



**Newsletter No: 6**

**1<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

## **Weekly Merit Certificates**

**Butterflies: Spencer      Fireflies: Teddy & Sophie**  
**Dragonflies: Gracie & Imogen      Ladybirds: Elsie & Aiva**



Dear Families,

We have very much started to get into the Christmas spirit and looking forward to attending the panto next Friday (Oh yes we are!) The Christmas excitement always creeps in quickly when we reach December. Play rehearsals are under way and we can't wait to see the children perform. We are also excited about singing on Radio West Norfolk so listen out for us! Despite all the excitement we are continuing to maintain routines as much as possible. Teachers are sharing calendars and timetables with the children to help prepare them for the last few week's ahead. The weather has certainly become cold and we want to remind the children to wrap up warm so we can continue to take them outside.

We are looking forward to seeing you at all our upcoming events.

Mrs Arrowsmith

Next week....

Monday ~ Reception Class Photo ~ Lynn News

Tuesday ~ Ladybirds Swimming (be at school 8.35am for registration)

Wednesday ~ Last Week of Creative Writing Club

Friday ~ No Parent Session Due to the Pantomime Trip

Friday ~ Trip to Panto for Butterflies, Fireflies, Dragonflies & Ladybirds

### Staffing News

Mrs Vanhinsbergh has made the very hard decision to retire from St Germans Academy after over 35 years of being with us, firstly as a volunteer and then as a very much respected member of staff.

We are all sure you join us in wishing her well on the next chapter of her story, she will be leaving at the end of the term 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023.



School Contact Details: Telephone (01553) 617246    Email: [Office@stg.unity-ed.uk](mailto:Office@stg.unity-ed.uk)  
Address: St Germans Academy, School Lane, St Germans, Kings Lynn, Norfolk. PE34 3DZ  
Website: [www.stgermansacademy.co.uk](http://www.stgermansacademy.co.uk)

### Whole School Christmas Lunch

This week we have sent home a letter about the Whole School Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Please ensure you return your reply slip to the school office whether your child wants the lunch or not. The deadline to book is 9.30am on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. If you cannot find your letter, please contact the school office for a replacement. Please note there is no other lunch option that day, so your child will need a home packed lunch if they are not having the school Christmas Lunch. Thank you



### Pre-School

Please can all parents confirm with the school office which sessions their child will be attending in Spring Term, especially if you are thinking of changing days or increasing the number of sessions.

If you intend to make use of the extended 30 hours funding for Preschool for the Spring Term 2024 please apply in December by visiting [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) And then let the school office know your code before we break up for Christmas. Thank you.



### Whole School Trip to the Pantomime

Please remember it is the whole school trip to see Dick Whittington at the Corn Exchange on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Please log into your ParentPay account to give consent and make payment if you have not already done so. If you are having trouble paying for this trip, please contact the school office or Toni Clarkstone our PSA. Thank you



### Celebration Board

Please remember to let us know if you've done something worth celebrating so that we can put it up on our celebration board for everyone to see.



### Menu Changes

Edwards and Blake are changing a couple of the meals as they are not very popular.

- The vegetarian meal Thursday WK3 is Macaroni Cheese.
- The roast on Wednesday WK1, will be Roast Chicken.

They are adjusting the master menu and will be sending it out to us as soon as they can.



## Christingle Service & End of Term Assembly



On Monday 18th December we are visiting the Church for our Christingle Service and End of Term Assembly, friends and family welcome. If you would like to walk with us, please be at school for 9.00am as we will leave shortly after or meet us at the Church at 9.30am.



School  
Admissions



## Reception Class Admissions

The portal is open for applications for September 2024 Reception Class admissions. If you have a child who will be 5 between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025, please apply online: [www.admissionsonline.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.admissionsonline.norfolk.gov.uk) The portal will close on **15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**. If you have any issues applying, please see the school office who will be able to assist you.

## Christmas Gifts

If you are still thinking on what to give people as gifts this Christmas, please remember our 'My Child's Art' portal is open. Full information on how to order a range of Christmas gifts from Christmas cards to fridge magnets to sweetie jars all with your child's artwork on are on their website. [www.mychildsart.co.uk](http://www.mychildsart.co.uk)

Username StGermans Password GnqHMqfo

You will then be able to set up an account and place any orders should you wish to do so. Thank you.



## **prêt-a-portrait**

Following Pret-a-Portrait's recent visit to take school photographs, a viewing card explaining how you can view and order pictures, was sent home.

The Early Bird Deadline has now been extended to **06/12/2023** should you wish to place an order.

If for any reason your viewing card did not make it home, please contact Pret-a-Portrait directly on 0800 021 7626 or [customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net](mailto:customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net)

## Christmas Cards Postbox

Please remember our Christmas Card Postbox will be on the front playground every day next week. Please can we ask that cards have child's name and class on the envelope.

Last post is Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 9am. Thank you.





