

ST GEORGE'S  
ASCOT 



The Dragon 2019/20

St George's is not only about the girls' education and futures, friends and fun, but it is also many people's jobs, their friends, the place where they feel safe and part of a community.

Liz Hewer  
Headmistress

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The Dragon  
2019/20

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## FROM THE HEADMISTRESS

chatty, friendly girls who do wonders to lift the spirits just by being themselves, and in our empty buildings during the Summer Term, we longed for that to be the case again.

Having spent time over the preceding two years, particularly with my Deputy Head (Academic) Jeremy Hoar, deciding on and developing a new IT strategy at St George's, we were very well-placed to 'switch' the School online for the Monday morning following this closure of schools. Our IT development had seen a move to cloud based systems and the roll out of school-owned Chromebooks to pupils and staff (a work device as distinct from a 'play device' such as an iPad or a phone) in September 2018, as well as the staff becoming proficient in Google Suite and other education applications alongside the development of our online academic and communications tool, Dragonfly. Thus, girls, staff and parents were already used to our systems and the girls and staff to their devices, and this allowed for a near seamless switch to remote schooling.

The support of parents and the dedication of the girls, despite motivation flagging at times and feeling the absence of their teachers and friends, was a vital feature of 'Remote St George's. However, none of the success of the Summer Term 2020 would have been possible without the dedication of the wonderful staff I lead, those teaching and all those supporting behind the scenes. During this time we said a very fond farewell and thank you to our long-standing Bursar and member of the Senior Leadership Team, Julia Wood, and welcomed our new Bursar, James Anderson. We have always known that really positive elements of St George's are the size of the school, the personal connections and the strength of the community, and the resilience of the bonds between everyone within a school community is never tested more than in a time of change and uncertainty.

And the St George's Governors have all continued to be a great support to me and the Senior Leadership Team as together we have steered the School through these turbulent times. As you will read in later pages, at the start of the Summer Term we

heard the very sad news that Anna Laurie-Walker had passed away. You will read a full and fitting tribute to Anna in the Alumnae section of this edition, which really captures the essence of the wonderful Old Georgian that she was. Anna was a Governor of St George's for many years and had attended meetings at the School until shortly before her death. She was a great supporter of the girls, and the staff, and to me, and Headmistresses before me, and I will always be grateful for the encouragement and support that she gave to me, especially when I first started in post. We look forward to the School playing a part in a service to celebrate her life when we are able to; may she rest in peace.

I spoke to the girls at the end of the academic year about some of the things we may have learnt during this period of remote schooling. The girls worked hard with their teachers in their online lessons that continued on a similar timetable to normal, with tweaks aimed at improving wellbeing, such as breaks between lessons, less prep, and a longer lunch time. They also continued with many of their co-curricular activities, albeit remotely and in a different format to usual. I also think we all learnt a lot about ourselves; some people had challenging times at home, as well as good times, and this whole experience will be a part of every one of us becoming who we are.

So what I have I learnt? Well, as the girls saw in my online assemblies over the term each Monday, I've done more jigsaws, I've got into gardening and growing vegetables. I've realised I quite like wearing tracksuit bottoms and trainers every day but I am also keen to get dressed up and get out and about and meet people, which is usually such a big part of my job. I learnt to cook some different dishes and I really enjoyed my online cookery lessons with the Upper Sixth and Mrs Jones. I've also realised more than ever what a great job I have, how much I love running St George's with such a fantastic groups of girls of all ages and such committed, dedicated and enthusiastic staff who have nothing but the girls' best interests at heart.

I think I've also learnt to chill out a bit! March 2020 was probably the hardest

time I had been through in this job to date; the feeling of not being in control, that what was happening, with school closures imminent, was beyond all that we could do, and I am sure the staff remember me talking to them all together on that last Friday as we were about to close. St George's is not only about the girls' education and futures, friends and fun, but it is also many people's jobs, their friends, the place where they feel safe and part of a community. I have shared the following quote from Kahlil Gibran with the girls, 'our anxiety does not come from thinking about the future, but from wanting to control it' and I think that is very true.

**I found that focusing on what we can control and what we can do well, were the most important things and I couldn't be more proud of the impressive remote schooling experience that the staff enabled for the girls in the Summer Term.**

The downside for the girls is, of course, that there will never again be a 'snow day' or school delayed or interrupted by a volcanic ash cloud, or any other such natural phenomenon getting in the way of their lessons - we will now merely switch lessons online and continue in much the same way!

I don't know whether there has been a year in St George's history (certainly not in recent times) where we have not held some form of gathering for Prize Giving and to say farewell to the confident, capable and engaging young women who have finished their time with us and leave us for pastures new. This year, however, with the School buildings closed from March, the School year finished in the way that had typified the preceding term, with us being 'together apart' with many, but not all, of the 'normal' events, moving online. We do plan to get the leaving Upper Sixth, and leaving staff, from Summer 2020 back to School when we can, and in true St George's style, I have promised we will have a party together as soon as such an event is possible!

Liz Hewer  
Headmistress

## NEW STAFF

The following staff joined St George's in the academic year 2019-2020.



### STAFF PORTRAITS

Left to right from the top.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 01 Miss Helen Austin<br>Administrative Assistant  | 09 Dr Victoria Henshaw<br>Teacher of History and Geography<br>(Maternity Cover) |
| 02 Mrs Charlotte Barlow<br>Examinations Officer   | 10 Mrs Liz Little<br>Marketing, Design and<br>Communications Coordinator        |
| 03 Ms Myriam Boussaid<br>Language Assistant       | 11 Mrs Donna Rouse-Collen<br>Teacher of Mathematics                             |
| 04 Miss Natalie Conde<br>Assistant Housemistress  | 12 Mrs Sophia Rutherford-Gibb<br>Head of English                                |
| 05 Mrs Liz Davies<br>Marketing Assistant          | 13 Mrs Rachel Smith<br>Data Manager and Timetabler                              |
| 06 Miss Sophia Earnshaw-Punnett<br>Resident Tutor | 14 Mrs Camilla Tea<br>Teacher of French and Spanish                             |
| 07 Mrs Sue Harmon<br>Markham Housemistress        | 15 Miss Kezia Tomsett<br>Resident Tutor   |
| 08 Dr Ann Haughton<br>Head of History of Art      |   |

# FAREWELL TO STAFF LEAVING



**JULIA WOOD**  
BURSAR

At the end of May 2020, we said farewell to Julia Wood who had been the Bursar at St George's since August 2011. Over this time Julia has been in charge of the finance and operations side of the School and, as a key member of the Senior Leadership Team, worked closely with me and the Deputy Heads, as well as the Governors. In a smaller school a Bursar has much greater interaction with staff and pupils than in a larger school and Julia developed strong relationships across the staff and an understanding and appreciation of many areas of school life. Always willing to help out in whatever capacity was needed, Julia's legacy is most obvious on the St George's site in the two major building projects which she led; the new School Library, which opened in 2019, and the impressive new Swimming Pool which opened in September 2019.

Julia is well connected within the world of independent school Bursars having worked at Winchester College and the Independent Schools' Bursars Association before joining St George's. She has moved to become Director of Finance and Operations at Woldingham School where she is excited to embark on new development projects and will oversee a far larger school site, of 700 acres, including a herd of resident cattle!

Julia left St George's during the period when the school buildings were closed and therefore, we have not been able to say a proper thank you for all that she has given to St George's over the years and give her a proper send-off in School as yet, but we look forward to welcoming her back to St George's when circumstances allow.

Liz Hewer



**FLORA BURROWS**  
HEAD OF MODERN LANGUAGES

Flora Burrows joined St George's as Head of Modern Languages in September 2011 after a successful stint at The Reading School. She was a popular member of staff with both colleagues and pupils and much loved as a tutor to the Sixth Form. Girls found her easy to talk to and would often ask to be allocated to her tutor group.

As a linguist, Flora saw the value of taking pupils out of the classroom and out of the country on trips in order to improve their skills and have fun at the same time. Trips included the annual Third Year residential visit to Normandy and a highly successful visit to Tenerife with the Geography department in 2018.

We were very sorry to see Flora leave us in January 2020 in order to take up a role closer to home and wish her all the best with her future career.



**LUCY CORDINGLEY**  
HEAD OF HISTORY OF ART

We were very sorry to say farewell to Lucy Cordingley as our Head of History of Art in January 2020. Lucy left us after only 4 terms as a result of a change in her family situation.

In her short time with us, Lucy had become a much loved teacher of the subject. Her History of Art club was very popular with the younger girls and History of Art's popularity as an A Level choice was on the rise.

She was admired for her subject knowledge, teaching skill and empathy for the girls. We wish her all the best with what we are sure will be a very successful career.



**CHARLOTTE PHIPPS**  
TEACHER OF LATIN AND CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

Charlotte left St George's at the end of the summer term, after 9 years of dedicated service. During her time at the School, she taught Latin and Classical Civilisation and played a full and active role in the delivery of our after-school clubs programme. Charlotte introduced Classical Civilisation to the School and was a popular and imaginative teacher of the subject.

She worked alongside Laura Fontes throughout those nine years and enjoyed trips with her to visit sites of the ancient world. Charlotte leaves St George's to take up a role as teacher of Classics at Sir William Perkins' School in Chertsey.

We were very sorry to see Charlotte go and wish her all the best with her future career.



**STEVE RHODES**  
HEAD OF SCIENCE, DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Steve left St George's at the end of the 2019/2020 academic year after six years of outstanding service as Head of Science and latterly Director of Teaching and Learning and member of the Academic Management Team. Steve was a popular member of staff for whom his students would always go the extra mile. His Biology classroom was a place of challenge and wonder and, under his tenure, the Science department went from strength to strength.

As Director of Teaching and Learning, Steve led on a number of exciting initiatives to develop the School's pedagogical practice by introducing us to concepts from cognitive science which caused many of his colleagues to take a second look at their practice in the classroom. His responsibilities included the coordination of the programme for more able students, called "SGA Stretch." This included a fortnightly club of puzzles and challenge which was always fully booked. Since 2016, he worked closely with the Senior Leadership Team on initiatives such as the reshaping of the School timetable and the analysis of pupil voice data (pupil feedback surveys) to inform initiatives in teaching and learning.

He leaves St George's to take on a well-deserved promotion as Deputy Head Academic at The Marist School in Ascot.



**OLGA KELLARIS**  
**ASSISTANT HOUSEMISTRESS**

Olga joined us as Assistant Housemistress in Markham House in May 2015 and instantly added a wonderful layer of warmth to the boarding community.

The girls in the house were very fond of her kind, light hearted and fun nature and, when the then Housemistress went on maternity leave, Olga was the natural choice to take over. Olga always undertook her role with enthusiasm and she was loved by parents and girls alike.

As well as working in boarding for four and a half years, Olga was also a great support in the Health Centre, regularly taking girls to appointments. She also worked in the EAL department, offering one to one academic support.

Olga's commitment to St George's and her 'can do' attitude will be greatly missed. We wish Olga well in her next adventure.



**JOHN EDDYVEAN**  
**HEAD CHEF**

Eddy joined us as Sous Chef in 2011. He quickly settled in and proved he was an excellent chef and an asset to the team at St George's, so much so that he was appointed to the role of Head Chef when the position became available in 2013.

During that time, the school was awarded the Tatler Best Food Award. This was a credit to his ability and flair in creating fun, exciting menus and high-quality meals.

What made Eddy stand out was his love for food and desire to continually create new dishes. Before writing menus - regardless of whether it was for the menu cycle, house parties, canape events or afternoon tea - he would research, test and taste dishes to ensure that the food produced was of the highest quality and that his ideas worked. His love for food and the catering sector as a whole, always ensured the food served here was on trend. That's not to say that his time with us was all plain sailing. One particularly memorable day at work involved him chopping the tip of his finger off. Lots of blood and some excellent sewing by the doctors at A & E followed but it was worth it as it gave him a story (and us for that matter) to tell for the rest of his career. Eddy spent his time out of work playing softball and was always full of near misses and bruises from his weekend exploits. One particular such exploit led to a broken finger. Such was his determination to carry on working, he only made his way to A & E several days later.

Unfortunately, due to the coronavirus pandemic taking hold so quickly in March and with the necessary restrictions that have been in place since, we have been unable to say a proper goodbye to Eddy. When life resumes to some normality, we hope we will be able to do this. We wish him all the best for the future.



**KATIE HOOK**  
**MARKETING AND DESIGN OFFICER**

Katie Hook joined St George's in April 2018 as Marketing and Design Officer. It's fair to say that from the outset, Katie fully immersed herself in school life. During her first week in post, she took part in the annual Georgian Gallop and a few weeks later she took to the stage during Open Mic Night, playing the piano whilst performing a rendition of Adele's, 'Someone Like You'.

Katie has a passion for the performing arts and took a keen interest in writing up and photographing key school productions and music recitals. She had a natural affinity with the girls and they enjoyed her involvement and approachable manner. Katie made some good friends within the Staff Room during her time with us and we will miss her can-do attitude and sense of fun. We wish Katie all the very best in her new role at St George's, Weybridge.



**RACHEL JOHNSON**  
**THEATRE DIRECTOR IN RESIDENCE**

Rachel joined St George's as Theatre Director in Residence in 2016. During her time with us, she had a wonderful, creative impact on many areas of school life. Rachel started a month after leaving Disneyland Paris, and, with her chipmunk costume barely cold, she was thrown into her first whole school musical. By October half term, she had choreographed what could probably be described as our most physically demanding show, 'Bring It On!'. It included sophisticated cheerleading sequences (including a human pyramid) alongside contemporary dance numbers. She barely had time to rest before throwing herself into preparing for the First Year pantomime! This was an indication of all that was to come. Rachel maintained the exceptionally high standards of these early projects throughout her time at the school. She choreographed and directed numerous successful productions and was an invaluable asset to the Drama department.

Rachel also contributed to whole school events such as Zumba for Sports Relief, activities on sports day and workshops with future Georgians. She ran Drama and Dance workshops with students in our local state infant, junior and primary schools. Alongside this, she played a significant role in the boarding community, working with students across a range of year groups as a resident tutor as well as an acting Assistant Housemistress.

She leaves us to relocate back to her native Yorkshire where she has taken up a role in a state secondary school teaching Drama, Dance and Music alongside working with a mental health charity. We wish her the very best of luck in her future endeavours.



**ALISON EARNSHAW-PUNETT**  
**DIRECTOR OF SPORT**

Ali joined St George's as Director of Sport in the Summer Term 2018 from St Catherine's, Bramley and quickly made an impact in her leadership of Physical Education at the School.

Her first love is lacrosse and her enthusiasm for the game was evident in the commitment she showed and demanded from the students, both in training and during matches. However, she also shared her passion for all physical activity in her development of such initiatives as staff yoga and the incorporation of the swimming pool into the girls' weekly routine.

Ali was inspirational during the time of Remote Learning. She masterminded a variety of activities and challenges to engage the girls at home. These included a virtual House Athletics Competition as well as an online Sports Review of the Year.

Her new position as Head of Elite Sport at Wycombe Abbey will see her continue to inspire girls to be active and to set themselves high standards and, crucially, she will still be able to coach lacrosse. We wish her all the very best in her future endeavours.

# AWARDS AND PRIZE GIVING

## 2019-2020 PREFECTS

HEAD GIRL:  
Lily Jones

DEPUTY HEAD GIRLS:  
Grace Whitfield,  
Olivia Bromilow

PREFECTS:  
ALEXANDER HOUSE CAPTAIN:  
Kiera O'Hare

BECKET HOUSE CAPTAIN:  
Sophie Macfadyen

CHURCHILL HOUSE CAPTAIN:  
Meri Nolan

DARWIN HOUSE CAPTAIN:  
Molly Jenkinson

ADMISSIONS AND MARKETING  
PREFECT (BOARDING):  
Sighe Asemota

ADMISSIONS AND MARKETING  
PREFECT (DAY):  
Tejasvi Muvwala

ART PREFECT:  
Abi Rickett

CHARITY PREFECT:  
Olivia Sweeney

LIBRARY PREFECT:  
Isabella Stanford-Harris

SPORTS PREFECT:  
Anna Ewens

## UPPER SIXTH SUBJECT PRIZES

ART  
Millie Lewin

BIOLOGY  
Lily Jones

BUSINESS STUDIES  
Olivia Sweeney

CHEMISTRY  
Yu Fu

DRAMA  
Millie Lewin

ECONOMICS  
Tejasvi Muvwala

ENGLISH  
Isabella Stanford-Harris

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION  
Millie Lewin

FRENCH  
Isabella Stanford-Harris

FURTHER MATHEMATICS  
Yee Tung (Caroline) Lam

GEOGRAPHY  
Grace Whitfield

HISTORY  
Isabella Stanford-Harris

HISTORY OF ART  
Sophie Macfadyen

MATHEMATICS  
Yu Fu

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Abi Rickett

PHYSICS  
Yu Fu

POLITICS  
Fatimah Iqbal

PSYCHOLOGY  
Millie Lewin

RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
Lily Jones

SPANISH  
Chiara Incisa di Camerana

TEXTILES  
Chiara Incisa di Camerana

DOUROUTAKIS CUP FOR  
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE  
Yu Fu

THE GOOD COMPANIONS CUP  
Olivia Bromilow

UPPER SIXTH EFFORT CUP  
Fatimah Iqbal

UPPER SIXTH ACHIEVEMENT CUP  
Isabella Stanford-Harris

UPPER SIXTH PROGRESS CUP  
Millie Lewin

SENIOR ACTING CUP  
Olivia Bromilow

THE MIRANDA LEATHAM  
SINGING CUP  
Olivia Bromilow

SERVICES TO CHAPEL CHOIR  
Olivia Bromilow  
Anna Ewens  
Meriel Nolan  
Grace Whitfield

ALEXANDER AWARD  
Kiera O'Hare

BECKET AWARD  
Sophie Macfadyen

CHURCHILL AWARD  
Meriel Nolan

DARWIN AWARD  
Molly Jenkinson

DEPUTY HEAD GIRLS' AWARD  
Olivia Bromilow and Grace Whitfield

HEAD GIRL'S AWARD  
Lily Jones

## FIRST YEAR COMMENDATIONS

ART  
Sofya Novokshonova

DRAMA  
Maclaren Loxton-Coe

ENGLISH  
Grace Davy

FRENCH  
Lucy Kieran

GEOGRAPHY

Katie Guest

HISTORY  
Cara Viney

ICT AND COMPUTING  
Grace Davy

LATIN  
Maya Evdokimova

MATHEMATICS  
Isobel MacLaurin

MUSIC  
Cara Viney

RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
Ruoyi (Fino) Li

SCIENCE  
Larayna Clacher-Chopra

FIRST YEAR EFFORT AWARD  
India Knowles

FIRST YEAR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
Asees Dhanda

FIRST YEAR PROGRESS AWARD  
Hemani Mehta

HEADMISTRESS'S AWARD FOR  
OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC  
ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS A NUMBER  
OF SUBJECTS:  
Asees Dhanda,  
India Knowles,  
Dominique Nobrega

## SECOND YEAR COMMENDATIONS

ART  
Felicitas Petersen

DRAMA  
Alice Grant

FRENCH  
Lucia El-Bacha

GEOGRAPHY  
Emily O'Neill

HISTORY  
Mila Arbuthnott

ICT AND COMPUTING  
Lucia El-Bacha

MATHEMATICS  
Mila Arbuthnott

MUSIC  
Ava Marson-Day

RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
Emily O'Neill

SCIENCE  
Chloe Moston

SPANISH  
Alexandra Suri

SECOND YEAR EFFORT AWARD  
Felicitas Petersen

SECOND YEAR ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD  
Amelia Wells

SECOND YEAR PROGRESS AWARD  
Elizabeth Cole

HEADMISTRESS'S AWARD FOR  
OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC  
ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS A NUMBER  
OF SUBJECTS  
Elizabeth Cole,  
Rosemary Dangerfield,  
Orla Smith,  
Matilda Ward,  
Amelia Wells  
Olivia Wells

## THIRD YEAR PRIZES

ART  
Judit Arvidsson

CLASSICS  
Anna Pla

DRAMA  
Nyah Millns

ENGLISH  
Ellie Darke

FRENCH  
Yeva Chemer

GEOGRAPHY  
Judit Arvidsson

HISTORY  
Alice Vostry

ICT AND COMPUTING  
Kinza Nackvi

LATIN  
Portia Smith

MATHEMATICS

Yu Qing (Carolina) Yan

MUSIC  
Olivia Hand

RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
Elizabeth Macaulay

SCIENCE  
Kar Hang (Venice) Yuen

SPANISH  
Charlotte Coates

HEADMISTRESS'S AWARD FOR  
OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC  
ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS A NUMBER  
OF SUBJECTS  
Oona Gibbons,  
Jessica Guest,  
Milly Holdsworth,  
Isobel Thomas,  
Nicole Zhang

THIRD YEAR EFFORT AWARD  
Elodie Stacey

THIRD YEAR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
Oona Gibbons

THIRD YEAR PROGRESS AWARD  
Kinza Nackvi

## JUNIOR CO-CURRICULAR PRIZES

JUNIOR ACTING PRIZE  
Oona Gibbons

JUNIOR MUSIC PRIZE  
Milly Holdsworth

JUNIOR SPORTS PRIZE  
Alexandra Rotheroe

## FOURTH YEAR COMMENDATIONS

ART  
Isabel Gleasure

BIOLOGY  
Oi Yee (Amy) Zhang

CHEMISTRY  
Ruby Woodward

CLASSICS

# AWARDS AND PRIZE GIVING

Jessica Smith
DRAMA Erin Smith
ENGLISH Veronika Maurus
FRENCH Constance Marriott
GEOGRAPHY Erin Smith
HISTORY Hannah Beason
ICT AND COMPUTING Saskia Kotelawala
LATIN Lucy Proctor
MATHEMATICS Oi Yee (Amy) Zhang
MUSIC Lucy Proctor
PHYSICAL EDUCATION Ruby Woodward
PHYSICS Veronika Maurus
RELIGIOUS STUDIES Hannah Beason
SCIENCE Charlotte Pusey
SPANISH Eli Fidura
TEXTILES Constance Marriott
FOURTH YEAR EFFORT AWARD Hannah Beason
FOURTH YEAR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD Kendra Jervis
FOURTH YEAR PROGRESS AWARD Tsz Man (Trista) Yen
HEADMISTRESS'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS Lucy Grant, Kendra Jervis, Rosa Stanford-Harris, Amelia Taylor

