INSTRUMENTAL CLUB

At instrumental club, the children rehearsed a range of songs in their specific instrument groups for the first half, and then once the children were more confident with playing their parts, we came together as a larger group. The children sounded amazing, and they really enjoyed the opportunity to play together. Some of the children were even confident enough to play in assembly as part of a mini band. Well done all!



Informal Concert: Tuesday 6th May 3.40pm - 4:20pm

Children will be able to sign up for an after school Informal Concert in the Music room.

The sign-up sheet will be in the music room and once children have signed up, parents are cordially invited to come up to the music room and watch the performances of the children.

Form 5 Booster Groups

Maths: Mr Raffield

6th, 13th and 20th May

Verbal Reasoning: Mr Muringapasi

7th, 14th and 21st May

English: Miss Varndell

8th, 15th and 22nd May

Clubs

Commence week beginning Monday 28th April

Swimming - Form 3

Wednesday afternoons 23rd April- 21st May

Thursday 24th April Form 6 Isle of Wight Parents meeting 4-4.30pm Saturday 26th April London Mini Marathon Monday 28th April Happy School Bags Collection Wednesday 30th April Form 6 to see "Wicked!" Thursday 1st May Form 4 Carroty Wood Assembly 8.45am Monday 5th May Bank Holiday (School Closed) Tuesday 6th May Informal Concert 3.40pm- 4.20pm Thursday 8th May EYFS Parent Drop in at the Field 9.30-10.45am Friday 9th May PTA Movie Nights (Infant and Junior) Monday 12th May Form 5 Parent's Choices Meetings Friday 16th May Dogs Trust Workshops (Forms 3-5) Monday 19th- Friday 23rd May Sports Week Monday 19th May Form 5 Parent's Choices Meetings Wednesday 21st May Whole School Photo **Teams and Leavers Photos**

Friday 23rd May Sports Day **Monday 26th- Friday 30th May** Half Term

St David's School Shop

On Monday, the school shop opened for the children to browse items and decide whether to spend or save their Dragories. Savers got their 10% interest!



O st.davids_prep

St.Davi<u>d's Prep School</u>

S)

ENGLISH SPEAKING BOARD EXAMS (ESB)

Oracy is the ability to express oneself clearly and communicate effectively and we believe is a vital skill that supports learning, confidence and future success. Our curriculum already advocates strong speaking and listening skills which help students to articulate their ideas, engage in meaningful discussions and build selfconfidence. To enhance these essential skills, we are excited to introduce the English Speaking Board (ESB) exam into Year 5 this year. This opportunity will allow students to develop their public speaking abilities, refine their presentation skills and gain confidence in verbal communication. It will also allow them to undertake a qualification that can be used as part of their secondary school application process. By embedding oracy into our curriculum, we aim to equip our students with the tools they need to express themselves with clarity and confidence, preparing them for lifelong success. We look forward to the presentation of some of these projects to the school after Easter.



DATE LIST CONTINUED (SECOND HALF TERM)

Thursday 5th June Drama 4 All for EYFS and KS1 Monday 9th June Wellbeing Workshops **ESB** Assessments Tuesday 10th June Wellbeing Workshops Wednesday 11th June Reception Assembly and Workshare 8.45am Thursday 12th June Portals to the Past WWII for Form 6 NSPCC Online Safety Workshop for Parents 7-8pm Friday 13th June PTA bottle Tombola collection Mufti Dav Saturday 14th June PTA Summer Fair Tuesday 17th June Lower School Trip to Bocketts Farm Informal Concert 3.40pm- 4.20pm Thursday 19th June Forms 3 and 4 to High Elms Wednesday 25th June Form 6 Production (evening) Thursday 26th June Form 6 Production (evening) Friday 27th June Winning House trip to Oaks Park Monday 30th June Moving up morning- times to be confirmed Nursery Assembly and Workshare 8.45am Tuesday 1st July Form 6 Leavers Assembly 8.45am Wednesday 2nd July End of Year Celebration at St Mark's Church 4pm Forms 3-6 Thursday 3rd July End of Summer Term

FORM 4 PARENT VISIT

This half-term, Form 4 has been studying the Human Digestive System. To deepen their understanding, we are grateful to Dr. Chauhan (Myan's mum, Form 4) for delivering an insightful and comprehensive presentation. The Form 4 pupils engaged like medical professionals, asking a wide range of health-related questions. Thank you, Dr. Chauhan!

 (\sim) 0208 660 0723 (ff)

www.stdavidsschool.co.uk

O st.davids_prep

PTA **EASTER BONNET COMPETITION**

Thank you for supporting us with our new 'Easter Bonnet' event. We have been bowled over by the children's enthusiasm with 80 children entering! We truly appreciate the time committed by parents to helping the children, the efforts have been simply out of this world and the finished hats simply exquisite! We know the children had the most memorable assembly showing their hats off in the parade and were excited taking part in the Easter raffle. We have been able to raise £300 from this event!

