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w/c 10.09.2018



St David's Prep

Listed 27th in Sunday Times Top 100  
UK Prep Schools

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The Head Teacher writes:

What an exciting start to our new school year! A number of firsts...

For the first time ever at St David's we opened our doors to our Pre-reception children in addition to those starting in our new Reception class. Those of you who have been in to school will have seen the colourful, imaginative and creative areas that have been set up by our EYFS team of dedicated staff who spent many hours in the holidays shopping in Ikea as well as preparing the classrooms! What lucky children.

Many of our other spaces also had a makeover in the holidays with cosy reading corners and other displays and themed areas, all ready to inspire and encourage our pupils to love school and love their learning. Thank you to all the staff who spent many holiday hours in school.

Year 1 are proudly ensconced in their new cabin, from where they can of course keep an eye on the younger pupils – it makes them feel very grown up!

And the new uniform... We are thrilled at the number of pupils across all year groups who are now wearing grey and navy. There have been so many positive comments and I hope you all agree our pupils look smart, distinctive and proud of their new image. We are encouraging them all to take pride in their appearance and to take care of all their belongings. Throughout the school we are striving for excellence in all we do and how we look and behave are key factors.

And finally, we had the privilege of meeting many of our 'new' parents on Wednesday evening. The atmosphere was warm and friendly as parents connected with one another and were introduced to staff. As someone commented to me on leaving, "We now feel part of the family..."

Welcome back everyone, 'new' and 'old' to the family that is St David's!



## Parent Council

Our first parent council meeting will be held on  
Friday ... from 8.45 in the cabin.

Open to all parents, this is an opportunity for you to  
come along and discuss or share thoughts on the  
school, make suggestions and ask questions.

Mrs Foulger and Miss Slim will be ready to welcome  
you with refreshments, do come along.



## CAR PARK

We are still honing our new system for seeing  
the children out at the end of the day. Safety is  
paramount and we would therefore request that  
you keep to the designated area for picking up  
your children and avoid walking through or  
around the staff cars when arriving or leaving  
the area.



SLEEP CAN WAIT  
BEATING CANCER CAN'T



On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September four members of staff, Mrs Foulger, Mrs Handy, Mr Hunter and Miss O'Sullivan will be taking part in the Shine Night Walk through London in aid of Cancer Research.

If you would like to sponsor us please use the link below:  
<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/sdp-team>  
Thank you for helping us support this worthwhile cause.

#weneverstandstill



Sadly, we said goodbye to Mr Mutti on  
Wednesday. We wish him all the best in his  
new job.

*'I would teach children music, physics, and philosophy; but most importantly music, for the patterns in music and all the arts are the keys to learning' - Plato*

Wise words from Plato and words I would personally endorse. One of the things I love about my job is being there right at the start of a child's musical journey. From helping them select an instrument to try from the many we are now able to offer at St David's to their first performance in school, the magic never fades.

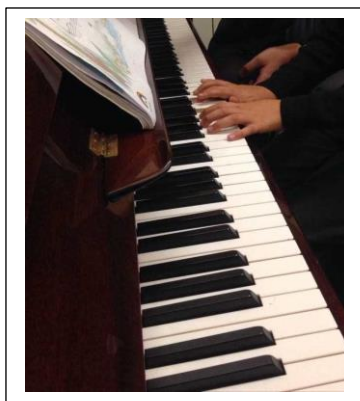
Taking part in musical activities alongside academic studies provides our children with so much more than just another skill. Music creates more balanced, well-rounded, confident and versatile young people and can go on to open up amazing social and cultural experiences.

Music helps emotional development, gives children a sense of achievement and can build imagination and intellectual curiosity. Music helps with memorisation uses the areas of the brain related to language and reasoning and of course music can be relaxing and play a key part in reducing stress.

These, alongside the sheer enjoyment music brings are some of the many benefits of learning an instrument at school and surely the reason such a high proportion of our pupils do so.

I love them sharing some of their musical journey with me. Comments such as, 'I'm so excited about the piece I'm playing – it is so much fun' and 'Mrs Sowter, I got a distinction in my grade exam' or 'We love playing in a group with our friends in orchestra', make me proud of all our musicians but what stays with me is the joy on their faces as they share their achievements and perform for us in school.

**Mrs Sowter, Year 6 teacher and Music Co-ordinator**



We had our first PTA Meeting on Monday where it was agreed that Mrs Campbell could spend £1,500 on IT and STEAM resources.

A massive thank you to everybody for supporting this popular part of the curriculum.

### PTA EVENTS THIS TERM

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November

Fireworks Night

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Fair

### SEPTEMBER 2018/2019

#### SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>

School Council

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>

Class, individual and sibling photos

Friday 28<sup>th</sup>

9.00am MacMillan Coffee Morning

#### OCTOBER

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>

LAMDA exams Y2 – Y6

Friday 5<sup>th</sup>

Harvest Festival

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>

Flu Nurse – R, 1, 2, 3, 4

Friday 12<sup>th</sup>

9.00am Parent Council  
9.30am EYFS Open Morning  
9.30 – 12.00pm Open Morning  
3.45pm U11 Football v Royal Russell (H)

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>

Friday 19<sup>th</sup>

STEAM day  
6-8pm Prep Swimming Gala

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

HALF TERM

#### HOLIDAY CLUB

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 8am – 6.00pm

#### NOVEMBER

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>

Travelling Books for 1 week

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>

PTA Fireworks Evening

Monday 12<sup>th</sup>

Parents Evening

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>

School Council

Monday 19<sup>th</sup>

2.00pm St David's Dash  
Y3 & Y4

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>

PTA 'own-clothes' bring a Bottle day

#### DECEMBER

Friday 7<sup>th</sup>

Choir concert at St John's Church

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>

PTA Christmas Fair

Friday 14<sup>th</sup>

Prep Carol Service (for all Prep pupils)

**REMEMBER TO CHECK THE WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR NEW DATES**