## FIFTH YEAR PRIZES

ART Lucy Keddie
CLASSICS Leyan Sun
DRAMA Megan O'Hare
ENGLISH Madison Dunn
FRENCH Charlotte Perucca
GEOGRAPHY Grace Smith
ICT AND COMPUTING Mildred (Lala) Khalu
LATIN Ariana Ribeiro
MATHEMATICS Yiling (Elaine) Cao
MUSIC Jacqueline Beaumont
PHYSICAL EDUCATION Charlotte Perucca
RELIGIOUS STUDIES Mildred (Lala) Khalu
SCIENCE Kornramas (Cartoon) Suttipatarapan
SPANISH Ariana Ribeiro
TEXTILES Daisy Rhead
FIFTH YEAR EFFORT AWARD Yung Hsu (Naomi) Yang
FIFTH YEAR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD Olivia Pryer
FIFTH YEAR PROGRESS AWARD Isabella Langaard
HEADMISTRESS'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS Isabel Kardos-Stowe, Alice Kyle, Amelia Marriott, Ka Man (Carmen) Ng, Olivia Pryer

## LOWER SIXTH COMMENDATIONS

ART Wufei (Faye) Fan
BIOLOGY Maya Torkington
BUSINESS Alessandra Ehmer
CHEMISTRY Tabitha MacSwiney
CLASSICS Alazne Hatton Mountjoy
DRAMA Aliya Millns
ECONOMICS Shaina Lovell
ENGLISH Grace Dunn
FRENCH Ruby Carty-Din
GEOGRAPHY Celia Jackson
HISTORY Tabitha MacSwiney
HISTORY OF ART Grace Dunn
MATHEMATICS Amber Xuan
MUSIC Lydia Viney
PHOTOGRAPHY Alessandra Ehmer
PHYSICAL EDUCATION Imogen Rodger
PHYSICS Aliya Millns
POLITICS Ruby Nolan
PSYCHOLOGY Solana del Azar
RELIGIOUS STUDIES Celia Jackson
SPANISH Solana del Azar

TEXTILES Imogen Wigzell
SENIOR SPORTS AWARD Imogen Wigzell
LOWER SIXTH EFFORT AWARD Alessandra Ehmer
LOWER SIXTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD Olivia Clouting
LOWER SIXTH PROGRESS AWARD Alazne Hatton Mountjoy
THE SPIRIT OF ST GEORGE AWARD Pippa Miles
HEADMISTRESS'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS June-Seo Chung, Olivia Clouting

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

### 13+

SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP Charlotte Coates
MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP Annie Dripps
ALL ROUND SCHOLARSHIP FOR ACADEMIC, DRAMA, ART AND SPORT Oona Gibbons
PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP FOR MUSIC AND DRAMA Milly Holdsworth
PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP FOR DANCE AND DRAMA Nyah Millns
SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP Isobel Thomas
ART EXHIBITION Kathy Zhang

## SIXTH FORM

ALL ROUND SCHOLARSHIP (ACADEMIC AND ART) June-Seo Chung
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ALL ROUND SCHOLARSHIP (ACADEMIC AND PERFORMING ARTS) Olivia Clouting
ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP Ruby Carty-Din

## MUSIC AWARDS

ABRSM MUSIC CERTIFICATES	
Olivia Hand GRADE 3 SINGING	Pass
Gemma Dripps GRADE 3 SINGING	Pass
Veronika Maurus GRADE 4 SINGING	Merit
Chloe Moston GRADE 3 VIOLIN	Pass
Lucia El-Bacha GRADE 4 VIOLIN	Pass
Milka Cai GRADE 6 PIANO	Pass
THEORY:	
Gemma Dripps GRADE 2	Pass
Milly Holdsworth GRADE 2	Distinction
Lydia Viney GRADE 5	Pass
Erin Smith GRADE 5	Distinction - 95/100 exceptional result
PRACTICAL:	
Naomi Yang GRADE 1 HARP	Distinction
Hemani Mehta GRADE 1 PIANO	Pass
Isabel Kardos -Stowe GRADE 2 CELLO	Merit
Kendra Jervis GRADE 2 PIANO	Pass
Constance Conway GRADE 3 SINGING	Merit

Honey Phaure GRADE 3 SINGING	Pass
Saskia Kotelawala GRADE 4 PIANO	Merit
Veronika Maurus GRADE 4 PIANO	Pass
Amelia Taylor GRADE 5 SAXOPHONE	Distinction
Lucy Proctor GRADE 6 SINGING	Pass

## AUTUMN 2019 DANCE

GCSE DANCE WITH THE NATALIE VINSON SCHOOL OF DANCE	
GRADE 6 Rosa Bavington	Pass
GRADE 8 Milly Marriott	Pass

## SPRING TERM 2020 LAMDA

ACTING GRADE 3 DUO Ziyan (Amy) Zhao	Merit
ACTING GRADE 3 DUO Kexin (Kathy) Zhang	Merit
ACTING GRADE 3 SOLO Orla Smith	Distinction
ACTING GRADE 3 SOLO Costanza (Costi) Caldana	Distinction
ACTING GRADE 4 SOLO Ava Marson-Day	Distinction
ACTING GRADE 4 SOLO Olivia Hand	Distinction
ACTING GRADE 4 SOLO Emily Arbuthnott	Distinction
ACTING GRADE 4 SOLO Amelia Taylor	Distinction
ACTING GRADE 5 SOLO Elodie Stacey	Merit
ACTING GRADE 5 SOLO Lily Woodward	Merit

# AWARDS AND PRIZE GIVING

ACTING GRADE 5 SOLO  
Daisy Rhead Distinction

ACTING GRADE 5 SOLO  
Milly Holdsworth Distinction

ACTING GRADE 5 DUO  
Portia Smith Distinction

ACTING GRADE 5 DUO  
Jessica Smith Distinction

ACTING GRADE 5 SOLO  
Anya McCall Distinction

ACTING GRADE 5 SOLO  
Annabel MacPherson Distinction

ACTING GRADE 6 SOLO BRONZE  
MEDAL  
Tejasvi Muvvala Merit

ACTING GRADE 6 DUO BRONZE  
MEDAL  
India Williams Distinction

ACTING GRADE 6 DUO BRONZE  
MEDAL  
Matilda Cayton Distinction

ACTING GRADE 6 DUO BRONZE  
MEDAL  
Jacqueline Beaumont Distinction

ACTING GRADE 6 DUO BRONZE  
MEDAL  
Megan O'Hare Distinction

SPEAKING IN PUBLIC GRADE 6  
BRONZE MEDAL  
Olivia Pryer Distinction

DEVISING DRAMA GRADE 7 SOLO  
Rosa Bavington Distinction

ACTING GRADE 7 SOLO SILVER  
MEDAL  
June-Seo Chung Distinction

ACTING GRADE 7 SOLO SILVER  
MEDAL  
Celia Jackson Distinction

ACTING GRADE 7 SOLO SILVER  
MEDAL  
Maia Wilson Distinction

## ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE

GRADE 4 BALLET  
Olivia Hand Pass

GRADE 4 BALLET  
Lizzie Macaulay Pass

GRADE 4 BALLET  
Mimi Mitten Merit

GRADE 4 BALLET  
Lucia Hall Merit

GRADE 4 BALLET  
Lucy Proctor Merit

GRADE 8 BALLET  
Aliya Millns Merit

GRADE 8 BALLET  
Millie Lewin Merit

## SUMMER TERM 2020 LAMDA

ACTING GRADE 2 SOLO  
Emily Wabwire Distinction

ACTING GRADE 3 DUO  
Artemis Wyke Distinction

ACTING GRADE 3 DUO  
Cara Viney Distinction

ACTING GRADE 3 SOLO  
Aanya Shukla Distinction

ACTING GRADE 3 SOLO  
Thea Rhead Distinction

ACTING GRADE 4 SOLO  
Grace Davy Distinction

ACTING GRADE 4 SOLO  
Elizabeth Macaulay Pass

ACTING GRADE 5 SOLO  
Veronika Maurus Distinction

ACTING GRADE 5 SOLO  
Constance Marriott Distinction

ACTING GRADE 6 DUO BRONZE  
MEDAL  
Amelia Marriott Distinction

ACTING GRADE 6 DUO BRONZE  
MEDAL  
Grace Smith Merit

ACTING GRADE 7 SOLO SILVER  
MEDAL  
Tabitha Macswiney Merit

ACTING GRADE 8 SOLO GOLD MEDAL  
Keshni Vadiveloo Merit

ACTING GRADE 8 SOLO GOLD MEDAL  
Kiera O'Hare Distinction

ACTING GRADE 8 SOLO GOLD MEDAL  
June-Seo Chung Distinction

# CHAPEL CHOIR



## HEAD OF CHAPEL CHOIR

Olivia Bromilow

## UPPER SIXTH

Olivia Bromilow  
Anna Ewens  
Meri Nolan  
Grace Whitfield

## LOWER SIXTH

Olivia Clouting  
Alexandra Townsend  
Lydia Viney

## FIFTH YEAR

Jaqueline Beaumont  
Tilly Cayton  
Isabel Kardos-Stowe  
Milly Marriott  
Maia Wilson  
Lydia Winchester

## FORTH YEAR

Ellie Fidura  
Imogen Hillary  
Kendra Jervis  
Connie Marriott  
Erin Smith  
Amelia Talyor  
Lily Woodward  
Ruby Woodward

## THIRD YEAR

Olivia Hand  
Milly Holdsworth  
Nyah Millns

## SECOND YEAR

Rosie Dangerfield  
Katie Hewer  
Ava Marson -Day  
Anya McCall  
Felicitas Petersen  
Orla Smith  
Amelia Wells  
Olivia Wells

## FIRST YEAR

Connie Conway  
Cameron Elston  
Maclaren Loxton-Coe  
Ava Tim

# EXAM RESULTS HIGHLIGHTS

## GCSE AND A LEVEL RESULTS

2020 was a very successful year for our GCSE and A-level pupils with two excellent sets of results of which they should be very proud. The girls faced the challenge of remote schooling head-on, showing great maturity and adaptability to complete their courses online. They consistently worked hard and demonstrated admirable commitment and resilience through turbulent and uncertain times.

The Upper Sixth were an extremely capable year group and it was no surprise that they secured a very impressive set of A level results with 69% gaining A/A.

Throughout their time at St George's, all girls are given extensive opportunity to explore their academic potential and support to carve the future of their choice.

We were delighted then that 92% of leavers achieved their first or insurance choice of university place. 67% took up places in Russell Group universities and a further 12% headed for competitive courses at Bath University.

Three Georgians took up places at The University of Oxford to read Economics and Management, History and Philosophy and Theology. Successful Georgians also headed to Edinburgh, UCL, Imperial College, Durham, Warwick, Newcastle and the University of Arts, London to study a diverse range of courses; from Chemistry to Sociology; French and History to Film Production; Pharmacy to Business Management.

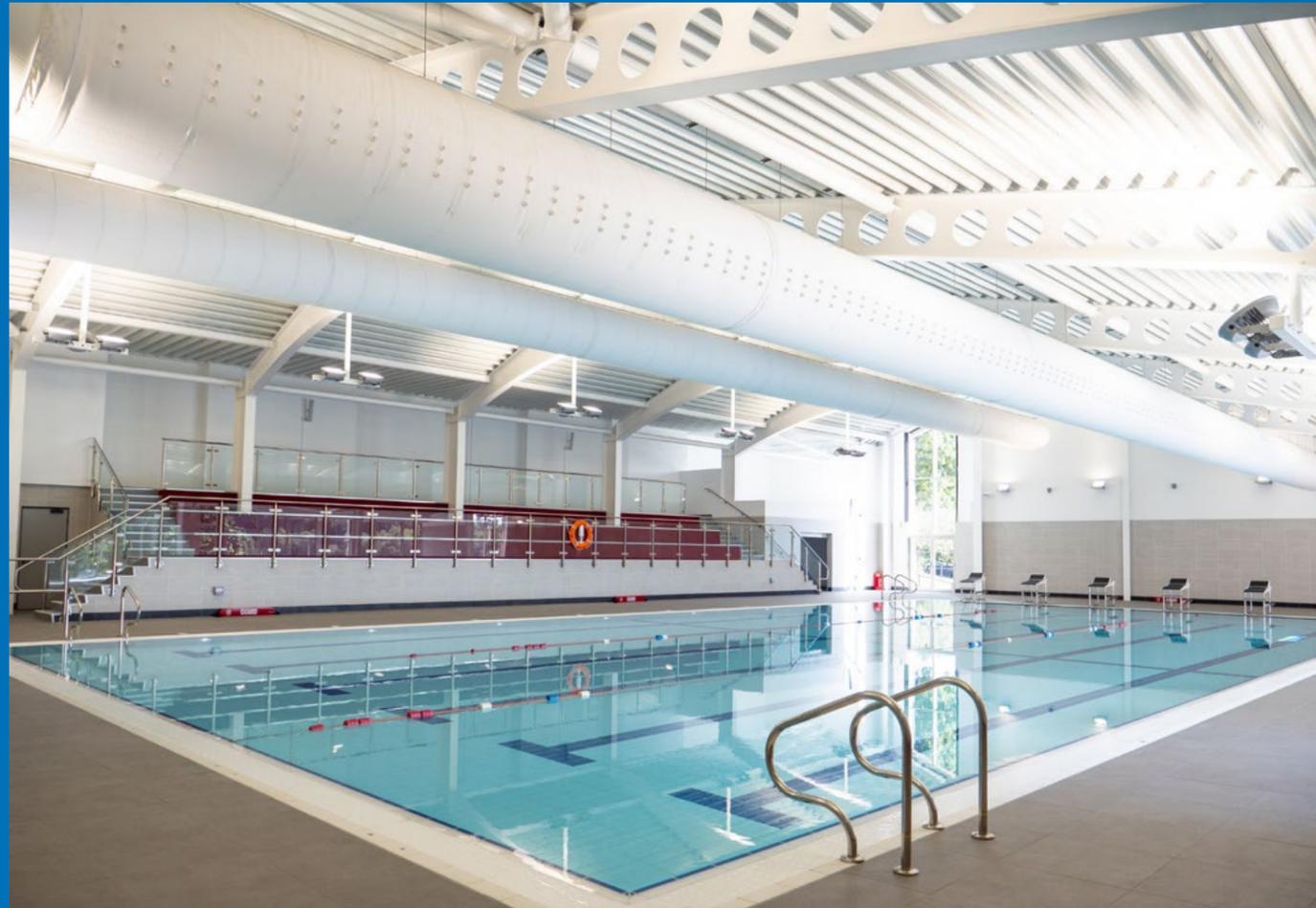
The Fifth Year girls also produced a truly commendable set of GCSE results with 100% of girls gaining 9-4 (A\*/A/B/C) and 70% gaining 9-7 (A\*/A). They all handled the last-minute changes in government policy on marking with great composure. We are therefore deeply proud of this conscientious, capable and accomplished cohort of girls.

# UPPER SIXTH UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

NAME	UNIVERSITY	READING
Sigho Asemota	Leeds	International Relations
Olivia Bromilow	Newcastle	Sociology
Anna Ewens	Exeter	Sociology
Yu Fu	Imperial	Chemistry
Vasilisa Gagarina	Exeter	English and Film & Television Studies
Chiara Incisa di Camerana	Bath	Management and Modern Languages
Fatimah Iqbal	Reading	Business and Management
Molly Jenkinson	Newcastle	Business Management
Lily Jones	Oxford	Philosophy and Theology
Caroline Lam	King's	Mathematics
Site Li	UCL	Pharmacy
Kitty Lin		Gap Year
Millie Lewin	UAL	Art Foundation
Sophie Macfadyen	Edinburgh	Business Management
Tejasvi Muwala	Oxford	Economics and Management
Stella Meriel Nolan	York	Archaeology
Kiera O'Hare	Newcastle	Sociology
Kanyinsola Oredola	Bath	Business
Abi Rickett	UAL	Photography
Katherine Stacey	Gloucestershire	Film Production
Isabella Stanford-Harris	Oxford	History
Sadhvi Subramaniam	UAL	Art Foundation
Olivia Sweeney	Bath	Management with Marketing
Poppy Sweetenham	Durham	Business and Management
Keshni Vadivelloo	Warwick	French and History
Grace Whitfield	Nottingham	Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Lutong Zhang	Cardiff	Economics and Management Studies

# HIGHLIGHTS

## OF THE YEAR



### SWIMMING POOL OPENING

Friday 13 September was a day of huge excitement and celebration at St George's as the new Swimming Pool was officially opened.

After just over twelve months of building, the pool was opened by sports presenter, journalist and alumna Kirsty Gallacher, with a great turnout from parents and alumna alongside pupils, governors and staff. The swim squads, including our 11+ and 13+ swimming scholars, were in the pool to show off this amazing new resource, while parents were able to tour the facility and watch the activity from the viewing gallery.

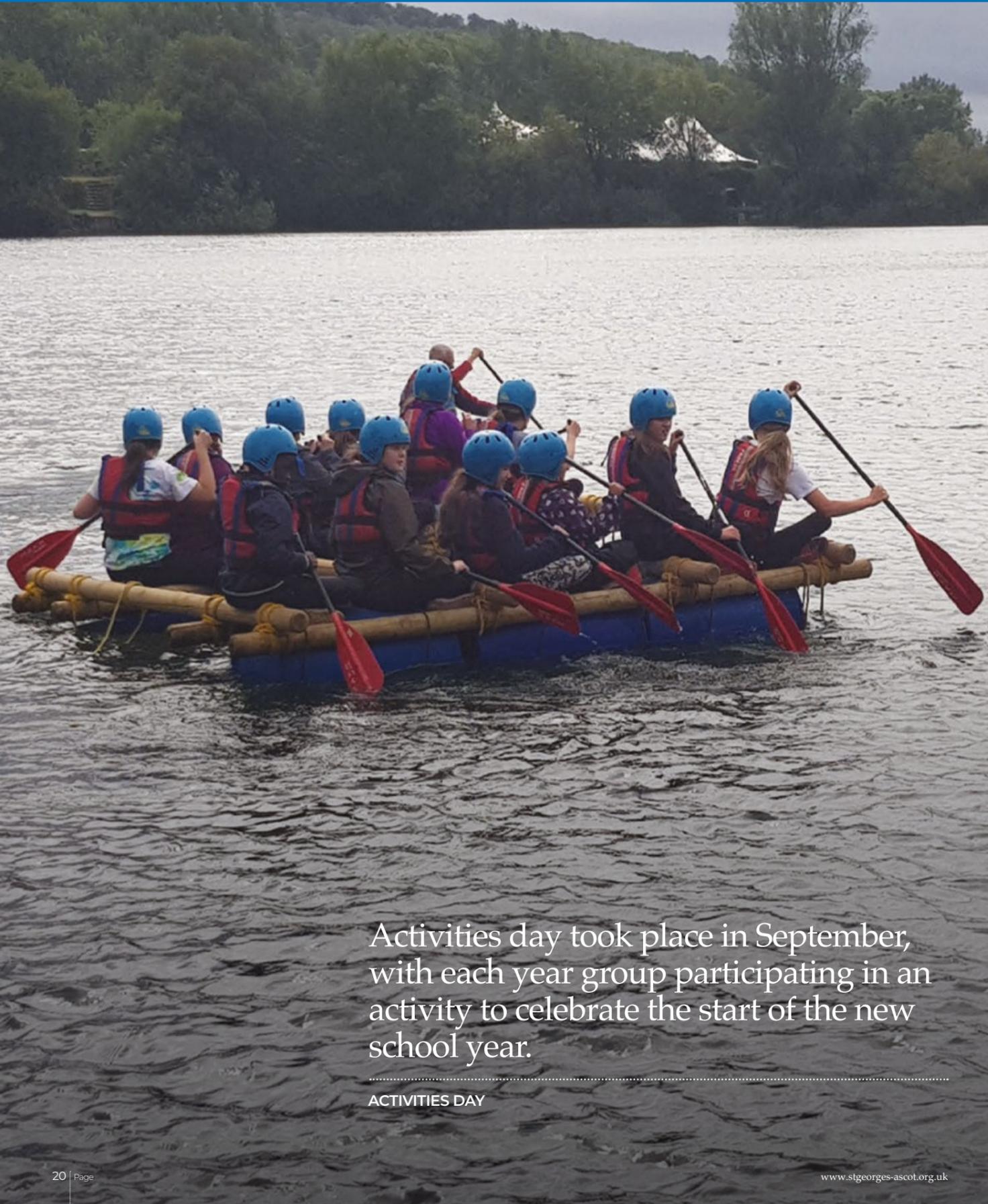
The pool has proven to be both a fantastic facility for current pupils and staff to enjoy, but has also built our connection with the local community.

Earlier in the year, St George's was able to host numerous swimming lessons and a number of galas for local Primary schools, Prep schools and clubs from the local community.



### SWIMMING POOL OPENING

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



Activities day took place in September, with each year group participating in an activity to celebrate the start of the new school year.

ACTIVITIES DAY

## FIRST YEAR

The First Year went to Marwell Zoo and saw lots of different animals and listened to a talk about poaching. To illustrate the session there were different types of animals including bugs and snakes, and some of the girl stroked the bugs which were hard on the outside, and touched a snake which was soft and scaly. They also heard about how, sadly, so many of the animals in the zoo are extinct in the wild and the zoo are trying to let them back into their original habitat.