Pop Culture-Reece (N)

Over the Top-Leela (N)

Pop Culture- Viyan (6)

Over the Top-Lexi (1)

Over the Top-Nathan (3)



Traditional-Isabella (3)



Traditional-Tommy (1)



Sports- Anayra (R)





Traditional-Jonah (N)

Eco- Friendly- Anae (4)

Sports-Aryan (5)



FORM 6 LIFELAB

The LifeLab Young Minds at Work Course was completed by Form 6 this term. The first highlight of the course was Perfect Pitch which was an opportunity for the Form 6 businesses to present their business plans to a panel of judges before premiering their adverts, fielding questions and showing a mock-up of their stalls. The Judges (Dragons!) were extremely impressed with the quality of the presentations, the children's ability to respond to questions and the variety of products and services on show.

The Enterprise Fair was the culmination of all the hard work and determination of the children. It was a huge success with children from Form 1 to Form 5 visiting the stalls, buying items and trying out some amazing games. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and there was a real buzz throughout the school all afternoon.



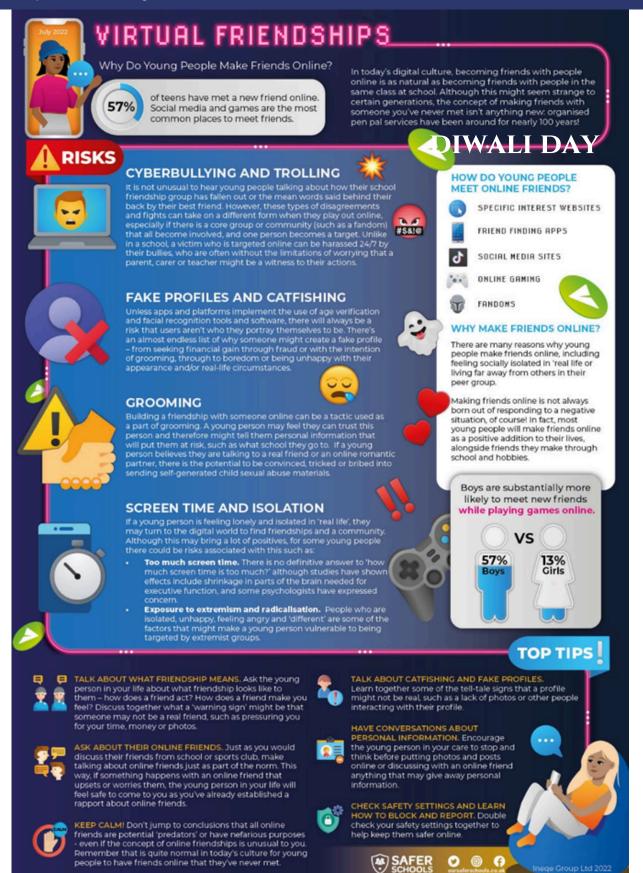


🕀 www.stdavidsschool.co.uk O st.davids_prep



INTERNET SAFETY

We have noticed a rise in the number of children who tell us about interacting with their online friends. In many cases, pupils talk about them as 'friends' but actually do not know these people in real life. For Safer Internet Day in February, we looked at online friends and how to keep yourself safe when interacting with these friends. For parents, the online world is becoming an ever-worrying place and as technology gets more advanced, parents can feel as if they are falling behind trying to keep up with everything. This useful poster will help to increase your understanding of what to be aware of when considering how much time your child spends online and who they are interacting with.



🕲 0208 660 0723 🌐 www.stdavidsschool.co.uk



St.David's Prep School

DRAGONS WRAPAROUND CARE



BREAKFAST We are thrilled to announce that the Dragon's Holiday Club this Easter is just around the corner! Packed with exciting activities and fun-filled adventures, it's the perfect way for kids to enjoy their break. We can't wait for all the games, crafts and new



friends that will make this holiday club ****** • enjoyable for all. Looking ahead, we are also excited about our Summer Camp, which will run for four weeks during the summer holidays. With even more activities,

challenges and opportunities for creativity, it promises to be an amazing experience for all involved. We can't wait to see you there!'



THEMED BREAKFAST CLUBS

This half term, our Breakfast Club has been a huge success, with children enjoying a series of fantastic, themed events before the school day began. We celebrated Valentine's Day, Pancake Day and Easter with special breakfasts that brought joy, laughter and delicious food to our mornings! Children tucked into nutritious breakfasts, including fluffy pancakes, colourful fruit platters and a variety of cerealsensuring they were energised and ready for the day ahead. These themed mornings created a wonderful sense of community and excitement, making breakfast time even more special.







Form 1 have been creating flowers inspired by famous artists. Form 2 have been learning about artists from all over the world, including Keith Haring.

Form 3 created floral self-portraits inspired by Frida Kahlo.

Form 4 made colour-wheel eyes using paint and charcoal.

Form 5 have continued working on their pop-art Croydon landmark paintings.

Form 6 have nearly finished their William Morrisstyle repeating wallpaper designs.

Art Club created stunning rotational symmetry prints.

WE HOPE EVERYONE HAS AN ENJOYABLE EASTER BREAK. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL BACK ON WEDNESDAY 23RD APRIL 2025

St.David's Prep School O st.davids_prep

AC

(&)