## A Song for Christmas ~ Radio West Norfolk

Don't forget to listen to Radio West Norfolk at 7:40am, 12:40pm and 4:40pm each day. Please tune in on the following dates to hear our 3 schools sing, this will really help to get us all in the Christmas spirit!

8<sup>th</sup> December - St Germans Academy - Rocking around the Christmas Tree

12<sup>th</sup> December - Magdalen Academy - Walking in a Winter Wonderland

18<sup>th</sup> December - Wimbotsham and Stow Academy - All I want for Christmas.

It's easy to listen to [Radio West Norfolk](#)...

Just rescan your DAB Radio and look for us (the list of stations should be in alphabetical order).

Ask Alexa to **launch** [Radio West Norfolk](#).

Download our app for iPhone or Android from your store – just search [Radio West Norfolk](#).

Visit [www.radiowestnorfolk.co.uk/live](http://www.radiowestnorfolk.co.uk/live)

## Friends of the School

The next Friends of the School Event is the Christmas Film Night on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December where we will be showing 2 Christmas films. All information about the film night will be sent out on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December.



## Butterflies and Caterpillars



The Butterflies and Caterpillars children would like their parents to join them on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am where they will be showing off their singing skills. We hope you can join us.

## Christmas Jumpers

Children can wear a Christmas Jumper for the trip to the pantomime on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. After this date children can wear either their school jumper/ fleece/ cardigan or a Christmas Jumper to school everyday, in the run up to Christmas.



### Reminders

- Dick Whittington Pantomime Trip Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December ~ £17.50 per child via ParentPay, packed lunches please.
- Ladybirds Residential Trip second instalment is now due.
- **Please ensure your ParentPay are up to date. It is important to log into your account regularly and clear any outstanding balance. Thank you.**
- Email / Call ~ Please remember any messages about your child should go through the school office, for example grandparents picking them up.
- If your child is unwell, please report their absence to the school office by 9.30am each day either by phonecall, email or ParentApp ensuring you give details of why they are off and not just say they are unwell. **Please do not message their teacher through Seesaw or Class Dojo to report them absent.**
- Please respect our childrens privacy by ensuring that any photographs or video footage taken at any School events are **not, under any circumstances**, published on the internet, displayed on social networking sites, such as Facebook, or passed onto a third party.



### Outstanding Monies

Please could all outstanding monies be paid before we break up for Christmas. Please can we also remind you to make payment when booking your child's lunch, childcare or breakfast club. It is taking the school office an increasing amount of time to reconcile the weekly banking because of this issue. If you are having trouble paying, please speak to the office or Toni Clarkstone as they will be happy to set up a payment plan for you. Thank you.

### Dragonflies Swimming

Dragonflies children will be swimming on Tuesdays after Christmas starting 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023. They will need to bring their kit each week; costume/trunks, hat & towel. The coach leaves school at 8.45am so please can you ensure your child arrives a little earlier than normal on a Tuesday.



### Flu Catch-Up Session

The Nursing Team will be doing a Catch-Up session for anyone who did not have the Flu Nasal Immunisation on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November. This catch-up session will be on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Paper forms will be sent home next week to everyone who did not have it in November. If you signed your child up for the nasal spray but then your child was away on the day you do not need to do another form. Any questions please contact the school office. Thank you.



Ladybirds Swimming every Tuesday this term starting Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September.

## **December**

- Fri 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Friends of the School Christmas Fair
- Mon 4<sup>th</sup> ~ Lynn News First Days Reception Class Photograph
- Wed 6<sup>th</sup> ~ Last Week of Creative Writing Club
- Fri 8<sup>th</sup> ~ No Parent Session Today
- Fri 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Whole School Pantomime Trip – Year Reception to Year 6
- Mon 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Performance Dress Rehearsals
- Tues 12<sup>th</sup> ~ Afternoon KS1 Christmas Performance
- Tues 12<sup>th</sup> ~ Friends of the School Christmas Film Night
- Wed 13<sup>th</sup> ~ Afternoon KS1 Christmas Performance
- Wed 13<sup>th</sup> ~ Evening KS2 Christmas Performance
- Mon 18<sup>th</sup> ~ Christingle Service and End of Term Assembly
- Tues 19<sup>th</sup> ~ Caterpillars and Butterflies Christmas Singsong
- Wed 20<sup>th</sup> ~ Whole School Christmas Lunch
- Wed 20<sup>th</sup> ~ Break up for Christmas!

## **January 2024**

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> ~ Back to School

Dragonflies Swimming every Tuesday this term starting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Level 1 Bikeability Course for those children who have booked on.

## **February**

- Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Young Voice Choir Trip to Wembley
- Fri 16<sup>th</sup> ~ Break up for Half Term
- Mon 26<sup>th</sup> ~ Back to School

## **March**

- Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> ~ WNSSP Netball Bee Festival for Selected Year 3 and 4 children
- Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ FOS Easter Event – more information to follow
- Mon 25<sup>th</sup> to Wed 27<sup>th</sup> ~ Residential Trip for Ladybirds Class
- Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> ~ Break up for Easter Holidays

## **April**

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Back to School