The girls really enjoyed the sight of all of the animals, including tigers, hippos, different breeds of birds, reptiles and plenty more. This was a really good opportunity to help the girls to make new friends and get to know one another more.

## SECOND YEAR

The Second Year donned their jumpers and raincoats and checked they had a set of spare clothes as they knew they were likely to get wet, not just because rain was forecast but because two of their three activities were canoeing and raft-building. Arriving at the lakes in Marlow, the girls were sorted into their tutor groups and got ready for their first adventure, canoeing. There was a team of six people in each double canoe and the instructor tested the girls manoeuvring skills, at one point asking them to stand up in the canoe! Their next activity was crate stacking where they worked in pairs to stack as many crates as possible on top of one another whilst standing precariously on the top. Each person had an important role to play, ensuring that the ropes suspending the others remained taut, and throwing up additional crates. After lunch, the girls got out onto the lake again on a raft which they had built themselves. They learnt some new knots and worked together to create the best raft they could. Once they were on the water, they had a lot of fun swapping seats on the raft and at the end of the day those who were prepared to brave the chilly water were allowed to jump into the lake off the jetty. Overall, it was a very enjoyable day with a variety of suitably challenging activities.



ACTIVITIES DAY

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



## ACTIVITIES DAY

### THIRD YEAR

The Third Year enjoyed a day of mountain boarding, bouldering, team work challenges and making a leap of faith at the Oakwood activity centre. A day of outdoor activities provided a perfect opportunity for the new Georgians to meet the existing year group of wonderful Third Year girls. Everyone was especially impressed when Mrs Hewer arrived and confidently did the leap of faith. It was a fantastic day in which every individual was pushed and excelled beyond their comfort zone.

### FOURTH YEAR

The Fourth Year girls embarked on an exciting Spy Games event for their Activities Day. Not only stretching their knowledge of different countries, but also their reasoning in working out solutions to problems. Divided into four teams, they competed in a range of different events including a competition where they had to dress up in various employment roles with little or no props. These included ballerinas, tramps and soldiers. Guiding each other blind folded through a 'mine field' was one activity which furthered their trust in each other. It was a successful day in which they were all able to spend time together and build up their friendships, catching up after the summer holidays.

### FIFTH YEAR

The Fifth Year, along with their tutors and Miss Myers, went to Longridge Activity Centre in Marlow. The girls took part in three different activities: Trebuchet (catapult) making, team challenges and the Jacob's Ladder high ropes challenge. The girls embraced the team challenges and worked well together to solve problems and create new techniques for games. A particular highlight was working out how to get the whole team through a spider's web without talking... The Jacob's Ladder high ropes challenge involved climbing up the ladder as far as you could with the rest of your team, helping each other along the way. Most girls faced their fears and worked brilliantly together to support each other both emotionally and physically

### SIXTH FORM

This year, the Sixth Form girls' activities day was spent doing 'It's a Knockout' activities. Girls from the Lower and Upper Sixth worked together in their tutor groups on games including a four person sack race, inflatable assault course and foam pit.

The girls, and staff, had a wonderful time completing the challenges and worked hard in their teams in the hope of being crowned champions at the end of the day. A great deal of fun was had by all involved.



## AUSTRALIAN EXCHANGE

### One of the most distinctive features of St George's provision is the Australian Exchange for the Third Year girls.

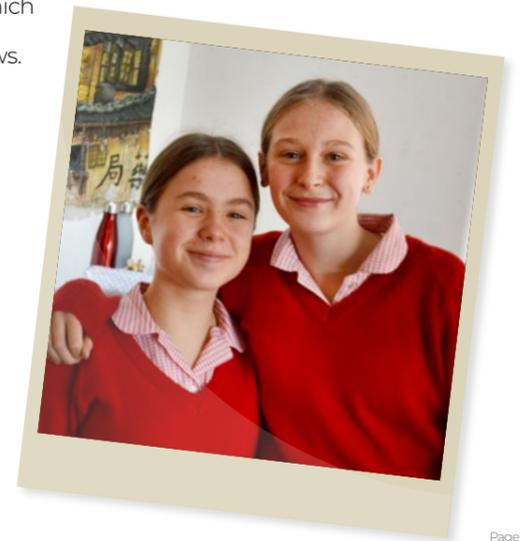
In October, four pupils were selected to be a part of the programme: Honey, Teniola, Charlotte and Annie. The new format for the exchange introduced for 2020 was due to see Charlotte and Annie stay with Australian families from January until March, enjoying the classes and co-curricular activities offered by St Catherine's School, Melbourne. At the same time, Honey and Teniola would host their exchange partners from Australia with the girls having the chance to sample life at St George's as tailored boarders. Between April and June, the pairs of Georgians would then switch along with their exchange friends to the alternative location.

The Exchange programme started well with Charlotte and Annie arriving in Melbourne and Honey and Teniola meeting their exchange partners from St Catherine's and inducting them into life in Markham. However, the gathering storm of the pandemic became an increasing concern and it was with some relief that, a little early, all the girls were able to fly home to

their respective families. Obviously the second half of the programme was impossible to fulfil, much to the great sadness of all the girls and staff involved.

Despite the challenges that will be likely in the future, St George's still strongly believes that the Australian Exchange offers Third Year pupils a number of valuable benefits. The selected girls are chosen after a rigorous application process which includes writing a letter to the Headmistress and two interviews. The experience of learning in an Australian school for half a term is often life-changing and perspective-broadening for the girls. It certainly offers them the opportunity to build resilience and independence as, in most cases, it is the longest time that they will have experienced away from friends and families. The rest of the year group also benefit from learning with Australian pupils who have different educational

experiences and cultural references. To confront the challenges of the coming decades, so vividly indicated by the Covid-19 pandemic but also with the climate emergency, strong bonds between countries and their peoples will be an asset upon which we increasingly depend.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



## SGA STRETCH WEEK

Monday 10 February marked the first day of the SGA Stretch Week. Girls in all years took part in activities designed to go beyond the normal curriculum and provide breadth and depth in the different subject areas on offer at the School.

A wide and wonderfully eclectic selection of talks, workshops and quizzes ran each day throughout prep time to literally stretch the girls' minds; from a Stock Market Investment Challenge in which girls were given a virtual £50,000 to invest to print making with an ecological theme, from an historical perspective on the Gestapo and their 'Big Brother' influence to questions about the possibility of time travel, from a debate over the use of Green Belt land for first home developments to a presentation on the continuing fascination with Shakespeare.

SGA Stretch week provides the girls with a rich opportunity to take their interests and their studies beyond the curriculum and is an excellent way of boosting confidence and pushing the girls out of their comfort zones.

## INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS' MOCK BAR TRIALS

After months of preparation, practice and court visits, the day of the Independent Schools Bar Mock Trial finally arrived in January. Everyone was up for an early start at the Inner London Crown Court in Newington. The barristers, Ruby N, Grace, Olivia and Ruby CD, were appropriately dressed, donning the wig and gown, and were ready for action. These advocates were just brilliant and (we would argue) much better than the professionals the girls had witnessed in an actual Crown Court earlier that week!

The girls certainly rose to the challenge as Grace destroyed a witness with her cross examination and won the case, followed by Olivia who managed to get a witness to admit something they had not done! The witnesses played their characters well with Tabitha becoming so aggressive with her responses that the poor defence barrister had to back

down. Eve, Celia and Jacqueline were so deeply in character, as they were cross examined by the defence and prosecution, that they ably managed to maintain their stories and correct the other advocates when they tried to push them into admitting guilt.

The court proceedings were well managed by the clerk Shaina who completely 'owned' the court and Milly, as the Court Usher, who was extremely professional in the way she directed the witnesses and took their affirmation. Court artist, June, also completed some amazing drawings of the trials. It was a wonderful day and St George's were one of the best teams there; they were faultless in their performances and more importantly were enthusiastic and excited about the day - they will return next year to clinch the prize! This was their first attempt but not their last.



## NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

Science week started on Monday 9 March with a virtual bang, as the girls enjoyed an assembly given by Dr Alsop in which she outlined the A-Z of where science can take you.

This set the tone of a week in which scientific aspiration and ambition were the order of the day. At the beginning of the week, the First to Fifth Year girls learnt about very different areas of industry. Mr John Steel gave a lecture on the electricity industry and exposed the girls to high-level mathematical concepts regarding energy demands. He helped the girls to think about how the energy industry copes with spikes in demand for example when the great British public put the kettle on in the advert break of Coronation Street!

The girls then heard from Mr Chris Joly who spoke about the wonders of our universe and our place in it. The talk encouraged the girls to think about where life can be found in the universe and the vast distances that would need to be travelled to reach habitable planets. Throughout the week, girls took part in the Daily Science Challenges, solving science puzzles through practical activities with points scored for completing tasks in a specific time.

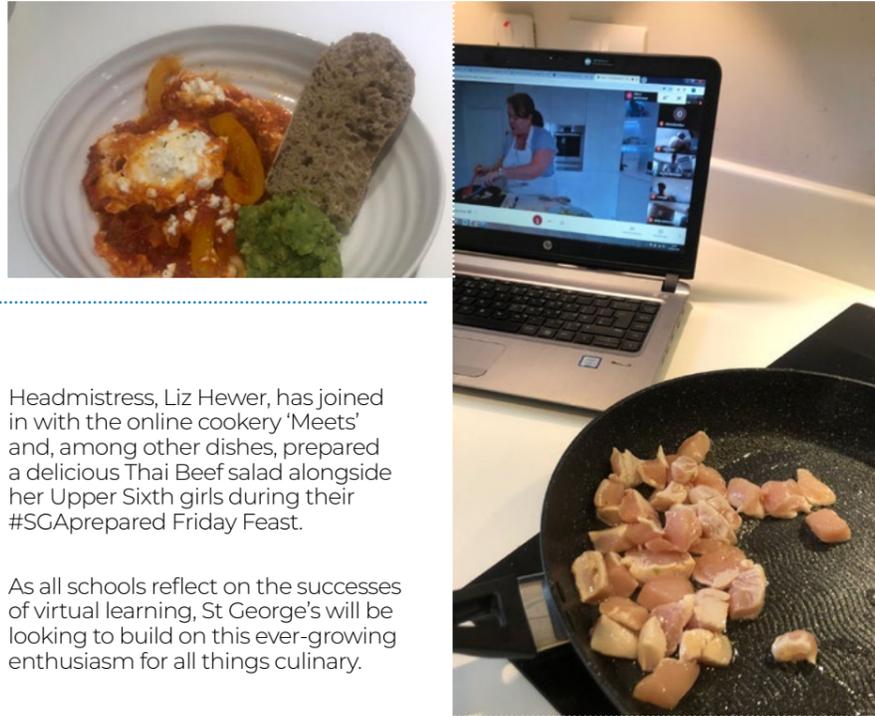
There were also a mighty thirty nine projects submitted for the SGA 2020 Science Fair. The diversity of topics clearly showed a Georgian enthusiasm for and interest in science. From a model of the Coronavirus, to Volcanoes, from Dancing Popcorn to Biohacking, each project was put to the public vote with awards given for best presented, best for scientific content, the most original and best overall. Given the focus on STEM opportunities for women, it remains a priority at St George's to provide opportunities such as Science Week to develop the girls' knowledge, confidence and enthusiasm.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

## COOKERY IN LOCKDOWN

The Lower Sixth girls showed great determination to complete their Leith's Toolbox Cookery Course from home. Undeterred by the logistical difficulties of remote learning, the girls have sourced all the ingredients and consistently delivered delicious, life-useful recipes to complete the 12-week course single handedly. Hilary Jones, their Leith's cookery teacher, proudly spoke of the girls' achievement. "They have worked so hard and are gaining a set of skills that will last a lifetime. Having to work individually at home has given them great confidence in the kitchen and has helped them to add such a positive contribution to family life during Lockdown. I am extremely proud of them."

St George's is renowned for the breadth of the extra curricular provision and the cookery programme has been of particular value during this period of virtual learning, giving the girls the chance to leave their screens and learn new practical, creative skills.



Headmistress, Liz Hewer, has joined in with the online cookery 'Meets' and, among other dishes, prepared a delicious Thai Beef salad alongside her Upper Sixth girls during their #SCAprepared Friday Feast.

As all schools reflect on the successes of virtual learning, St George's will be looking to build on this ever-growing enthusiasm for all things culinary.



## INDEPENDENT SCHOOL OF THE YEAR AWARDS



We were thrilled to be selected as a finalist for the Independent Schools of the Year 2019 awards in the Student Well-being category.

St George's is renowned for the importance placed on each pupil's well-being; developing respect for yourself and consideration for others is at the heart of the school ethos. Girls have the opportunity to develop their interests, be stretched and challenged, and our expansive co-curricular programme allows girls to develop existing interests and discover new talents including options for physical and mental well-being.

This accolade comes hot on the heels of the Mental Health Kitemark for Boarding Schools which we were recently awarded from the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools at Leeds Beckett University.

# CONFIDENT

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## DRAMA

### 1. THE SOUND OF MUSIC

After the success of our 'Sister Act' production in 2018, our next whole school musical for Autumn 2019 saw girls from the Second Year to the Upper Sixth once again don habit costumes as they transformed into nuns for 'The Sound of Music'. The cast shone throughout the show with soaring melodies, intricately choreographed ensemble numbers, and fantastic characterisation from all. Audiences were heard commenting on how brilliantly cast the show was and the well-known songs of 'My Favourite Things', 'Climb Ev'ry Mountain', 'Edelweiss' and 'Do-Re-Mi' were being hummed around the school all week!

Visit our Flickr page for more photographs:  
[www.flickr.com/photos/stgeorgesschoolascot](http://www.flickr.com/photos/stgeorgesschoolascot)

### 2. FIRST YEAR PANTO

Nothing gets the School community in the festive mood more than a fabulous First Year Pantomime and 2019's performance was no exception! The First Year took on the well-loved story of 'Alice in Wonderland', hosting over 300 local primary school children for the matinee performance from Windlesham Infants School, Connaught School, Frogmore School, and St Michael's School. Staff, friends, and family attended the evening performance and there was much audience participation with the crowd laughing, boo-ing and hiss-ing their way through the performance.

We would like to say very well done to this talented group of First Years and give a round of applause for their first theatre production at St George's. They put on a memorable performance with their comic timing and over-the-top characterisation. They were nothing short of wonderful and the girls deserve many congratulations.

Visit our Flickr page for more photographs:  
[www.flickr.com/photos/stgeorgesschoolascot](http://www.flickr.com/photos/stgeorgesschoolascot)



## ART



### 3. TEXTILES WORKSHOP WITH JANET EDMONDS

Selected GCSE and A Level Textiles pupils had the wonderful opportunity to meet and work with the Textiles artist, Janet Edmonds in the Autumn term. They were shown an array of exciting samples and then advised on what to create. The girls learned new techniques, exploring different materials and creating work that involved repetition and exploration of fabrics.



### 4. CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION 2019

Congratulations to all the talented Georgians who entered our 2019 Christmas card competition. As always, the bar was high and the winning design certainly did not disappoint.

First place went to Nicole in the Third Year with her stunning Madonna and Child design. Highly commended entries were also received from June in the Lower Sixth and Sofya in the First Year.



### 5. HOUSE ART COMPETITION WRITTEN BY RUBY, IMOGEN, EVE AND JUNE

In response to the theme, 'Weather', the Alexander House painting depicts a turbulent marine scene with extreme lightning and rain. We used a range of different media, including acrylic paint, texture paste and acrylic ink to create different effects, as well as a multitude of techniques such as dry brush and splatter effects. Before starting our painting, we researched several different artists to use for inspiration, such as William Turner, Ivan Aivazovsky and Alex Dzigurski. Overall, we are happy with the finished painting and the turbulent effect it gives. (Ruby)

Becket House's interpretation of the theme 'Weather' speaks to the devastating impact that climate change is having on the environment. We wanted to create a snowy arctic scene, showing the beauty of the place through the northern lights whilst also having an emotional impact on the viewer, depicting the separation of the mother and baby polar bears due to the melting ice caps. Our main inspiration for the piece was from Zaria Forman who is a fine art, large-scale, landscape artist. Her drawings show the fragility and beauty of Earth and she aims, "to celebrate what is still here; to give viewers the sense that it is still possible to do something to protect this Earth that sustains us." This inspired us to create a piece that suggests both hope and urgency, to draw attention to the impact that the weather and global warming is having on Earth. Jonathan Shearer contributed to our inspiration for the mountains as he uses dabs of white, grey and black paint building layers to build a 3D image. We also used Shearer's technique when we painted the polar bears with white, grey and beige acrylic paint. (Immy)

Darwin House wanted to create a painting that conveys a sense of hope for the future, exploring what the world would look like if we continued to use the forces of weather to fuel our planet. Inspired by recent developments of climate-friendly agriculture in South-East and East Asia, we wanted to portray the integration of modern weather-fuelled technology and the preservation of traditional farming. This integration is symbolised by our incorporation of traditional Shan-Shui Chinese landscape painting, which can be seen in our fairly muted mountains with many thin black lines going down their unrealistic jagged forms. We used the work of painter Wu Hufan and photographer King Wuas reference, whose dramatic paintings and photos of misty Chinese mountains left a strong impression on us all. (June)

The Churchill House artwork is inspired by the Australian Wildfires. We, therefore, looked at the impact of weather rather than the weather itself. Our house believes that climate change is an important and current topic and wanted to raise awareness of this pressing issue. We chose to represent the fire and smoke from the wildfires in the background, with black, stark trees placed throughout the landscape to show the devastation the fires caused. At the forefront are the firemen, given a prominent position to highlight their role and the risks they took to stop the fires from spreading. We have also raised the word FIRE to create a visual impact. We wanted to interpret this tragedy for ourselves and create something unique. We looked at news articles and media coverage rather than other artists' interpretations. (Eve)



The winners of the House Art competition 2020 were Darwin House! Well done to all of the participants. The level of work produced by each House was excellent. The final pieces were displayed in the SLR.



HOUSE ART WINNERS

## ART

### 6. ART WORKSHOP WITH SORAYA FRENCH



Inspired by her books on contemporary landscapes in mixed media, the Art department invited artist Soraya French into school in January to talk about her work and the materials she uses to create her paintings. The girls were given a brief history of the origins of acrylic paint and learned about the many different types now on offer. It was fascinating to find that many of the acrylic paints, paste and gels that exist were requested by artists who had not been successful in creating the effect they wanted in their work.

One of the GCSE pupils, Isabel, commented: "Her work was very inspiring and it was interesting to see how she used the paint in different ways to create different textures. I had never considered how acrylic paint could have so many different qualities." Another GCSE pupil, Lucy, said: "It was interesting to see how the artist showed texture in her work and experimented with mixed media. We feel inspired to use more materials and textures in our work now."

The Art Department is looking forward to seeing how this visit will inspire the girls in their future artistic endeavours, particularly in their use of mixed media.

## MUSIC

### 7. OPEN MIC NIGHT - AUTUMN TERM 2019



## MUSIC

### 8. AUTUMN CONCERT

Thursday, 14 November saw the Music School Open Evening followed by the Autumn Concert in the Sue Cormack Hall. Many girls took to the stage and the event showcased the diversity and excellence of the music at St George's.

As well as vocal and instrumental solos from girls in several year groups, the audience was treated to a performance by the First Year Choir, and pieces ranging from 'Tell Me on a Sunday' by Andrew Lloyd-Webber to 'The Swan' by Saint-Saens, and 'On My Own' by Schonberg to 'Chim Chim Chere-e' from the musical Mary Poppins. Everyone was entertained and had a most enjoyable evening.



### 9. JUNIOR CONCERTS

A week after our Autumn Concert, a number of our First, Second and Third Year musicians and vocalists put on an informal concert for parents in the Chapel. All the girls sang and played impressively with talent and enthusiasm. There were instrumental solos on piano, violin and flute along with some performances from the First Year Choir including the old-time favourite, 'The Bear Necessities' from 'The Jungle Book'.

Wonderfully, the second of our Junior Concerts sneaked in just before lockdown and the audience was entertained throughout by the assured and confident performances of all the girls involved. Of special mention were Maya, Honey, Cameron, Maclaren, Isobel, Olivia, Alice and Millie who sang solos. Izzy and Felicitas sang and played a duet, Elodie, Kristina & Paige performed an inventive trio, Ava played Vivaldi on the violin, Mika played Dussek on the piano and the First Year choir rounded the concert off with two great pieces: 'Count on me' and 'All is found'.

It was a rousing start to the Exeat weekend and a reminder of the value of music in buoying spirits and building the wider St George's community.



### 10. OPEN MIC NIGHT

Open Mic Night in February was, as ever, a great celebration of Georgian confidence and capability.

With individual pieces chosen from 'Broadway, Here I Come' to Coldplay, Lewis Capaldi to the Beatles, the audience was entertained throughout. The band's confident rendition of Nina Simone's 'Feeling Good' summed up the mood of the evening as a whole with Open Mic Night remaining a highlight of the St George's year.



## HOUSE LIFE AT ST GEORGE'S

### 11. HOUSE DEBATING FINAL

The House Debating final in October saw a third/fourth play-off between Becket and Darwin Houses.

The girls debated whether the UK should remove all their nuclear weapons. This was certainly a topic of significant contention, with discussions over whether the threat of nuclear weapons had kept the peace since the Second World War as well as the cost of maintaining our nuclear defence.

The girls debated strongly, with Grace winning 'Best Debater' of the whole competition. The final saw fiery exchanges between Alexander and Churchill House over the abolition of the monarchy. Perhaps it was the fear of voting in a Trump-like President which won the day although Meriel's comic timing and ability to argue logically certainly had a significant impact and a strong reason why Churchill House won the debate.



### 12. HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION

In March, the four Houses of St George's battled it out on stage, each giving their best performance in the hopes of winning the annual House Music Cup. This year, all four Houses had rehearsed extremely well and prepared very interesting, diverse programmes. Each House presented a beginner, intermediate and advanced soloist, an ensemble, a special item and a House Song involving every girl in the House. This year the adjudicator was Mr. Ben Gunner from Musica Europa and, judging by his comments, he was greatly impressed by all the girls' efforts.

Well done to Mia who won the prize for the best solo performance of the day playing 'Trinidad' on the trombone and a huge congratulations to Alexander, the overall winning house.



### 13. DARWIN HOUSE PARTY

The House Parties are always a highlight of the academic year and this year Darwin House was the first to host. Their party took place on a Friday evening in November. As the temperatures started to plummet outside, the Winter Wonderland theme could not have been more apt. However, the atmosphere inside was warm as pupils, parents and staff enjoyed a hearty meal followed by some wonderful entertainment.

The Darwin House girls shone with their accomplished singing, instrumental solos, LAMDA performances and dancing. The evening was complete when every member of the House got together to sing 'Love Is Easy' by McFly.



### 14. CHURCHILL HOUSE PARTY



The Churchill House party began with girls, staff and guests congregating outside the South Lawn Room for drinks and good conversation. Sixth Formers, Ady and Keira worked the room, taking photos and making the rest of the girls feel like the Disney stars they had come dressed as. After a short while, guests were invited into the Dining Room which had been transformed from Dining Room to a Disney World, complete with 'Frozen' masks and a 'Lady and the Tramp' inspired menu. The House Captain, Meri, gave a quick speech thanking all the staff who had made the evening so special before moving over to the Sue Cormack Hall for the evening's entertainment.

The girls delivered LAMDA drama pieces, solo's and duos, and generally put on a real show of talent. The house song, 'Best day of my life,' was a rousing rendition, complete with harmonies. The House dance was choreographed to 'Walking on sunshine,' which resulted in an amusing and well-executed dance. It was a successful and memorable evening.

## HOUSE LIFE AT ST GEORGE'S

### 15. BECKET HOUSE PARTY

In February, Becket House hosted their annual House Party. House Captain, Sophie, chose the theme of Wish Upon a Star and the girls worked hard to decorate the dining room in theme, creating a magical atmosphere for everyone to enjoy. After dinner, all the guests moved over to Cormack Hall for the entertainment. Jacqueline, Eli, Erin, Vasilisa & Pippa opened the show with a group piece which set the mood for the evening. We had excellent solos from Milly, Cameron, Felicitas and Jacqueline. Giulia also performed a ballet piece which showed off her fantastic dancing ability. The First Years then performed a section of one of their choir pieces as a group with Mrs Thompson on the piano.

The evening finished with our House Song, 'Heart on Fire'. All the girls sang with an enthusiasm that spoke of their house loyalty and it was a great way to finish a marvellous evening full of Georgian confidence and ability.

### 16. ALEXANDER HOUSE PARTY



In March, it was the turn of Alexander House to host their annual House Party and the theme was a Hawaiian Luau. The dining hall was impressively decorated with lots of fun props for photos and colourful flowers which created a tropical mood despite the cold weather outside! The evening began with welcome drinks and mocktails for the students. The guests were then treated to a delicious coconut curry and tropical fruit salad for the evening meal. It was then the turn of the girls to showcase their incredible talents. Naomi began the night with a lovely classical performance on the harp and, later in the evening, she showed the breadth of her talents, dancing to a popular K-Pop song.

Lydia and Ruby gave a fantastic rendition of the song 'Other Friends' and were followed by a beautifully harmonised performance of The Scientist by Tilly, Millie and Connie. The whole house also gave a sneaky peek of their song for the House Music Competition, 'Mr Blue Sky', and a special item, 'Classic'. Thank you to all the members of staff and the catering team for organising such a successful event and to the parents and girls for making it such an entertaining evening.

## CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

### 17. CHAPEL CHOIR AT COWORTH PARK

2019 was the sixth year that the Chapel Choir have been invited to sing Christmas carols at the prestigious Georgian Manor House, Coworth Park.

As always, Coworth Park was beautifully decorated with festive decorations and a beautifully dressed Christmas tree. The girls were received by Mr and Mrs Rayner, past parents of the school, and sang fabulously to an appreciative audience.



## CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES



### 18. CHRISTMAS CAROLS, DINNER AND PARTY

As is Georgian tradition, on Wednesday 11 December, the whole school gathered to sing carols in the Chapel before enjoying a delicious roast turkey dinner in the dining hall (with all the trimmings of course). Girls and Staff enjoyed the opportunity to come together and celebrate a successful term before making their way over to the Sue Cormack Hall for a whole-school party and lots of dancing!



### 19. CAROL SERVICE AT WINDSOR PARISH CHURCH

On Thursday 12 December, the annual Festival of Lessons with Carols at Windsor Parish Church was a special end to a busy Autumn Term at St George's.

The congregation enjoyed listening to the Chapel Choir and First Year Choir who performed impressively together with readings from several girls from each Year group in the school. We wish our SGA community a happy and peaceful Christmas!

## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

### 20. DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD 2019-20

In a similar fashion to most School activities, the last academic year has been unlike any other for the girls and staff undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

However, with determination, commitment and the occasional need for inventiveness, DofE has continued through the pandemic and national lockdowns. The Award's governing body has been creative in adapting the scheme under the title of #DofEwithadifference, and the St George's girls have embraced these changes to make the most of the challenges faced.

The Autumn Term saw girls in all three levels of DofE successfully complete their Qualifying Expeditions. The Upper Sixth group headed to the Lake District to hike and paddle their way to success in their gruelling five days of the expedition in, mostly, glorious August sunshine. A month later, the Fifth Year girls also ventured to Cumbria and took on a similar hybrid expedition, involving walking and canoeing although the weather was somewhat less inviting than it had been in the late summer. Always the most popular of the Awards, the Fourth Year pupils accompanied by a large group of staff headed to Ashdown Forest in Sussex for two days of navigation, walking and teamwork. The groups all combined to achieve great success with all girls reaching the end of their routes and a well-earned ice cream.

Recruitment for the next cohorts began in January with no idea of the impact of what was to come for all young people in schools and colleges across the world. Although learning was successfully conducted remotely by the girls and staff, there were no opportunities to conduct residential visits under the Government's guidelines. This meant the cancellation of all Practice Expeditions which had been due to happen in the Summer term. Despite this obvious disappointment, the Award organisers published their revised rules to ensure that young people could still move

forward with their qualifications and gain a Certificate of Achievement for the completion of their Volunteering, Skill and Physical sections. This Certificate will then be convertible into a full Award on the completion of Practice and Qualifying Expeditions once they can resume. The girls showed significant levels of grit and determination whilst living up to the best of DofE values in looking to support their communities in the pandemic. Volunteering activities saw pupils conducting litter picks in their locality, tutoring younger students online, and walking dogs for isolating neighbours. Looking outwards, not inwards, is an essential aspect of the St George's experience and DofE gives the girls a framework for such activity.

The pandemic might have delayed the achievement of the ultimate prize of a DofE Award, but it also brought out the best in the girls. And there is every hope that in the near future, they will be navigating the fells and footpaths again to complete their DofE journeys.



# CONFIDENT

## EQUESTRIAN

### 21. SHOWJUMPING SUCCESS

Congratulations to Lower Sixth pupil, Imogen, and her pony, Betty [Bowland Undercover], for winning the 153 Working Hunter Pony Championship at the end of the summer holidays.

This was an amazing feat as all thirty four horses in the class had to qualify to be able to compete.

Betty was the youngest in the class along with Imogen being one of the youngest riders; a truly wonderful achievement!



# CAPABLE

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## 1. ART TRIP TO KEW GARDENS

On a sunny morning in mid-September, the Fourth Year GCSE and Lower Sixth Fine Art pupils armed themselves with sketchbooks, pencils, pens, charcoal and pastels and travelled to Kew Gardens to explore the Chihuly exhibition as well as a showing of his drawings and smaller glass sculptures.

The girls discovered Chihuly's stunning glass sculptures in surprising places such as lily pads in ponds and suspended from high ceilings. The girls produced a number of beautiful sketches to include with their coursework. These sketches then went on to form ideas for a clay sculpture. In the Prince of Wales conservatory, pupils also sketched various plants and cacti to improve their practical still life skills. The weather was fantastic for observational drawing outdoors and the girls greatly benefitted from this opportunity to observe and get close to nature.



## 2. FIRST YEAR TRIP TO V&A MUSEUM

In September, the First Year girls took a trip to the V&A museum in London. Grace tells us all about it:

'Firstly, we went to the fashion exhibition and drew any dress we wanted to. There were lots to choose from but I chose a Charles James' evening dress made in London in 1937. We then went and saw Kate Malone's pot in the ceramic section. It was very big and shiny and made from stone-ware, glazed with crystalline. It also had streaks of cream and blue.

Next, we went to the Chinese contemporary section where we saw lots of ceramics. All the contemporary work was beautiful. I drew a pair of vases made out of porcelain with a clear glaze.

Afterwards, we went to the jewellery section, where we drew some of our favourite pieces of jewellery. My favourite piece was Queen Victoria's sapphire and diamond coronet. It was made especially for her and designed by Prince Albert. It was one of her favourite pieces of jewellery. The final place we visited was the Islamic Art section where I drew the pattern from the front of a dress.

I had a lovely day at the museum and really hope that I can go again.'



## 3. YPRES

In the centre of Ypres, opposite the entrance to the Cathedral, one can visit St George's Memorial Church. This small Anglican community was created in 1929 to commemorate the thousands who perished in the Salient during the First World War. What one notices on entering this Church are the plaques on the walls which illustrate the loss and devastation caused by the conflict on the teachers and old boys of schools in the United Kingdom and from around the Commonwealth.

The scale of the sacrifice is sobering and these small memorials are being added to every year as schools make their own modern pilgrimages to remember the fallen.

The Lower Sixth girls of St George's once again ventured to Western Belgium at the beginning of October. They visited the Menin Gate, St George's Church, Essex Farm, Langemark and Tyne Cot Cemeteries with the group laying a wreath at the last stop to commemorate all those who died in the service of their country. Just like the little, engraved brass plates, it is a small reminder of the carnage and of the dead who we can only honour in remembering their sacrifice.



## 4. SIXTH FORM VISIT WASHINGTON DC & WILLIAMSBURG

A group of excited Sixth Form girls left for Washington DC on a dull October morning, hoping for brighter weather in DC.

Alas! It was not to be, as rain was falling on our arrival at Dulles International Airport, but thankfully the sunshine replaced the rain on the first full day and the group enjoyed a long walk to the Capitol Building.

An excellent tour of the congressional building was followed by an afternoon enjoying the museums in the Mall. From the Air and Space Museum to the Smithsonian; from the Holocaust Museum to the Museum of Natural History, there was something for everyone. The following day the tour of the Mall was completed with time at the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials as well as the Lincoln Memorial.

Then it was time to board the bus to Williamsburg. After a time of orientation at William and Mary

College and the library, there was time to explore Colonial Williamsburg. The following days were taken up with lectures and time in the library experiencing the American university system. The final day was spent in the outlet stores which was probably more exhausting than the intellectual challenge of the previous days! It was then time to board the bus again for a quick visit to the first colony in Jamestown and lunch in Yorktown, where the final battle of the Revolutionary War brought about the end of British rule.

An exhausted group of Sixth Form girls flew home the following day, thoroughly well fed on American history and politics, if slightly weary of literal American fare!



## 5. MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE AT RGS GUILDFORD

The RGS Model United Nations fell a week after the October half term, but despite the short lead time, the delegates were well prepared for the first conference of the academic year.

This was their first time as delegates for a number of participants, however, despite their initial nerves, the girls presented clearly and confidently and were well supported in agreeing resolutions concerning Women's Rights and the Gender Pay gap. Delegates were also assigned to the Human Rights committee discussing the protection of Freedom of Speech and our more experienced delegates, Keshni and Katie, to the Security Council.

However, the excitement built in the General Assembly when there was a news flash informing delegates that the US had left NATO and had invaded Greenland! There were frantic discussions and eventually the General Assembly passed a resolution condemning the invasion and allowing, if necessary, the use of nuclear weapons. This exciting and challenging experience ended on a high, with Katie being highly commended as the China delegate in the Security Council.



## 6. NEASDEN MANDIR

The Second Year girls enjoyed a fascinating trip to the Neasden Mandir, a Hindu temple, in the Autumn term. They learnt about Hindu culture and, as well as looking in the beautiful exhibition on the history of Hinduism, the girls were lucky enough to witness the Arti ceremony in the temple. It was exciting and the girls thoroughly enjoyed it. The girls were especially excited to look around the amazingly crafted statues of the deities and to find out more about each of them.

The timing of the trip was excellent as the girls were able to visit the temple just as Hindus around the world were preparing for Diwali.



## 7. PARLIAMENT WEEK

St George's was part of the national Parliament Week held in November, which enabled the girls to attend a wide range of events and gave them the opportunity to engage in topical discussions. Early in the month, the Lower Sixth Politics students met in the Chapel to conduct an adversarial debate on whether Private Schools should be banned. This was ably chaired by Head Girl, Lily. The following day, the girls welcomed two guest speakers to 'In Our Club Time' to discuss Liberalism. Throughout the week, over 70 girls entered the Parliament Quiz and the overall winner was Trista in the Third Year with full marks. Carmen from the Fifth Year designed the winning poster.

The girls at St George's felt fully prepared for the General Election and, following hustings in assembly by Lower Sixth party candidates in the last week of term, they had the opportunity to vote in a mock election at school on 11 December.



## 8. TUDOR ENGLAND LECTURES

The Upper Sixth History group ventured to London in November for a series of lectures concerning the reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII.

Given by distinguished academics, such visits provide an excellent chance for the girls to hear cutting edge research, gain an understanding beyond the level of their A Level texts and experience a flavour of university-style teaching.

The girls listened to four talks, looking at the ideas of Professors Ronald Hutton, Glenn Richardson and Catherine Fletcher and covering the significance of the threats to Henry VII, his methods of controlling England, the challenge of opposition to the Henrician Reformation and the extent of modernisation in Henry VIII's government.



## 9. FIRST YEAR RELIGIOUS STUDIES TRIP TO WINCHESTER

In November, the First Year enjoyed a Religious Studies trip to Winchester Cathedral. On arrival at the Cathedral, the girls were given a professional guided tour and learned that the Cathedral has one of the oldest fonts in Europe.

It was fascinating to learn that the west window was shattered by the Roundheads during the English Civil War and remade by the people of Winchester after the war. The girls also learned about the connections between fish/fishermen and the bible, and were shown how this is depicted in the stained-glass windows before having the opportunity to make their own windows. After lunch, everyone enjoyed looking around the Christmas markets and tucked into treats such as crepes, fudge and hot chocolate.

A wonderful day was topped off with the chance to ice-skate with many taking to the ice-rink for the first time.



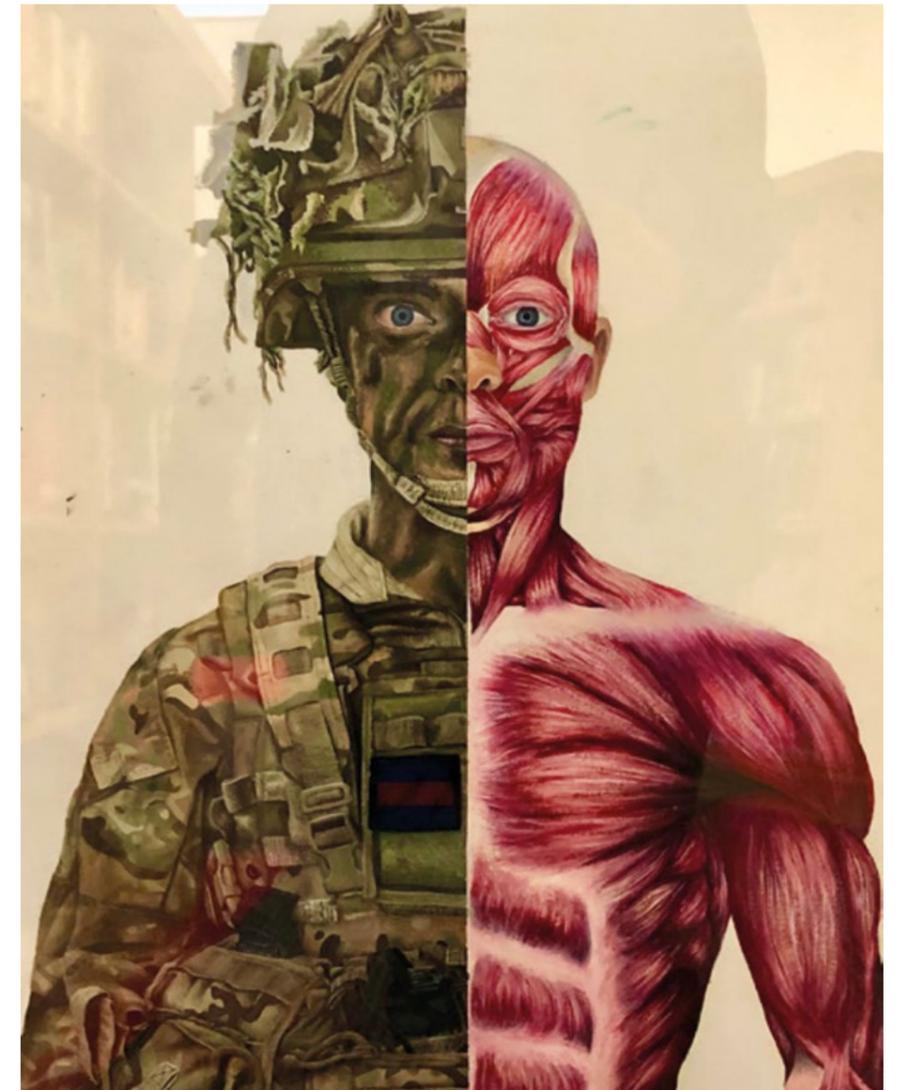
## 10. ART HISTORIANS VISIT TO THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM, OXFORD

In November, the Sixth Form Art Historians visited the Ashmolean for an A Level History of Art Study Day, focusing on art and globalisation. It was a privilege to be able to hear lectures from Dr Francesca Leoni, Assistant Curator of Islamic Art, who spoke on lustre ceramics through time and An Van Camp, the Curator of Northern European Art, who focused on the impact of colonisation on Dutch Art of the seventeenth century. Girls were then able to enjoy a visit to the temporary exhibition, 'Last Supper in Pompeii' before attending a fascinating seminar run by Objects Conservator, Nicky Lobaton, about her varied role within the museum.

## 11. EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION PRESENTATIONS

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a key component of the Sixth Form curriculum at St George's and the autumn term was a busy one for the Upper Sixth as they submitted their completed projects and presented their findings. Staff and fellow pupils attended presentations on a range of topics from 'The Role of Big Businesses in Plastic Pollution' to 'The Portrayal of Alexander Hamilton in the Musical 'Hamilton'.'

A number of pupils also chose to create a physical piece based on their research. This included a portrait of a soldier to reflect different experiences of war, a monologue to convey a mother's experience of a child with a drug addiction, a painting representing the inspiration behind the musician Loyle Carner's newest album, and a piece symbolising coffee consumption and waste management and the ways it affects developing nations. Congratulations to this capable group of girls who delivered such accomplished presentations.





## 12. YOUNG ENTERPRISE TRADE FAIR

March saw the annual Young Enterprise trade fair in the Royal Shopping Arcade in Windsor. Student companies from across Berkshire gathered to sell their products and advertise their companies to the tourists and local shoppers in Windsor town centre. Despite some cold and rainy weather, the three St George's teams did an incredibly impressive job selling their products and enthused the public with their inventive product ideas. These included technology-based accessories, branded tracksuit bottoms and recyclable drinks cups. Congratulations to all the young entrepreneurs on an incredibly successful trade fair.

## 13. ELEVATE EDUCATION STUDY SKILLS SESSIONS

For many years, St George's has welcomed the inspiring and enthusiastic speakers of Elevate Education to Ascot to present the girls with the latest developments in study skills.

Awareness of the importance of how young people "learn to learn" has been a major development in education over the past decades and it has proven to be hugely beneficial to our pupils to begin to think about the learning process more critically.

In November, the Fifth year took part in an interactive seminar on Study Sensei. The session proved to be very useful and gave the girls many new tips on organising their notes and developing revision techniques. Study sessions such as those provided by Elevate significantly prepare the girls for the examination process and, whilst the year proved to be an unusual one for the Fifth Year, they were well prepared for the transition to A-level studies.

In March, Elevate ran an excellent session with the Third Year to kickstart their transition towards GCSE studies. In just one hour, the girls were given an understanding of dynamic reading skills and they also began to develop conceptual learning techniques. Later in the month, the Fifth Year enjoyed a session on Memory Mnemonics, taking the girls through various memory techniques designed to help them with their capacity to recall information.



## 14. SECOND YEAR VISIT TO 3M

In March, the Second Years travelled to the innovative design company, 3M in Bracknell. Upon arrival, we were split into two groups, and were given a talk which explained how 3M works and what they create and design to make lives easier. The staff gave multiple demonstrations about their innovative work, such as a pair of headphones which enable you to hear other people from a distance.

We then participated in some riddles which we had to solve as a team and also designed our own aeroplanes out of paper, tape and straw. The aim was to fly them as far as possible through the room.

Finally, we were given an activity which involved us working as a team to place photos in order from the most zoomed-in to the most zoomed-out, and then the other way round. All of these challenges were very fun, but also quite challenging. They got us all working collectively as a group and learning how science is applied in real life.

Written by Tilly and Daisy from the Second Year



## SPORTS SQUADS

### 15. SPORTS SQUADS AND SPORTS OVERVIEW

LACROSSE SQUADS 2019-20					
U12	U13	U14	U15	1st	
Ami Allan	Katie Hewer	Judit Ardivsson	Lily Woodward	India Williams	
Amber Bennett	Erin Marshall	Costi Caldana	Ruby Woodward	Alice Kyle	
Emily Bennett	Bea Ryan	Charlotte Coates	Lara Scott	Ariana Ribiero	
Anya Clacher-Chopra	Tilly Ward	Ellie Darke	Daisy Booth	Charlotte Perucca	
Grace Davy	Lila Mitten	Gemma Dripps	Millie Hampshire	Megan O'Hare	
Seesy Dhanda	Emily O'Neill	Annie Dripps	Ella Jackson	Matilda Cayton	
Lulu Dyson	Estella Dhanda	Oona Gibbons	Charlotte Pusey	Mannat Sahota	
Cameron Elston	Tirnan Gillard	Jess Guest	Gaby Brinn-Johnson	Anna Ewens	
Katie Guest	Poppy Currill	Lucy Hall	Alice Nicholson	Meri Nolan	
Lucy Kieran	Anya McCall	Anya Harper	Eli Fidura	Grace Whitfield	
Erin Kozak	Amelia Wells	Milly Holdsworth	Annabel Shaw	Ady Silvano	
Maclaren Loxton-Coe	Maddy Rider	Ava Kyle	Isabel Gleasure	Ally Townsend	
Issy MacLaurin	Mila Arbuthnott	Leila Nicholas	Imogen Hillary	Liv Gregory	
Dom Nobrega	Daisy Mae Gratton	Teni Raji	Eleanor MacPhee	Imy Rodger	
Thea Rhead	Serena Heesch	Alex Rotheroe	Angelina Bowdery	Immy Wigzell	
Scarlett Scaddan	Rosie Dangerfield	Elodie Stacey		Celia Jackson	
Tansy Tibbatts	Tirnan Gillard	Isobel Thomas		Georgia Morris	
Ava Timms				Tabitha McSwiney	
Cara Viney				Kiera O'Hare	
Mitzy Wyke					

SWIMMING SQUADS 2019-20					
U12	U13	U14	U15	Open	
Erin Kozak	Poppy Currill	Alex Rotheroe	Alice Nicholson	Daisy Rhead	
Thea Rhead	Mila Arbuthnott	Costi Caldana	Annabel MacPherson	Immy Wigzell	
Amber Bennett	Anya McCall	Farah Walters	Annabel Shaw	Phoebe Pantlin	
Emily Bennett	Tirnan Gillard	Issy Thomas	Annie Dripps		
Grace Davy	Daisy Mae Gratton	Anya Harper			
Seesy Dhanda		Luka Devaux			
Islay Ruby Hamill Moore					
Fong Pinatha					
Cara Viney					
Ami Allan					
Sofya Novokshonova					
Tina Rasti					
Estella Pardellas Marra					

NETBALL SQUADS 2019-20					
U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	1st
Ami Allan	Katie Hewer	Judit Ardivsson	Alice Nicholson	India Williams	Kiera O'Hare
Amber Bennett	Erin Marshall	Costi Caldana	Gabriella Brinn-Johnson	Alice Kyle	Anna Ewens
Emily Bennett	Bea Ryan	Charlotte Coates	Lily Woodward	Ariana Ribiero	Grace Whitfield
Anya Clacher-Chopra	Tilly Ward	Ellie Darke	Ruby Woodward	Charlotte Perucca	Ady Silvano
Grace Davy	Lila Mitten	Gemma Dripps	Lara Scott	Megan O'Hare	Ally Townsend
Seesy Dhanda	Emily O'Neill	Annie Dripps	Daisy Booth	Matilda Cayton	Liv Gregory
Lulu Dyson	Estella Dhanda	Oona Gibbons	Millie Hampshire	Molly Robinson	Imy Rodger
Cameron Elston	Tirnan Gillard	Jess Guest	Ella Jackson	Mannat Sahota	Immy Wigzell
Katie Guest	Poppy Currill	Lucy Hall	Charlotte Pusey	Waan Eamla-or	Celia Jackson
Lucy Kieran	Kinza Nackvi	Anya Harper	Lucy Grant	Kanwulia Ilombu	Georgia Morris
Erin Kozak	Maddy Rider	Milly Holdsworth	Saskia Kotelawala	Isabel Kardos Stowe	Alex Ehmer
Maclaren Loxton-Coe	Felicitas Petersen	Ava Kyle	Maddie Kneen	Summer Masood	Sophe MacFadyen
Issy MacLaurin	Izzy Darke	Leila Nicholas	Constance Marriott		Molly Jenkinson
Dom Nobrega	Serena Heesch	Teni Raji	Imogen Hillary		Olivia Bromilow
Thea Rhead	Emily Wabwire	Alex Rotheroe	Eleanor MacPhee		Olivia Turner
Scarlett Scaddan	Anya McCall	Elodie Stacey	Charlotte Simon		Solana Del Azar
Tansy Tibbatts	Amelia Wells	Isobel Thomas	Isabel Gleasure		Eve Hayward
Ava Timms	Alice Grant	Kinza Knackvi	Erin Smith		Lily Jones
Cara Viney	Rosie Dangerfield	Farah Walters			Fleur Lewis
Mitzy Wyke	Laura McAllister	Honey Phaura			Millie Lewin
India Knowles	Mila Arbuthnott	Lizzie Macaulay			
Tilda Graff	Daisy Mae Gratton	Olivia Hand			
Matilda Alcock	Anna Pla	Luka Devaux			
Isher Sahota	Tirnan Gillard	Paige Clarke			
Scarlett Scaddan	Ava Marson-Day				
Aanya Shukla	Farah Walters				
Constance Conway					

SKIING SQUAD 2019-20	
U16	
Lily Woodward	
Ruby Woodward	
Constance Marriott	
Daisy Booth	

## SPORTS OVERVIEW

We enjoyed an exciting 2019-20 sporting season here at St George's. Although the season was curtailed as we moved to remote schooling, the year prior to that point was full of outstanding performances and a jam packed fixture programme.

The girls have been as positive and enthusiastic as ever and numbers at practices and in teams were very healthy. We were delighted to make use of our brand new six-lane swimming pool, a facility which has enabled us to expand our curriculum and school sport offering. We hosted a number of galas and events and look forward to growing our provision further, with negotiations underway to secure club status with all the benefits that will bring.

During the period of remote schooling, the girls overcame the difficulties of space and isolation, showing great imagination and adaptability and enjoyed a wide variety of activities including HIIT workouts, lockdown-specific challenges and mobility sessions. This

provided the girls with an excellent opportunity to experience different forms of physical activity.

We introduced school wide competitions and challenges such as juggling, cartwheeling and step challenges. In the absence of the London Marathon, the girls completed a variety of different 2.6 challenges of their choice in order to support the charities affected by the cancellation of this significant fund raising sporting event.

Our inter house competitions took a different form this year. We were lucky to be able to hold the House Netball competition in December, and it was a pleasure, as always, to see girls of all ages working together and demonstrating excellent teamwork skills and a shared determination to succeed. Virtual Sports Day was embraced by the whole school community. Jumping, throwing and running challenges were set by the PE department, and it was fantastic to see not only the girls, but staff and families contributing to the totals.

## LACROSSE

### 16. BERKSHIRE COUNTY LACROSSE TOURNAMENT

At the beginning of February, the Under 14, Under 13 and Under 12 lacrosse teams played in the Berkshire County Tournament at Queen Anne's.

The Under 12s put up a really good fight in all of their matches and played intelligently in attack and defence, putting into practice what they had learned in training. They were pleased with their win against St Barts and they managed to keep their losing scores in their other matches very close. Our Players of the Tournament were Cara and Cameron.

The Under 13s had a challenging afternoon at the tournament. In their first game, they started brightly and were 1-0 up at half time.

Unfortunately, they were unable to sustain their lead for the rest of the match. With new targets in the second game the girls responded with hard work, determination and great team work. The third game was their best of the day and they were a definite match for St Barts and had good chances. Unfortunately, they were unable to claim the victory but certainly gave their strongest performance. Estella was the Player of the Tournament.

The Under 14s played extremely well in all their matches. After a sleepy start against Heathfield, they really picked up their game against Downe House B to lose by only one goal.

Against Downe House A, they were outstanding in defence and held out to their attack for long periods of the game. In their match against St Barts, they started to show their attacking drive to score goals and only just lost out to some of St Bart's strong runners in attack. Against Queen Anne's, tiredness was creeping in but they put up strong opposition in defence again. Despite this, they were not able to convert their own scoring chances. The Players of the Tournament were Oona, Izzy, Jess and Anya.

It was a day of much progress in so many areas of the fields and the girls really stepped up to the challenge. Much of what they have been working on in training started to show in their game. Well done to all the girls for their hard work and perseverance.



## 17. NATIONAL LACROSSE CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR THE U19S, U15S, U14S AND U13S

Despite the endless rain that fell on the National Lacrosse Championships in the Spring of this year, all the St George's teams ignored the weather conditions, rose to the occasion and played brilliantly.

As the first day of play had been abandoned due to the weather, the Under 19s were seeded in Division 3 of the tournament and played some fantastic lacrosse against King's School Canterbury, Abbot's Hill and Malvern St James. Harrogate College and Queen Margaret's proved to be two very tough opponents but the girls secured a place in the semi finals where they met Harrogate College again. This was a tough match. The team fought with real determination to stay in the game but Harrogate proved too strong and St George's went out of the competition as losing semi-finalists. The strength of the girls' performances on the day clearly demonstrated their development through this season.

The Under 15s had a strong day at their tournament. They won three out of their seven matches (beating Downe House A was one of the highlights!), lost three and drew one. This took them through to the knockout stages where they met Bedford High. A fantastic

back-and-forth match ensued and the defence had to work hard to keep out a very determined Bedford attack! Having initially gone behind, the U15s fought back to draw level and finished the game on a 1-1 draw. Count back on goal difference sadly meant that Bedford went through but the Under 15s can be delighted with their day - a fitting end to a fabulous season.

The Under 14s had a tough section of games on their day of the Championships and came very close in a number of matches - particularly against Heathfield and North London Collegiate. Their best performances were against the stronger schools - Moreton Hall and Caterham - and the whole team gave everything in these matches, standing up with tenacity and courage time and again to repel their opponents. They played with fantastic team spirit and can really be proud of how far they have come over the last two seasons.

Sadly, the Under 13's tournament was cancelled due to the ground conditions at the venue. All St George's teams played with spirit, heart and determination and they were model sportswomen on the field, making all their coaches very proud.



# NETBALL

## 18. ONDOVER HALL NETBALL TOURNAMENT

In September, the Under 13 and Under 14 netballers headed to Condover Hall for the annual GSA netball tournament. Izzy and Charlotte (Under 14) and Katie and Estella (Under 13) share their experiences below.

### Under 14

'On the first day, the Under 14s played seven games and came up against some very strong teams but we were proud that we held our own against much larger schools. After a full day of games, we enjoyed an exciting and inspiring talk from England netball player, Eboni Usoro-Brown.

The next day we were thrilled to have made it into the plate competition. We started with a close match against The Marist. The teams were neck and neck right up to the end when sadly, The Marist just pulled ahead. The rest of the games were all won, including a very competitive game versus the Under 14/Under 13 mixed team. Our team finished as runners up in the Plate competition and enjoyed a very full, inspiring weekend. Everyone learnt a lot.'

### Under 13

'On the first day, our Under 13s enjoyed a day of climbing with everyone having a go and most of us getting to the top! This was followed by the very inspiring talk by Eboni Usoro-Brown who showed the group the netball medals she had won and passed them around so that the girls could hold them.

The second day was full of competitive netball matches against many different schools from across England. We faced some very tough fixtures, winning some and losing others, but we didn't let this bring us down and we were determined to fight back on the final day. After we had finished playing, we returned to Condover Hall and had a go at tunnelling, laser challenges and high ropes.

On the final day, we were in a harder pool, competing with a number of teams of a similar level to ourselves. Despite the hard opposition and the heavy rain, we pushed through and managed to gain a few wins, some draws and some narrow losses. As the day went on, our teamwork and capacity to read play improved, which led to many turnovers and goals. Great shooting accuracy and quick passes meant that we were entered into the Trophy Competition. Here we faced some tough matches, however, we didn't stop fighting, and we ended up placed 6th in the competition. Well played everyone!'



## 19. COUNTY NETBALL TOURNAMENT

In October, the Under 15 team travelled to Theale, Reading to participate in the Under 16 Berkshire Netball Tournament. The girls played six matches throughout the day against tough competition from the school year above and fought hard in every area of the court. They worked on passing more accurately, especially on their overhead passes to the shooters. The midfield did well in moving the ball up and down the court and their defence stuck to their players, making lots of interceptions. They adapted to suit their opponents and had some very close matches. The Player of the Tournament was Gabby.

At the Berkshire round of the National Schools Netball Tournament, St George's had a great start, winning 13-5 against Windsor Girls' School. The girls had improved significantly since the beginning of the school year and they gave some impressive schools a real challenge on the court. Their attack was seamless and their court play fast and powerful. The Players of the Tournament were Izzy, Charlotte and Lila.



## 20. VERSATILITY NETBALL

In October, the girls took part in the School Versatility Netball Tournament.

Teams were of mixed ability and consisted of students from all age groups. There was a large number of girls involved and a total of ten teams competing against each other. The girls had to randomly select their positions and therefore, some had to play a position that they may not have experienced before. They all reacted well and adapted to mark their opposition. It was great to see the new First Year pupils marking the Sixth Form girls! Overall, the winning team was Team 10 which was captained by Georgia Morris. Well done to all of the girls who took part.



## 21. SOUTH EAST BERKSHIRE NETBALL TOURNAMENT

### Under 12

In November, the Under 12 A team played in the South East Berkshire Netball tournament. The girls focused on improving their timing in order to make space and made lots of interceptions in defence. The Player of the Tournament was India.

The results of the individual matches were:

- The Holt L 2-1
- Garth L 4-0
- Marist A L 4-1
- Newlands A L 4-1
- St. Mary's A D 1-1

The Under 12 B team got through to the 6th play-off and lost to St Mary's 2-0 but fought well in some very cold temperatures. The defence were incredible all evening, with countless interceptions from Player of the Tournament, Anya.

### Under 13

Well done to the Under 13 A Netball team, who competed in the South East Berkshire Tournament against eleven other teams, finishing third overall. Mrs French was particularly impressed by Player of the Tournament, Tilly, who worked strongly with Bea in the defensive circle to only concede five goals in the first four games. The team's positioning and interceptions were phenomenal, and their circle attack movement was the best Mrs French had seen. Well done to all players for such an excellent performance.

### Under 15

The Under 15 A and B teams competed in the South East Berkshire tournament at the beginning of November. Both teams played well, displaying some slick attacking play and determined defending.

The conditions were wet but the girls remained focused, giving excellent accounts of themselves.

The A team placed 7th in the cup competition and the B team placed 6th in the plate competition.



## 22. ASCOT SCHOOLS' NETBALL TOURNAMENT

### Under 14

At the Under 14 Ascot Schools' Netball Tournament in February, St George's Under 14 As were entered into the cup competition alongside A Teams from The Marist, St Mary's and Charters.

The standard was high and the girls faced a well contested game against The Marist, losing by a small margin but finishing in high spirits as the girls played with strength in the mid court, and shooting was on form. St Mary's played a fantastically fast paced game and the girls fought hard to keep up but finished with a loss against a well drilled team. The final game against Charters was a real nail-biter. The final result was 9-8 to Charters, but real credit goes to the defence who worked tirelessly to win the ball back. Only the final whistle stopped them from drawing level with Charters on the final shot. A special mention must go to Judit who encouraged the team from start to finish and gave all her energy to winning the ball in defence.

The Under 14 B team took part in the Plate competition of the tournament alongside St Mary's B, C and D team, Heathfield A, Charters B and the Marist B. The girls were challenged by some very strong teams in this division and some very strong winds. With one win secured and some very close losses, St George's managed to finish sixth out of eight.

### Under 13

Both the Under 13 A and B netball teams took part in the Ascot Schools' Netball tournament here at St George's in February. The A team started promisingly with wins in tight games against St Mary's and Heathfield. Unfortunately, despite some strong defending from Tilly and Poppy, they were unable to secure wins against Charters or The Marist and finished the

tournament in third place. The Under 13 B team sadly lost their first two games by one goal, but gained a good victory over Heathfield, with Daisy-Mae and Izzy dominating the attack. They finished the tournament in equal third. Well done to all the girls who played.

### Under 12

In March, the Under 12s competed in their age group of the Ascot Schools' Netball Tournament. The A team worked extremely well as a team and passed the ball accurately down the court whilst the defence worked hard to intercept the ball and gain possession. The girls won four out of five matches coming second overall and receiving silver medals in the cup competition. The Player of the Tournament went to Cara.

The B team entered the plate competition. Every single girl in the squad played their part in a hugely successful evening. They worked hard in both attack and defence, playing some brilliant netball and showing a lot of determination. Outstanding shooting enabled them to progress through to the semi final and then into the final. A wonderful performance in the final meant the girls won the gold medal in the Plate competition. The Players of the Tournament were Izzy, Dom and Anya.

## 23. HOUSE NETBALL

All girls competed in the House Netball Competition on the final day of the Autumn term. Each house fielded an A and a B team for both Juniors and Seniors. As you would expect from a House battle here at St George's, there was fierce competition in both age groups with some brilliant play from a number of individuals and teams. All the girls worked incredibly hard in freezing conditions and supported each other from the sidelines. It was wonderful to see girls from the First Year to Upper Sixth playing and working well together, showcasing, once again, the strength of relationships and loyalties between the year groups here at St George's.

In the end, Alexander House was victorious, winning the most points on the day.

The full results are as follows:

### Junior Netball

- 1st: Alexander House
- 2nd: Churchill House
- 3rd: Becket House
- 4th: Darwin House

### Senior Netball

- 1st: Churchill House
- 2nd: Becket House
- 3rd: Alexander House
- 4th: Darwin House

### Overall

- 1st: Alexander House (46 points)
- 2nd: Churchill House (20 points)
- 3rd: Becket House (34 points)
- 4th: Darwin House (12 points)

## 24. BOARDERS' NETBALL

The Autumn term saw the introduction of the first boarders' netball team which was made up of girls from Knatchbull and Loveday. The girls entered into a local adult league based at St George's on a Monday evening and played against teams of a similar age as well as teams made up of older players.

This pupil-led team gave the girls the opportunity to take complete ownership of the side and build confidence in their abilities.



## SKIING



### 25. INDOOR SKI COMPETITION

In September, six St George's girls donned their skis to enter the British Schoolgirls' Indoor Races at the SnoZone in Milton Keynes. It was a great opportunity for the girls to gain some race experience and to improve their times for those who competed last year in the British Schoolgirl Ski Races in Flaine.

As ever, the competition was fierce. The girls attacked the slalom course bravely on both runs and all improved with their second run. Following the slalom races, the girls competed in the parallel event - a team relay.

The A team received a bye into the second round before narrowly missing out on a place in the quarter finals and the B team lost their first round race. However, this did not take away from the brilliant experience. It has certainly started the buzz early for the forthcoming races in Flaine.

### 26. SKIING SUCCESS IN FLAINE

In late January, the ski team jetted off to compete in the British Schoolgirls Races in Flaine, France.

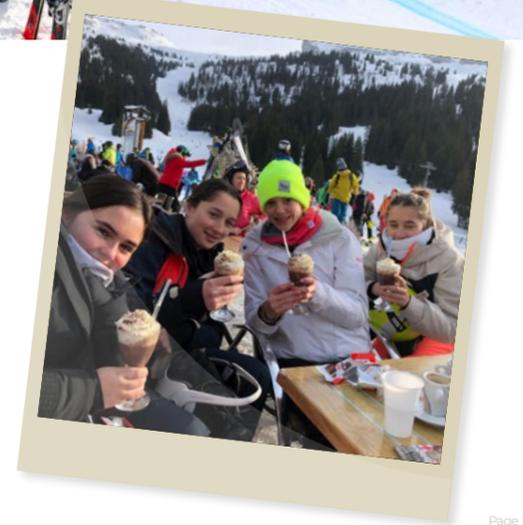
Once on location, the team, consisting of Ruby, Lily, Connie and Daisy, prepared for their races with two days of race specific training with their coach, Theo. The focus was on improving their race technique for GS (Giant Slalom) and Slalom, each event having slightly different skis and methods of attacking the piste.

The first event was the GS race. Ruby, Lily and Connie all completed the course well, giving them the confidence to attack their second runs with determination and aggression. The afternoon brought the excitement of the Parallel Slalom race: a relay against another school in which the competitors skied side by side down the piste. Ruby, Lily and Daisy were nervous but directed their energy to win their first race against Kirkstone House by a significant lead. This victory meant that St George's was through to the second round. Despite a valiant effort, they just missed out on the final. On the last day of the competition, Ruby, Lily and Daisy competed in the Slalom race and all completed the course, which was a feat indeed given the very difficult conditions.

The trip was full of laughter and memories, including sledging, bowling, fondue and endless hot chocolates.

The performances from the girls this year were a huge improvement on last year and it was pleasing to see that the input from Coach Theo made a significant difference to their performance.

The girls are already looking forward to taking another St. George's team to the event in the future with the hopes of building on this year's success.



## SWIMMING



### 27. MASTERCLASS WITH NICK GILLINGHAM MBE

At the end of November, we welcomed Nick Gillingham MBE to our new pool to run a masterclass with the squad swimmers.

Nick represented Great Britain in the 1988 Seoul Summer Olympics where he won the silver medal in the 200m breaststroke. Four years later at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, he won a bronze medal in the same event. Nick has also represented England in the Commonwealth Games and European and World Championships.

As part of his introduction to the girls, Nick showed them the silver and bronze medals that he had won at the Olympics - they were surprisingly heavy! Nick spoke to the girls about the intense training he had undertaken to be able to compete at the highest level. The main focus of this masterclass, however, was the pool session, in which Nick put the girls through their paces, focusing on key elements of head movement in each stroke and streamlining.

It was a fantastic opportunity for the swimmers to train with one of England's top coaches and an exciting indication of how the new pool might be used in the future to strengthen swimming here at St George's.

### 28. FIRST HOME GALA VS HEATHFIELD

The swimming team made excellent progress throughout the Autumn term. The team improved their physical strength, fitness and technique. An impressive number of girls regularly attended the squad training sessions. Our first gala, both of the academic year but also in our new pool, was hosted in November against Heathfield School.

For many of the First Years, this was their first experience of competitive swimming. Many of the girls achieved excellent times with particular mention of Sofya's 25 metre freestyle. She achieved a season's best time for her age group of seventeen seconds. Tina, Fong, Thea, Emily, Amber, Erin, Estella, Seesy, Cara, Sofya, Islay, Ruby and Ami won their age category with a huge one hundred and eight point win over Heathfield's seventy six points! The open age group which consisted of Alice, Annabel, Daisy, Imogen, Phoebe and Tilly were also victorious.

The final result was an overall win by St George's with a lead of nineteen points. Well done to all of the girls who competed.



### 29. ASCOT SCHOOLS' SWIMMING GALA

In January, it was St George's turn to host the annual Ascot Schools' Gala against The Marist and Heathfield, giving the swim squad the opportunity to use the stunning new facilities in a competitive setting rather than just for training.

The first race was the Under 14 Medley Relay and St George's got off to a strong start with a win by Isobel, Costi, Alex and Anya. The girls continued to perform well, with Alex in the Individual Medley and Costi in the 25m Butterfly. In the Individual Medley, Erin showed grit and determination to win the Under 12 age category. She continued to impress in the 25m Butterfly, where she was joined by teammate Seesy, achieving first and second places respectively. Grace gained a season's best time in the Under 12 25m Breaststroke.

The girls were joined in the medley relay by Thea and swam an excellent race just pipping The Marist to first place. In the Under 15 age group, Alice swam an excellent 25m Breaststroke and achieved a season's best time. She was joined by Annabel, Anya and Annabel for the freestyle relay, where a joint effort resulted in first place. The open age category followed, with first places won by Daisy in the 25m Backstroke and Imogen in the 25m Breaststroke.

Overall, St George's came second place, with The Marist winning and Heathfield placing third. It was a truly outstanding day for the St. George's swim squad, and excellent preparation for a term of intense training sessions ready for the upcoming galas next year.



# CONNECTED

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## OUR CONNECTION TO CHARITY



### 1. THE CHARITABLE YEAR BY OUR CHAPLAIN, REVEREND SAMI WATTS

2020 has been a challenging year for everyone here at St George's, as it has been for many nationwide.

Throughout this academic year, whether in school or from home, it has been more important than ever to work on being connected at St George's; both with one another in our School community but also with the world around us. One of the key strands of our Connected community is our charity work and the girls have been as industrious and imaginative as ever in raising funds.

During the course of the year - thanks to the girls' hard work, imagination and your generosity - St George's was able to give £4585.10 to good causes. Thank you to all of you for your organisation, involvement and for every penny raised.

### 2. SCHOOL CHARITIES 2019-20

Each year, the whole school participates in a vote to select the three main charities as a focus for the year: one local, one national and one international.

In September, the Charities Prefect - with input from various other speakers - presented nine charities, three in each category before inviting the whole school to vote for their choices.

It was difficult to choose because every charity presented was a worthy cause, but in the end, the following charities were selected to be supported across the school for 2019-20:



#### Local

Our local choice was Thames Hospice, which provides end of life care and support to families. They were particularly looking to fund a new building in 2020.



#### National

Our chosen national charity was Melanoma UK. This charity provides support and research into melanoma, the UK's fifth biggest cancer.



#### International

The international charity chosen was Mary's Meals. Mary's Meals work in the poorest countries in the world to give children healthy and nutritious meals in schools each day.



### 3. JEANS FOR GENES DAY

Jeans for Genes is a well established UK charity, raising money and awareness to help improve the lives of children with life-altering genetic disorders.

As many as 1 in 25 children live with these kinds of genetic conditions and the money raised through the simple act of wearing denim for one Jeans for Genes Day in September helps to provide vital care, equipment and activities to these children. St George's raised a wonderful £294 in support of this charity.



### 4. SHOEBOX APPEAL LAUNCH

In October, Reverend Watts launched the Shoebox Project in support of Link to Hope. The girls were encouraged to fill a shoebox with gifts and treats for Christmas, either for a family or for the elderly. The wrapped shoe boxes were shipped to some of the poorest communities in Romania, Moldova, Ukraine and Bulgaria.

It was very encouraging to see so many shoeboxes arriving at school. A huge thank you and well done to all who participated!

### 5. HARVEST FESTIVAL

'We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land...' This year saw two harvest services in chapel - an informal service on Friday 20 September and a more traditional service of readings and music on Sunday evening.

The choir sang beautifully at both services and the front of the chapel was full of gifts for Wokingham Foodbank. Harvest is a time to celebrate and give thanks for all that we have. It is also a time of generosity as we share with

those less fortunate than ourselves. We may be more distant from the land and the yearly rhythms of agriculture than our forebears, but we are no less reliant on them. Gifts of tinned food were received alongside biscuits, dried goods and sweet treats.

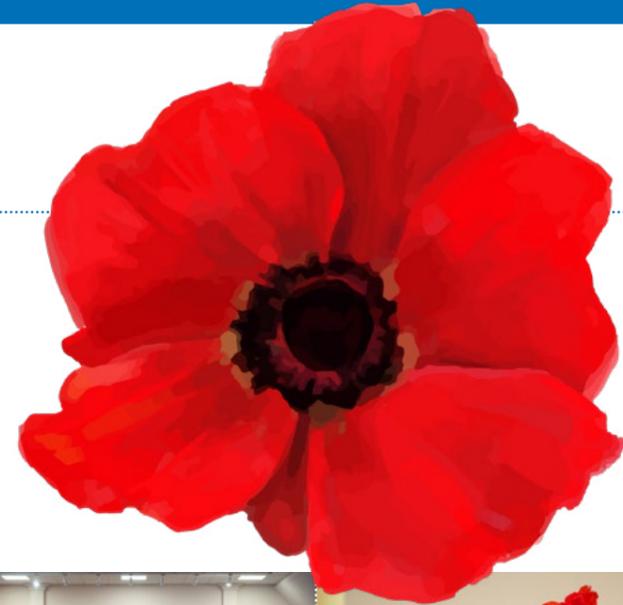
There were also many contributions of toiletries and cleaning products. Thank you to everyone who donated. The Harvest Supper after the Sunday service completed the joyful celebrations.



### 6. WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

On the morning of Monday 11 November 2019, the school gathered in the Chapel for our Remembrance Service.

We welcomed Surgeon Lieutenant Colonel Jedge Lewin, father of Millie, who spoke to pupils and staff about The Royal British Legion and the work this wonderful charity does for service men and women and their families.



### 7. ASSEMBLY WITH MARY'S MEALS

It was a pleasure to welcome Peter Higgins to chapel in November to talk about Mary's Meals.

Mary's Meals is one of three chosen charities St George's supported last year. It works to provide school meals to some of the poorest children in the world. Mr Higgins detailed his own connection with Mary's Meals, having come from a business background as co-founder of the successful company, Charles Tyrwhitt.

Mary's Meals works with local farmers and families in Malawi and other countries, to feed children and enable them to progress in their education, giving them the chance of a better future. We learnt that the cost of feeding a child for a year is only £13.90 (less in some countries). Thanks must go to Mr Higgins, for giving up his time to inspire and encourage our fundraising for this very worthy cause.





## 8. FIFTH YEAR CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR

In November, Christmas came early to St George's with a very well organised and attended Fifth Year Charity Fair. There were cakes and games galore, including deer-pong, candy cane relays and pin the tail on the reindeer. Face painting and gingerbread decorating kept the girls busy. The bubble tea sold out three times over! The wonderful cakes that the Fifth Year girls and parents baked went down a storm.

A huge amount of effort went into this event from the girls and their hard work was rewarded; over £600 was raised in support of our three chosen school charities.



## 9. CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Girls and staff wore their best Christmas jumper to celebrate Christmas Jumper Day 2019.



## 10. CHARITY SWIMATHON

Early in the Spring term, the Third Year girls held a Swimathon in aid of our three chosen charities.

It was exciting to see the pool absolutely full of activity with swimmers of every ability and plenty of supporters amongst staff and girls. The most prolific swimmers were undoubtedly Costanza and Alexandra, with Isabel and Annie swimming in a very speedy duo. Meanwhile, Jess, Gemma, Leila, Elodie, Charlotte and Milly formed the fastest two relay teams. Mrs Magill and Miss Earnshaw-Punnett also put on some goggles and joined in with the event.

It was a fantastic first fundraising event, showcasing the breadth of opportunity provided by our new St George's pool and raising £185 for our three worthy causes.



## 11. CAKETASTIC BAKE SALE

It was incredibly encouraging to see the girls respond with such sympathy and compassion to the devastating bushfires in Australia in January. Praise must go to Maya, Lydia and friends for organising a Charity Bake Sale in aid of The New South Wales Fire Service.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed delicious edible treats; the cakes baked were absolutely beautiful to look at and even more delicious to taste.

The event was (not surprisingly!) extremely popular and raised an incredible £645 for such an important cause.



## 12. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - COMBATING PERIOD POVERTY

St George's marked International Women's Day in School on Monday, 9 March 2020 with a special assembly highlighting two appeals: Smalls for All and Period Poverty. Rev Watts explained a little about the background of International Women's Day and encouraged each person to think about the women who inspire them. In the main part of the assembly, Ruby and Elizabeth from the Lower Sixth presented the school with information on the two appeals the school had chosen to support.

The first appeal was Period Poverty which collects sanitary products for use by those who cannot afford them. Ruby and Elizabeth explained that menstruation negatively affects as many as one in nine girls in the UK, forcing them, under extreme circumstances, to miss days of school each month because they do not have access to products that enable them to maintain personal hygiene during this time. Donations went to the Wokingham and Bracknell Food Banks.

The second appeal was in support of Smalls for All. This charity collects and distributes underwear, particularly for women in Africa. The wearing of underwear helps prevent sexual abuse of girls and young women, and also supporting good hygiene when they are menstruating.

"I think it's important to support these causes for International Women's Day because it highlights that we take these essential goods for granted while others are forced to live without them. It is important that we are not only supporting local charities but also international charities, as it allows the girls to recognise the need for International Women's day and the organisations which are set up to help women in disadvantaged positions. Our International Women's Day event enables us to help those in need, giving as much as we can, as even a small donation can make a big difference"

Written by Ruby in the Lower Sixth

"On the day after International Women's Day, one of the Markham boarders' clubs hosted a bake sale on behalf of Smalls for All and Period Poverty. Our enthusiastic and committed members created amazing baked goods, including lots of scrumptious brownies, cookies and lemon cakes. With the money raised, we bought sanitary products to donate to the local Woking and Bracknell food banks. We also organised bra donations to give to the Smalls for All charity."

Written by the Markham boarders club team.



## 13. ZUMBA FOR SPORTS RELIEF

SGA girls love to dance and PE lessons are sometimes devoted to the latest Just Dance moves. It was therefore no surprise that Dance fever gripped St George's on Sport Relief Day in March, with girls arriving at school in disco outfits for Mufti Day.



Neon and lycra-clad pupils enjoyed fun and games in their PE lessons to the sounds of 80's disco hits and the PE department joined in the fun with leg warmers, head bands and disco leggings!

At lunchtime, our favourite Zumba teacher, Laura, treated us all to an hour-long disco zumba session and girls from the First Year through to the Sixth Form joined in the fun.

Zumba is no walk in the park. Heart rates were raised and muscles worked for the full hour by staff and students alike. Thank you to all those who brought their disco fever and helped raise money for Sport Relief.



## OUR CONNECTION TO OUR COMMUNITY

### 14. ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL VISITS

Throughout the Lower Sixth, the girls are given the opportunity to connect with the community by regularly visiting St Michael's C of E Primary School in Sunninghill to support younger children with their reading.



It is absolutely evident, speaking to both the girls and Mrs Anderton - the Headmistress of St Michael's - that this opportunity is deeply beneficial for all involved. Mrs Anderton enthused that they, "loved the girls", going on to explain how respectful, courteous and helpful our girls have consistently proven to be. With a focus on Talking for Writing in primary education, the girls gave these young children an invaluable opportunity to talk with an older peer, encouraging them to engage with different texts, and helping them to develop invaluable questioning skills.

As the girls work towards their A levels, these visits are both a welcome change of focus for the girls and also an opportunity to grow their self esteem as well as developing their ability to relate to those beyond the walls of St George's; the perfect preparation for a successful future.

### 15. CONTACT THE ELDERLY

On a Sunday in October, we welcomed a group of elderly women for afternoon tea in our Top Foyer. This was organised through our links with the wonderful charity, Contact The Elderly.

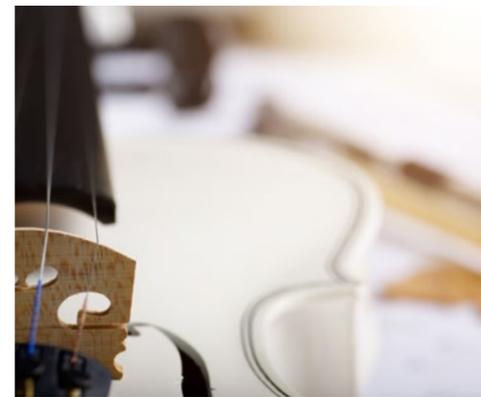
Our boarders spent a delightful afternoon sharing stories and delicious food with these interesting women. Some of our most talented musicians put on a fabulous performance and it was clear that our visitors were blown away by the talent. It was a joyful and worthwhile event from start to finish.



### 16. BERKSHIRE BOOK AWARD

St George's have long been supporters of the Berkshire Book Award, and we were lucky enough to host 2020's launch event in February.

The Berkshire Book Award encourages young people from across the county to nominate their favourite book that was published in the previous year. The winner in 2019 was Robin Stevens, who visited our school just last year. The Berkshire Book Award 2020 was launched by children's author Laura Wood. She spoke about life as a writer and answered many questions from over 180 children from a variety of schools, including our own First and Second Year girls. Along with children from one of our partner schools, St Michael's Primary, we also welcomed pupils from LVS Ascot, Leighton Park, Denefield, Easthampstead Park Community School and Queen Anne's School, Caversham. At the end of an engaging talk, the pupils were extremely keen to meet the author and get a signed copy of one of her books.



### 17. MUSIC WORKSHOP WITH WINDLESHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

In February, the Music department welcomed thirty young visitors from Windlesham Infant School for a morning of music. The St George's staff enjoyed working with very young children, exploring all kinds of new musical experiences for them. At the start of the morning, they listened to Mr Smith talking about and demonstrating percussion instruments, from early African talking drums to the modern drum kit. The highlight was a guest appearance by 'Monkey' who was in good form and had clearly done quite a lot of drumming practice!

The children then divided into three groups, taking turns to work with the children. Miss Johnson delivered a music and movement session. The children had a go at African Drumming with Mrs Thompson and learnt the song, 'Badgers and Hedgehogs' with Mr Hillier. It was a morning full of fun that was much enjoyed by everyone involved.

### 18. 'GIRLS DIVIDE AND CONQUER' MATHS CHALLENGE

'Girls Divide and Conquer' was our exciting inaugural Maths Challenge for local primary and prep schools.

All-female teams from Bishopsgate School, Connaught Junior School, Eton End School, Lambrook School, St Michael's C of E School and St Piran's enjoyed numerous rounds of mathematical puzzles and challenges, which culminated in a prize-giving followed by lunch in our dining room.

The contest was very close right up until the final round, and all schools participated brilliantly. In the end, our winners were Bishopsgate School. It was a wonderful day, full of enthusiasm, energy and intellect.



## OUR CONNECTION TO LIFE BEYOND ST GEORGE'S

### 19. INVESTMENT BANKING CAREERS LUNCH WITH MR RUPERT TREFGARNE

The first Careers Lunch of the academic year focused on investment banking with parent, Mr Rupert Trefgarne, leading the session.

After enjoying a typically excellent school meal, Mr Trefgarne expanded on what the sector encompasses and the variety of roles that can be undertaken. He then moved on to provide specific advice on how to get into banking, before answering questions concerning the benefits and challenges of life in the City, referring to his extensive experience to illustrate his points.

All the girls present benefited from the insight and advice given, and appreciated the time given up by Mr Trefgarne.



### 20. TECHNOLOGY AND MARKETING CAREERS LUNCH WITH MRS CHRISTIE FIDURA

St George's parent and Salesforce Director, Mrs Christie Fidura, was invited to speak in January at the second Careers Lunch of the academic year.



Mrs Fidura spoke about her life in Technology and Marketing to a group of girls from the First Year to the Lower Sixth. Mrs Fidura emphasised to the pupils the importance of taking opportunities and building a strong network of both personal contacts and online interactions.

One of the many striking things shared by Mrs Fidura was the fact that it had taken twenty-five years to find her ideal role. However, the jobs she had undertaken before this had allowed her to learn and furthered her career.

After a fantastic presentation, all those present - including Mr Wright - enjoyed an impromptu training session which involved introducing themselves to Mrs Fidura and shaking hands.

Everyone who attended was enthused by her message and energised by the advice given.



### 21. MRS MILLNS' PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE TALK

In March, the Politics Department were delighted to welcome St George's parent, Mrs Rushi Millns, to speak to the girls about her experience of running for Parliament.

As the Conservative Party candidate for the safest Labour seat of Knowsley, Merseyside, Mrs Millns discussed her political development, her decision to join the Tories, and her experience standing in the 2019 General Election. It was striking to hear of the challenges faced in fighting a positive campaign in a constituency that is characterised by strong anti-Conservative sentiment.

Mrs Millns then went on to discuss the importance of greater engagement with politics, particularly amongst young women, stressing that there is a route into this critical career for all those willing to be involved in public service.

### 22. LOWER SIXTH VISIT TO THE NATIONAL SCHOOL AND COLLEGE LEAVER SHOW

The Girls in the Lower Sixth continued their research into potential post-18 options after leaving St George's by attending the National School and College Leaver Show in December.

This new event, conveniently hosted at Ascot Racecourse, saw a large number of universities and employers in attendance. After the girls and staff had enjoyed a sunny, winter's day walk along the High Street, the pupils began to visit the different stands. Popular institutions such as Newcastle University and Royal Holloway were in attendance, along with major employers such as Allen & Overy, PWC and Unilever.

The girls' discussions with university and business representatives provided them with a wealth of inspiration and information to inform their future plans.



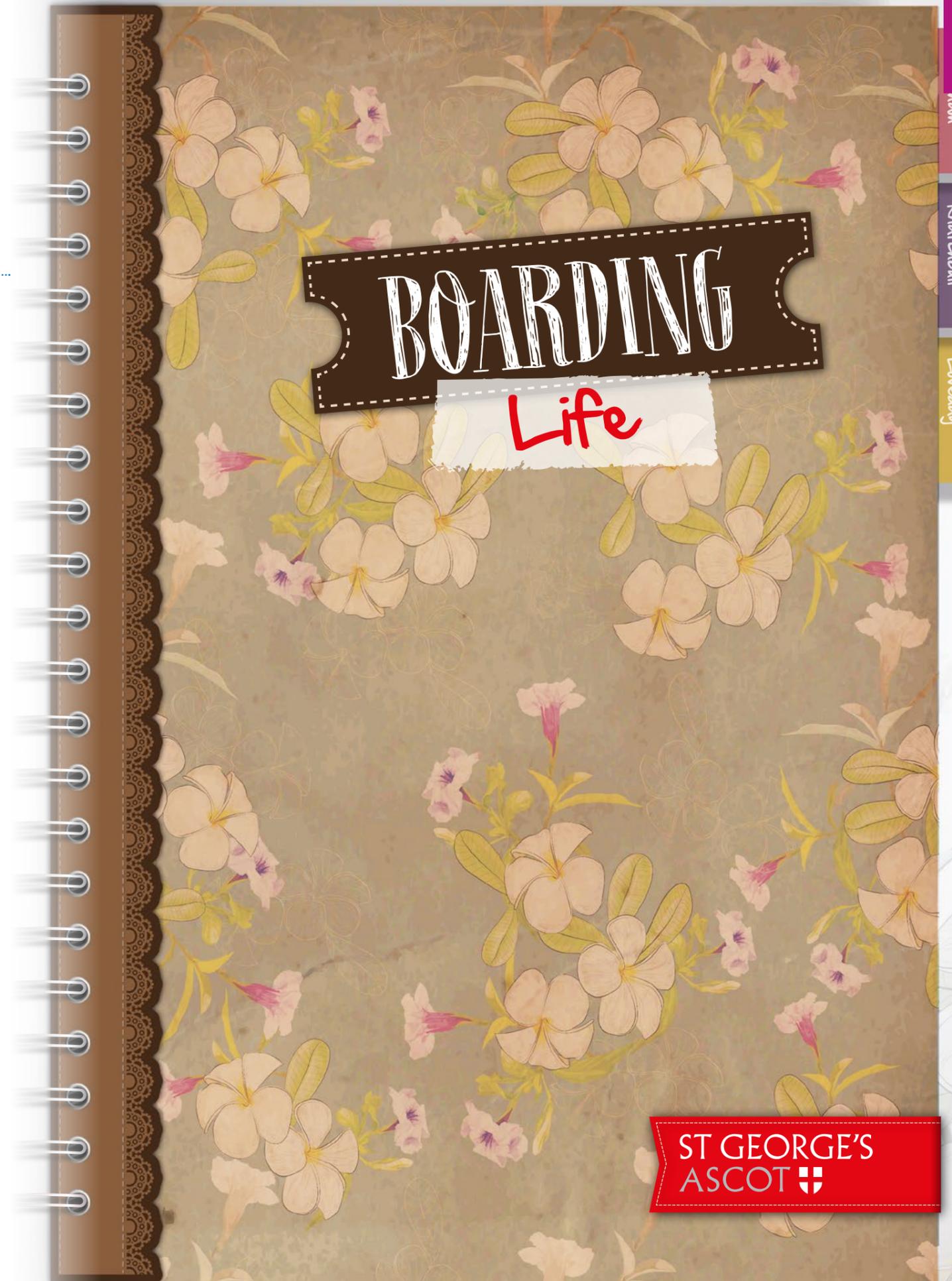
## 23. ALUMNAE CAREERS AFTERNOON

St George's hosted its second, biannual Alumnae Careers Day in November.

The girls in the Fourth Year and above were invited to sign up for three sessions delivered by returning former pupils concerning their careers and current roles. From an extreme skier to a partner in a law firm, a primary school teacher to a jewellery designer, the pupils were able to listen to a range of fascinating talks.

One of the most well-attended lectures was given by Sophie Lanfear, who spoke about her recent filming with David Attenborough and her career as a filmmaker. In the Chapel, all three sessions given by Lara Asprey detailing her roles in television and business were also very popular. At the end of these talks, the girls split into two groups and posed questions to a panel of the alumnae. These sessions were broader in focus, with questions ranging from how women deal with sexism and balance motherhood with work, as well as enquiries as to the advice the speakers would have given to their former Georgian selves.

We were delighted to welcome back our former pupils and the girls were inspired by their advice and the reality of their varied successes.



# Markham

The new girls joining St George's in the First, Second, Third and Fourth Years always receive a very warm welcome. This year, we were also delighted to welcome new Housemistress, Sue Harmon, and Resident Tutor, Natalie Conde.

Natalie later took up the role of Assistant Housemistress in January 2020, as we said farewell to the much loved Olga Kellaris, who moved on to pastures new after four happy years looking after the girls as Assistant Housemistress and acting Housemistress.

Kezia Tomsett joined us as the new Resident Tutor, bringing a musical flair to the house and many fun evenings of impromptu singing.



Throughout the Autumn and Spring Terms, the boarders enjoyed a wonderful range of weekend activities including trampolining, ice skating, trips to Thorpe Park, The London Dungeon and Madame Tussauds as well as visiting the cinema, having evening meals at Nandos and making shopping excursions to Bracknell, Windsor and the large Westfield shopping centre. Closer to home, the girls enjoyed pamper sessions and afternoon tea as well as crafts events



Alison Kennedy - the Head Librarian and resident member of Markham staff - organised an excellent Harry Potter Evening, which brought all year groups together to explore imagination in magic.

The Fourth Years were lively participants in a Come Dine with Me-style supper, in which the group were split into teams to make a starter, main course and dessert for each other. A photography competition was run with the theme of Something Blue, and many of the competitors now have their stunning photographs on display in the house.

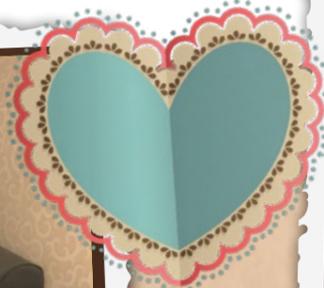
Girls were also encouraged to join the new initiative, Girl Up, where they learnt about the ways girls grow up across the world and started thinking about how they could influence School life for the better. In support of 'Girl Up', a number of our boarders organised a cake sale, where they raised funds to buy underwear as well as sanitary pads to support those in need.



# Knatchbull

Boarding at St George's is all about striking a balance in life: balancing work with play, taking time to focus on academic life, developing skills and interests outside of the classroom, spending time in community with others and also having space to find yourself and rest. In Knatchbull, we try to achieve that balance.

Weekend life in the house is a mix of downtime, with cinema trips, shopping, and opportunities to swim and go to the gym alongside some more unusual events.



One of the most popular events of the last year was the Cultural Mash Up! which showcased community life in the house. This took place soon after the beginning of the Autumn term.

All the girls in the House made or brought food based on a happy memory, their own culture or childhood. We had a wonderful feast that included fish and chips, Yorkshire puddings, sticky chicken, noodles, fried rice and cinnamon buns.



The event encouraged the girls to talk to each other about their cultures and backgrounds.

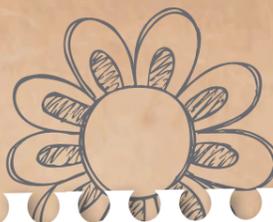
Other highlights of the year included Bonfire Night, Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day and Christmas celebrations which the girls helped to organise.

Chinese New Year was celebrated in style with Lower Sixth pupil, Jennie, cooking Coca Cola chicken and egg fried rice along with her team for the rest of the House.

Jennie also showed everyone how to make red window flowers and to write using Chinese characters.



# Loveday



Once the girls reach the Upper Sixth, they are given increased opportunities to make independent decisions about their free time. Wonderfully, the bonds formed at Loveday this year were such that they often choose to spend time together.

Towards the end of the Autumn term, everyone thoroughly enjoyed a night out at Hyde Park's Winter Wonderland, which spread Christmas cheer throughout the house.



The girls also relished the two pamper nights hosted by GloPamper, in which they were able to choose from a manicure, pedicure or massage as a post-exam treat.

Most of the girls opted for the massage - which was a fantastic stress reliever - alongside some delicious pizza and homemade smoothies.



The girls also enjoyed celebrating annual events such as Valentines Day, Chinese New Year and St Patrick's Day.

To celebrate Valentine's day, the girls were treated to an in-house breakfast of eggs benedict and for St Patrick's day, the girls turned the common room into the setting of an Irish pub ready for a quiz!

Obviously, the Upper Sixth is a year of more focused study and, from the very start of the Autumn term, the girls supported one another superbly as they worked towards their A-levels. We were proud of the excellent balance they achieved.



All Boarders Shopping Trip

All Boarders Cultural Mash-Up





Anti-Bullying weekend



Windsor Trip



All Boarders Circus Trip



Boarders Swimming



Bootcamp!

ST GEORGE'S  
ASCOT

# REMOTE

## REFLECTIONS ON REMOTE SCHOOLING DURING LOCKDOWN & COVID-19

1. WHAT TO TAKE AWAY FROM LOCKDOWN?
2. ROYAL ASCOT ART COMPETITION
3. ST GEORGE'S DAY ART COMPETITION
4. VIRTUAL DRAMA EXTRAVAGANZA & VIRTUAL OPEN MIC NIGHT
5. GEORGIAN GALLOP
6. CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD
7. LEITH'S TOOLBOX COOKERY COURSE
8. THE GREAT GEORGIAN BAKE-OFF
9. VE DAY
10. MFL RECIPE COMPETITION
11. RAINBOW MUFTI IN SUPPORT OF THE NHS
12. CHARITY ZUMBA
13. TEACHER FOR A DAY
14. RAISING MONEY FOR WORLD VISION
15. LOCKDOWN LETTERS TO THE ELDERLY
16. COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS
17. NATIONAL BOARDING WEEK
18. ONLINE TALK ON 'CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RACISM'
19. ONLINE TALK ON 'RESILIENCE'
20. A MINDFUL ENRICHMENT SESSION
21. SAYING GOODBYE TO THE UPPER SIXTH
22. END OF YEAR EVENTS

## WHAT TO TAKE AWAY FROM LOCKDOWN

### 1. WHAT TO TAKE AWAY FROM LOCKDOWN? REFLECTIONS ON REMOTE SCHOOLING DURING COVID-19

This has been an extraordinary and challenging season for schools nationwide and we are so proud, therefore, of the enthusiasm, positivity, flexibility and resilience that St George's pupils and staff have shown throughout. 'Remote St George's' has been a great success, and we are grateful to have received a wealth of positive feedback from our current parents about our online provision for the girls. As we look forward to welcoming all our pupils back in September, we wanted to take the opportunity to reflect on the highlights of Remote Schooling, to celebrate all that has been achieved but also to think carefully of what we might take forward into the new academic year.

We have been able to offer a full complement of lessons for all year groups via Google Meets throughout the lockdown. As a result, subject departments report that they have lost little or no curriculum time, indeed we are delighted that a number of departments report being ahead of where they would usually be! We were obviously concerned that some pupils might fall behind and struggle academically without the one to one attention they would normally receive in a physical classroom. As a result, we introduced out of hours subject support clinics which pupils attend via Google Meets. We were also able to deliver end of year online assessments for all year groups.



Fantastic to see how the school is supporting the girls. I speak to parents with children elsewhere and cannot think of anyone who has had a better virtual learning than that offered by SGA.

St George's Parent



As lockdown began and schooling, as we knew it, changed so dramatically, we quickly realised that St George's was extremely well prepared to deliver Remote Schooling. We had introduced Google Chromebooks to staff and pupils 18 months previously, prep tasks had been delivered via Dragonfly for the same amount of time and all our community, staff and pupils alike, were Google Drive experts. Given the potential complexity of remote schooling, all our girls and staff have benefited immensely from having the one cloud platform to negotiate. We are thankful for the time we invested in training and preparing our staff and pupils as soon as lockdown looked likely. This has meant that we have been able to deliver a consistent and thorough academic provision from the beginning.

Undeterred by the obvious logistical challenges, the girls completed these open book assessments admirably with our teachers on hand 'on chat' throughout in case of questions.

Given the nature of the global spread of Covid-19, we quickly sought the advice of experienced colleagues at schools in China, the Middle East and Italy who were ahead of us on the educational curve. Having heard their reflections on Remote Schooling, it was clear that schedule and structure were key. We, therefore, decided to keep following our school timetable in order to give our girls and staff a structure and rhythm to the day.

At the end of the Spring Term, after one week of following this

timetable to the minute, we asked for feedback from all our stakeholders, and we decided to adapt the timetable, shortening the lessons, giving a 15 minute break between every lesson and lengthening lunch hours. This reduced the girls' screentime and gave them the opportunity to exercise, socialise and relax with their families. This change was hugely popular, with 90%+ of those surveyed expressing their approval.

The staff have worked tirelessly to adjust to new conditions in order to maintain a consistently high standard of teaching provision.

Of particular note is the significant increase in the technological capability of our staff, many of whom were training in applications which they had not used previously. Teaching via video conferencing has become the new white board of this era and all our staff have been both innovative and inspirational in their use of this technology.

We have also seen how easy it is to facilitate a programme of visiting speakers when geography and travel are of no concern. Our Upper Sixth have greatly benefited from the #SGAprepared talks from parents and alumnae. Under lockdown, we have heard from a senior Human Resources director from the parent body on the topic of 'Employability Skills' alongside talks on 'Conversations about Racism' and 'Resilience' from recent Alumnae.

The Parents Association also organised a session for the parent body with a wellbeing speaker from a Happy Mind who discussed managing teenage stress which was positively received and well attended.



ALUMNA STEPHANIE DELIVERS AN SGA PREPARED SESSION ENTITLED: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RACISM AND RESILIENCE

The breadth and variety of the Co-Curricular programme is one of St George's greatest strengths. We have been very aware that the intense nature of online schooling, with the inevitable increase in screentime, alongside the loss of the normal co-curricular balance, would be keenly felt by our girls. We have therefore worked very hard throughout lockdown to provide an excellent, ongoing co-curricular programme.

The School seamlessly transitioned from the physical to the virtual, hosting events such as a virtual Open Mic Night, a virtual Drama Extravaganza, Music for a Summer Evening Concert, Sports Review of the Year, and online Dance, LAMDA and Music tuition.

Our Theatre Director in Residence has also provided online Dance challenges to partnered state primary school pupils.

## WHAT TO TAKE AWAY FROM LOCKDOWN

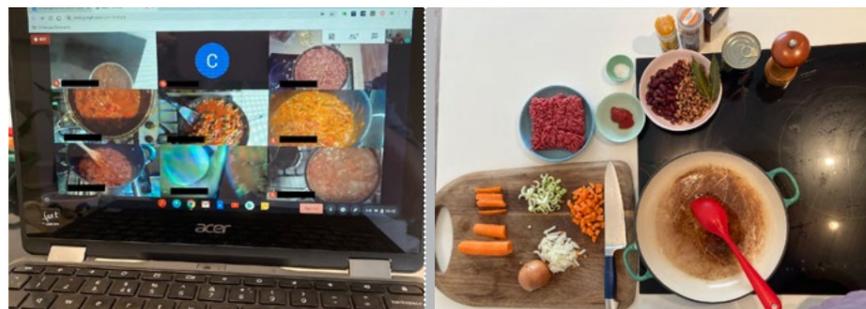


**CHOIR MEMBERS SING TOGETHER DURING THE VIRTUAL MUSIC FOR A SUMMER EVENING CONCERT**

There has been a steady stream of imaginative physical challenges set by our PE Department to ensure our girls get away from their screens and prioritise their physical wellbeing. We take particular pleasure in the participation of many girls who would not involve themselves in "traditional" team games yet have engaged with and filmed themselves undertaking different creative challenges.

individually at home has given them great confidence in the kitchen and has helped them to add such a positive contribution to family life during Lockdown. I am extremely proud of them."As all schools reflect on the successes of virtual schooling, we will be looking to develop this provision with a new cookery room in the planning.

The cookery programme has been particularly popular during this period of virtual schooling, giving the girls the chance to learn new practical, creative skills. Our Headmistress Liz Hewer, has joined in on cookery meets with the Upper Sixth girls for their weekly #SGAprepared Friday Feast. We are particularly proud of our Lower Sixth girls who have been working hard to complete their Remote Leiths Toolbox Cookery Course. Undeterred by the logistical difficulties of remote schooling, the girls have sourced all the ingredients and consistently delivered delicious, life-useful recipes to complete the 12-week course single handedly. Hilary Jones, their Leith's cookery teacher, proudly spoke of the girls' achievement. "They have worked so hard and are gaining a set of skills that will last a lifetime. Having to work



**GIRLS ENJOY REMOTE COOKERY CLASSES**

Looking after, and caring for, the wellbeing of each individual within St George's has always been at the heart of the school's ethos and is intrinsic to the school's reputation. We are a school that is striving to develop Capable, Confident and Connected young women, who are ready to take their

place in the world beyond St George's. This challenging season of Remote Schooling has, if anything, proven and deepened the need for and strength of our pastoral focus. It was immediately evident that we needed a proactive, intentional approach to keeping both our staff and girls connected. Our Headmistress, Liz Hewer, has kept in regular contact both with our parents and with her staff, swiftly communicating any change to the Government's guidelines and its impact on school life. We have run a number of surveys in order to gauge progress and give us a sense of the wellbeing of the entire school community during the period of lockdown. Face-to-face Parents Evenings have been replaced with an online provision. These have been very popular as, in many ways, they are more flexible in terms of time and location. Our parents have appreciated the opportunity to fit appointments around their busy schedules. It is a significant asset to have been able to meet with parents overseas or in jobs which would mean that attendance is logistically challenging.

**We have introduced the '#SGAtogether' initiative, to encourage that sense of community whilst working remotely.**

The whole school community continues to gather together virtually each afternoon for assemblies, chapel, tutor time and Year group activities. In many ways our community spirit has never felt more healthy and the experiences of this season, of the sense of connection we have shared, will give us great food for thought in how we might revise and improve our communication strategies for the future.



**GIRLS COME TOGETHER ON NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY TO THANK STAFF REMOTELY DURING AN SGATOGETHER ASSEMBLY.**

Whatever our own reflections on this Remote Schooling season might be, it is the experience of our pupils and their parents that will give us the greatest satisfaction in a job well done.

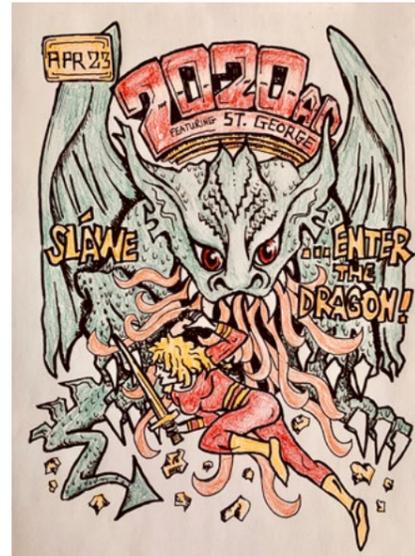
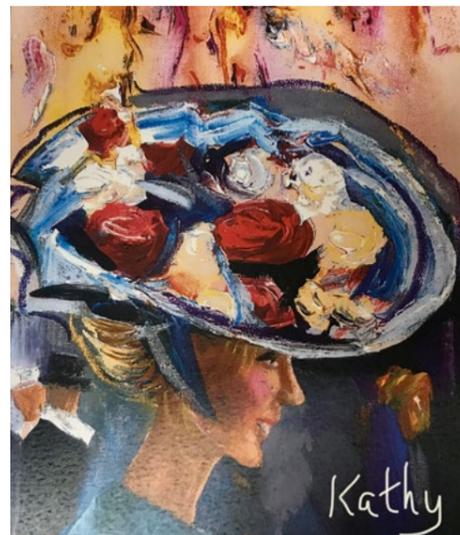
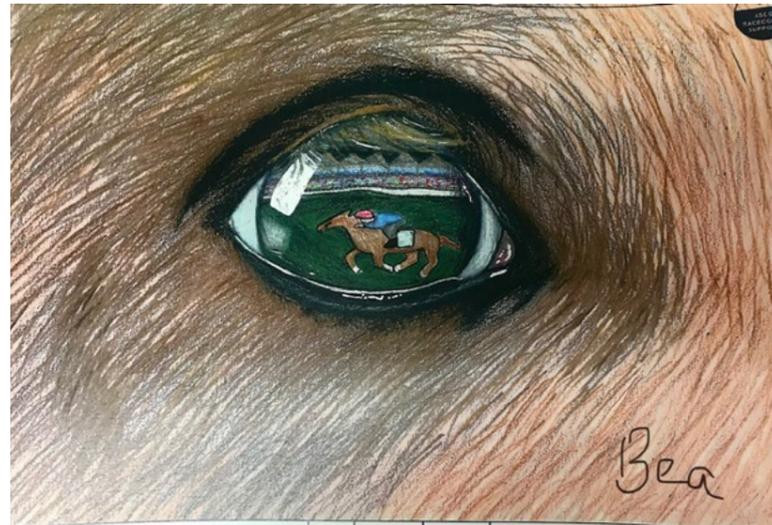
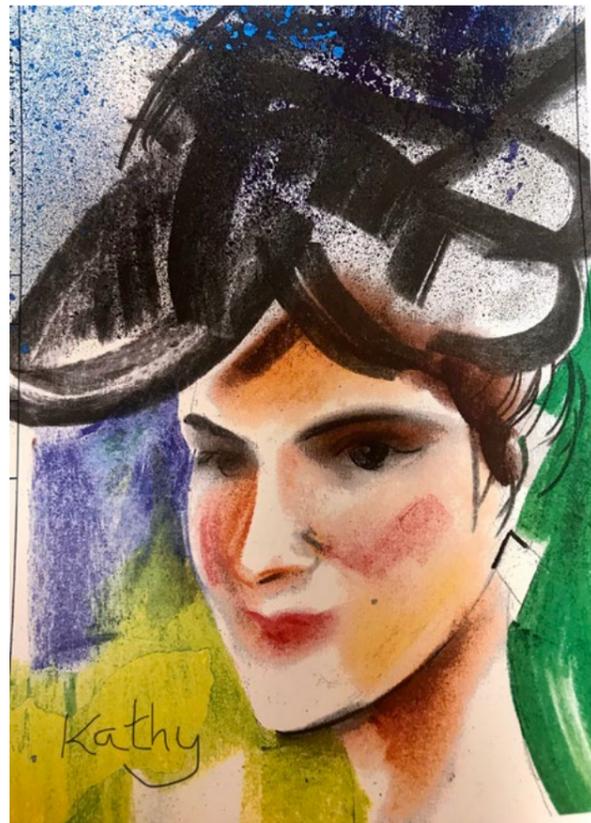
To quote a current parent to finish, "I think the school as a whole has done an amazing job to create as near to a school environment and keep the girls connected with both peers and teachers. For such uncertain times the school has made us feel secure that our daughter's education and well-being are being looked after."

**#SGAtogether**

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM REMOTE SCHOOLING IN THE SUMMER TERM

### 2. ROYAL ASCOT ART COMPETITION

Some of our talented SGA artists entered the Royal Ascot Art Competition in March 2020. Well done to Bea for being awarded winner in the 12-13 category, and Isabel who won 'highly commended' in the age 13-14 category! SGA Capable indeed!



### 3. ST GEORGE'S DAY ART COMPETITION

Girls entered our St George and the Dragon art competition to celebrate St George's Day. We were pleased to announce that the winner was Oona with this fantastic piece!

The judges commented: "It feels as though she has been partly inspired by Lichtenstein and comic books...It looks like St George is now a brave female knight."

### 4. VIRTUAL DRAMA EXTRAVAGANZA & VIRTUAL OPEN MIC NIGHT

The dazzling performing talent of SGA pupils was on full show throughout lockdown with pupils and staff gathering to host a virtual Open Mic Night and a Drama Extravaganza. Confident, Capable and Connected are the three pillars of the St George's education, and the girls have shown how confident and capable they truly are, overcoming the challenges of performing to a screen not a live audience, and grasping this opportunity to show the breadth and variety of their skills.



# REMOTE

## SPORTS

### 5. GEORGIAN GALLOP

In April, the Georgian spirit was kept very much alive as we hosted a virtual version of our annual Georgian Gallop!

Staff and girls entered by recording their run times on the Run Keeper app and sending them in to our Sports Department.



## ACADEMIC

### 6. CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

During the summer term, two of our A-Level Chemists, Site and TJ, were awarded Bronze certificates from the Royal Society of Chemistry Chemistry Olympiad that had been hosted in the Autumn Term.

### 7. LEITH'S TOOLBOX COOKERY COURSE

The Lower Sixth girls showed great determination to complete their Leith's Toolbox Cookery Course from home.

Undeterred by the logistical difficulties of remote schooling, the girls sourced all the ingredients and consistently delivered delicious, life-useful recipes to complete the 12-week course single handedly. Hilary Jones, their Leith's cookery teacher, proudly spoke of the girls' achievement. "They have worked so hard and are gaining a set of skills that will last a lifetime. Having to work individually at home has given them great confidence in the kitchen and has helped them to add such a positive contribution to family life during Lockdown. I am extremely proud of them."

St George's, Ascot is renowned for the breadth of the extra curricular provision and the cookery programme has been of particular value during this period of virtual schooling, giving the girls the chance to leave their screens and learn new practical, creative skills. Headmistress, Liz Hewer, has joined in with the online cookery 'Meets' and, among other dishes, prepared a delicious Thai Beef salad alongside her Upper Sixth girls during their #SGAprepared Friday Feast. As all schools reflect on the successes of remote schooling, St George's will be looking to build on this ever-growing enthusiasm for all things culinary.



### 8. THE GREAT GEORGIAN BAKE-OFF

Our First Year girls baked up a storm in the hopes of winning the Great Georgian Bake-off in May! Congratulations went to Grace for being crowned the star baker! The judges commented on her 'skillful piping' and original use of lego!



GRACE - STAR BAKER

### 9. VE DAY

The First Year girls celebrated VE Day on 8 May in their SMSC classes by making VE day bunting and investigating the life of Captain Tom Moore.



### 10. MFL RECIPE COMPETITION

The MFL department hosted a recipe competition and first prize went to Amelia for her winning 'unos churros españoles' with 'fabuloso chocolate casero' (for the non-Hispanophone, Spanish churros with fabulous homemade chocolate!)



## CHARITY, COMMUNITY & CONNECTIONS

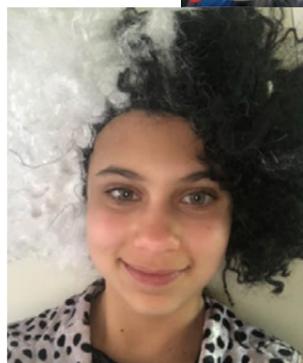
### 11. RAINBOW MUFTI IN SUPPORT OF THE NHS

Girls and staff took part in a Rainbow MUFTI day in May in support of our fantastic NHS.



### 12. CHARITY ZUMBA

Our #SGAconnected girls in the First Year took to the dance floor for a day of Virtual Zumba in June to show their support for our chosen charities of 2019-20, Thames Hospice, Melanoma UK and Marys Meals.



#SGAconnected

### 13. TEACHER FOR A DAY

Towards the end of the summer term, some of our #SGAconfident Second Year girls took the opportunity to be Teacher for the Day!

The girls organised 'un quiz amusant' about France to help raise funds for our three chosen charities.



### 14. RAISING MONEY FOR WORLD VISION

Charitable efforts continued throughout the summer term as we launched the 100/100 charity challenge at the beginning of July.

The goal was to raise £100 in each tutor group by collectively travelling 100 miles all in aid of World Vision's Coronavirus response.



### 15. LOCKDOWN LETTERS TO THE ELDERLY

Our First Year girls produced some thoughtful letters to local care home residents during the lockdown period.

The lockdown meant care home residents around the country were unable to welcome visitors and we hoped our girls would raise spirits with their messages.



### 16. COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS

To commemorate the opening of our spectacular swimming pool, many of our staff, pupils and alumnae purchased bricks with an inscription of their choice.



### 17. NATIONAL BOARDING WEEK

We were delighted to support the Boarding School Association's National Boarding Week in partnership with Squad Kit, particularly with its timely focus on mental health and wellbeing.

Girls engaged in motivational challenges provided by our boarding team throughout the week including participating in acts of kindness at home.

## SGAPREPARED



### 18. ONLINE TALK ON 'CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RACISM' FROM FORMER HEAD GIRL STEPHANIE BANKOLE

With discussions about race, discrimination and unconscious bias at the forefront of the agenda, it was a privilege for the Upper Sixth girls to hear from former Head Girl, Stephanie Bankole, on how to open up conversations in the school community about racism.

In her talk, which has since been shared with all pupils, staff and parents, she encouraged the girls to talk about this vital issue 'with greater fluidity and less awkwardness'. This inspired a number of very positive and far reaching discussions about diversity within the school community and helped the girls to think about positive changes that could be made to ensure every individual feels valued whatever their race or ethnicity.



### 19. ONLINE TALK ON 'RESILIENCE' FROM ELEANOR HARDIE

The #SGAprepared programme continued for Upper Sixth girls throughout the remote schooling period and we were delighted to welcome back alumna, Eleanor Hardie.

She spoke to the girls about resilience, her work with the charity Changing Faces and gave some tips for staying positive.



### 20. A MINDFUL ENRICHMENT SESSION

The Fifth Year pupils started their A Level courses in June and enjoyed an enrichment session from The Mindful Compass on 'Thriving Amidst Life's Ups and Downs'.

This gave the girls practical ideas on how to manage the potential stresses of lockdown.



### 21. SAYING GOODBYE TO THE UPPER SIXTH

“As you move on to new and exciting challenges, remember you will always be a Georgian... We know you will achieve your dreams. We believe you will go on to greatness. Nothing will hold you back. A warm and heartfelt 'goodbye for now' to our Upper Sixth from all at St George's.

Mr Andy Carroll



The St George's community said an emotional farewell to Upper Sixth leavers on the 9 July during our virtual Summer Term Awards ceremony.

We couldn't be more proud of our #SGAresilient girls for what they achieved during an extraordinary term.

**#SGAresilient**

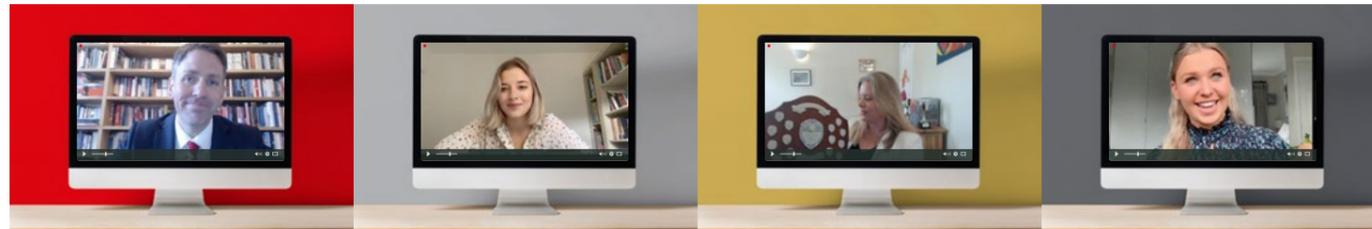
## SGAPREPARED

### 22. END OF YEAR EVENTS

The summer term at St George's went out with a bang with an array of virtual events including the House Quiz, Music for a Summer Evening and the Sports Review of the Year. The end of Term Awards and our virtual Valedictory Service for the Upper Sixth was a fitting celebration of all that was achieved throughout the term!

A huge well done to all the girls in Alexander House and their #SGAcapable Captain Kiera for being crowned the SGA House Championship winners for the second year running!

House Championship	
Alexander	350
Becket	260
Churchill	255
Darwin	175



# ALUMNAE

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## WELCOME

### 1. A WARM WELCOME FROM LAURIE GLIMMERVEEN



This year has seen a sad lack of social engagements for all of us and this inevitably impacted the usual schedule of Georgian reunion events. We had hoped to invite you to drinks by the new school pool in summer, and I would have - as I write this - been on the countdown to the end of term Carol Service and Alumnae Reception afterwards (make a note for next year!). Hopefully, all will return to near-normality in the future and we can welcome you back to St George's very soon. In the meantime, you will find in this section a feature in which we look back at scenes from St George's from the past and compare them with the same scenes today. Hopefully, this will provide a trip down memory lane for many of you as well as an interesting look at the past for more recent pupils.

We will also take a look at a familiar friend to many former Georgians: the straw boater. Inspired by an unusual media request earlier in the year, this piece looks back on the comings and goings of this particular piece of unique headwear.

As usual, we have news from Former Georgians. It has been wonderful to hear from so many of you. With leavers from as far back as 1947 to as recently as 2019, you will find a real range of stories from people's lives.

I do hope you enjoy reading the magazine. We will meet again soon.

Laurie

Laurie Glimmerveen  
Alumnae Co-Ordinator

## HERITAGE & HISTORY

### 2. SGA HERITAGE: WHAT WE WORE...HATS

In the summer, I was approached by a publication with an unusual request. They were putting together a feature on school uniforms with a focus on hats and were keen to hear about the hats that Georgians have worn throughout the years. Those of you reading who are either current pupils or recent leavers might wonder what I could possibly contribute, given the lack of hat-wearing that goes on in school now (with the exception of a St George's beanie hat on the lacrosse pitch perhaps). Readers who left a little longer ago will keenly remember hats in school, specifically the straw boater.

The history of the Georgian straw boater goes back to the very beginning of St George's in its current incarnation. Many of you will already know that from 1882 to 1884 Winston Churchill was a pupil at St George's, but in 1904 came new ownership, and with that the School transitioned from being one for boys to one for girls. Almost immediately, it became a tradition for the St George's girls to wear their red woollen cloaks and straw boater hats to greet the Royal Party (Edward VII and Queen Alexandra in 1904) on Gold Cup Day during Royal Ascot week.

Throughout the years, the wearing of the boater has varied in frequency and by the 1970s and 1980s it was an everyday sight, as Kerry Bertram (nee Tichelly, 1988 cohort) recalls.

"The boaters were very much part of the school uniform and we had to wear them whenever we left the school grounds, for any reason - even when popping up to Martin's newsagent on the High Street for a chocolate bar, or a copy of Smash Hits! We also wore them with our cloaks when walking to church at St Michael's in Sunninghill on a Sunday. I always thought that we looked like a giant red caterpillar as we walked in pairs on the footpath along the London Road. The current locker room (bottom of the stairs leading into the dining room) had pegs all around the room where we hung our cloaks

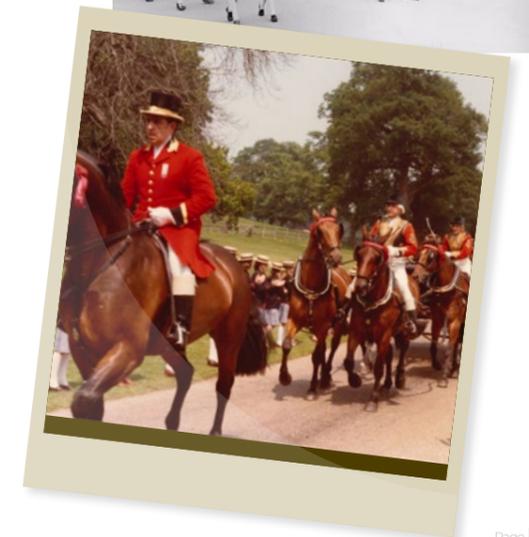
and boaters...needless to say, there was always a game of boater frisbee going on in there."

By the 1990s, boaters were only worn by First Years on the annual trip to Ascot to wave to the Queen.

As a result, rather than each girl requiring her own hat, a bank of boaters was kept in what is now the lost property cupboard outside the staff room. Everyone was 'fitted' for a hat the day before the event and the boaters were carefully counted in and out. This was also one of the few times of the year blazers were worn, unlike their daily use nowadays. The weather during Royal Ascot week is typically unpredictable, and so the blazers were much appreciated on a cold day, less so in 30 degree sunshine!

Today, the straw boaters are fully retired and never seen in school. Who knows if they will make a reappearance, but as girls have worn PE kit exclusively since our return to school after the Coronavirus lockdown, we can surmise that the beanie is in ascendency!

Laurie Glimmerveen



## HERITAGE & HISTORY

### 3. FIRST YEAR HISTORY LESSONS

First Year History pupils found a unique way to learn more about their new school in September, as they had the opportunity to speak to two real-life 'relics', in the form of Georgian Alumnae Mrs Bertam and Ms Glimmerveen about the School's history. Girls prepared a list of questions in advance in order to discover more about the changes in uniform, sports played, buildings, and food over the years. Some were surprised to hear that St George's was originally a boys' school, and others were even more surprised to hear that neither Mrs Bertram or Ms Glimmerveen had been recipients of 'the cane!' Tales of sledging through the orchard on lunch trays in the snow (and warnings not to repeat this) were shared, and Mrs Bertam even provided an example of the gym knickers worn for PE - everybody was glad these are no longer standard kit. Both Alumnae still had their red woollen capes at home, which came in very useful as the lessons had to take place under the front porch due to social distancing.



### 4. SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

One of the most common requests from Old Georgians at reunions is to have a look around the school to see how things have changed 'since their day'.

Speaking to First Year History pupils, this term brought up similar questions except in reverse, with queries on what the school looked like before its current incarnation. This made me think about how interesting a 'compare and contrast' would be between photographs from our archive and the same scenes viewed now - and that is exactly what you will find here.

Something that surprises many visitors to the school is the incredible view from the South Lawn towards South Ascot, seen in these photographs from alongside Knatchbull. Entering the school from Ascot High Street gives no clue as to the vista beyond, although climbing the hill from the lower car park to reach school certainly does give an idea of our elevation.

As I was putting these photographs together, Jennifer Bloy (1977 cohort) wrote to me: "Looking through my bookcase the other day I came across this somewhat battered album of photographs from 1914. The album had been given to me over 20 years ago by an antique dealer friend who had rescued it from being thrown away. Knowing that I had been to St George's, he thought that I might find it to be of interest. At the time I had just left school and the world held more interest. Now, finding it again, I am filled with a sense of nostalgia as the old place had not changed [from 1914 to my time at the school] and it was only after I had left that the

great changes happened." Jennifer's photographs are now amongst the oldest that we have in the St George's archive.

What is so fascinating is that although 106 years have passed since that photograph was taken, the school is still instantly recognisable. You will see that Markham, or Main School as it used to be known, has remained almost unchanged externally between being built and the present day, apart from being extended over the years. See if you can spot the differences between the 1914, 1978, and present day photographs.

Although many areas of the school look as they would have during your time here, the school has been brought thoroughly into the 21st Century in recent years, with the creation of a theatre within the Sue Cormack Hall, a library and a modern pool. There were, however, some unusual features from the distant past that only recently disappeared to make way for these new structures. Some of you may remember the Grotto which was located where the flagpole next to the Sue Cormack Hall now resides. The original purpose of this folly is perhaps lost in the mists of time, but legends involving secret underground tunnels leading away from it have always been in existence. If you have any inside knowledge, then please do let us know!

Priscilla Coley (nee Hedley, 1955 cohort) fills us in: "I remember the Grotto very well - it still had a few shells decorating it in the early 1950s - it was in 'the woods' near The Lodge (where I spent a year with, among others, Jennifer Burke circa 1951/2) [The Lodge was the Headmistress' house, and made way for New Loveday in 1995]. Not far from the Grotto was what was purported to be the remainder of the swimming pool used by the boys' pre-prep school, which included W.S.Churchill."

No photographs exist of this original swimming pool, but Winston Churchill

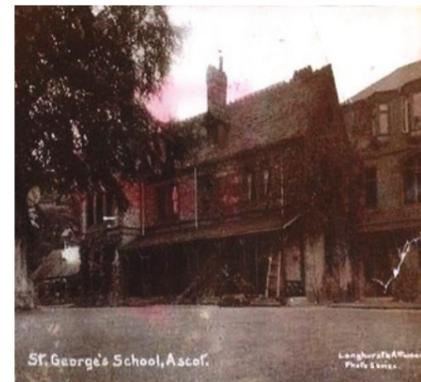
refers to it in his book 'My Early Life'. He describes St George's as, "one of the most fashionable and expensive in the country. It modelled itself upon Eton and aimed at being preparatory for that Public School. It was supposed to be the very latest thing in schools; only ten boys in a class; electric lights; a swimming pond; spacious football and cricket grounds; a chapel of its own."



The pond in the woods was succeeded by a second pool at St George's in the 1930s, and is the one that most of us will remember (either with fond memories or horror), across Well's lane and up the steps. As you will see from the comparison photographs here, the third generation pool is a world away from its predecessors; apparently there are "hardly any" spiders in the changing rooms nowadays.



**SWIMMING POOL INTERIOR**  
This one is a slight cheat as the new pool is not on the same site (nor on the same scale), but shows how long held plans have come to fruition



**MARKHAM**  
Markham (or Main School) viewed in 1914, 1978 and the present day



## HERITAGE & HISTORY



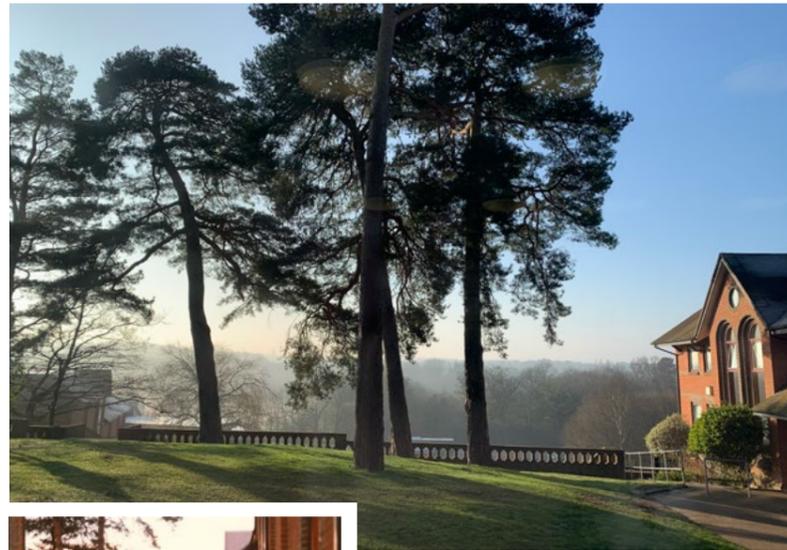
### LOVEDAY

In 1995, The old house traditionally inhabited by the headmistress – The Lodge – was demolished and a further Sixth Form block (New Loveday) was put up in its place.



### VIEW OVER SPORTS HALL

The Lab' photographed here in 1950, made way for the Sports Hall which was finished in 1992. The new swimming pool was added to the back in 2019.



### QUAD

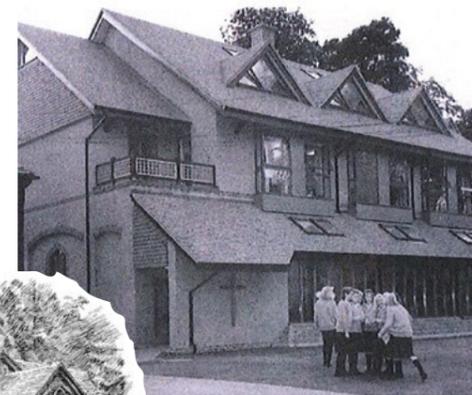
Despite the addition of many new buildings around the Quad, St George's retains its clear identity

### VIEW BY KNATCHBULL

The view over South Ascot is a surprise to many visitors



**CHAPEL**  
The School's third Chapel was finished in 1987 and is one of the views that remains unchanged. The same stained glass windows were used in all three.



### GROTTO

The Grotto was located by the edge of the school drive - it was knocked down in 2002 to make way for The Sue Cormack Hall



## IN CONVERSATION

### 5. SGA INSPIRE: IN CONVERSATION WITH ALUMNAE



**Anna Rathmell-Davey**

Anna Rathmell-Davey (1990-1997) is currently working as Associate Director of Learning and Development, Medical Affairs for a Pharmaceutical Company and is responsible for delivering the training program for their Global and Regional Medical Affairs teams.

**Describe how your time at St George's prepared you for the future.**

Taking science A-Levels helped me to develop a career in pharmaceuticals but, looking back, I realise that developing my independence and not being 'one of the crowd' at school, gave me the confidence to succeed as an individual.

**What was your definition of success when you left St George's?**

I didn't have one! At that age I only knew that I wanted to enjoy life and that any career I eventually did would involve science.

**Has your definition of success changed or developed since then? If so, how?**

Massively! Success for me now is about being satisfied with life as a whole. Everyone has different goals, whether that's to be wealthy, have high status, have a family or something else. It is just important to figure out what makes you happy and go for it regardless of what anyone else thinks.

**What advice would you give to current Georgians about the future?**

Focus on being yourself and not one of the crowd and remember that interpersonal skills are far more important to eventual success than academic qualifications.

**What is your funniest or fondest memory of St George's?**

We had a Sixth Form review event which involved putting together a series of mini 'plays' in which we mimicked some of the teachers.



**Ella Davis**

Ella Davis (2011-2018) is currently an Account Executive for Gallagher's Specialist Markets Team. Her work involves retrieving and reviewing the market's terms for their Clients Reward Schemes and ensuring that the most competitive terms are implemented.

**Describe how your time at St George's prepared you for the future**

St George's enabled me to give everything a go. My teachers helped me to have a positive attitude, even when unsuccessful, and to think of the experience as a valuable part of the journey

**What was your definition of success when you left St George's?**

Success at that time was about achieving longer term goals rather than merely studying for a degree at university.

**How did this affect your post school choices?**

It made me realise that I didn't necessarily need to go to University for my own personal success.

**Has your definition of success changed or developed since then? If so, how?**

Success is now about celebrating small victories. Being proud of myself when I've done my best. It strikes me now that some of the goals of my schoolgirl self were unrealistic.

**What advice would you give to current Georgians about the future?**

You don't need to follow everyone else's version of success. Everyone has different goals they want to achieve. It's about pursuing your own goals, and challenging and pushing yourself to be the best you can.

**What is your funniest or fondest memory of St George's?**

There are too many fond memories to name! The main one would have to be hearing the Choir singing John Rutter at Prize Giving. Another would have to be winning the Small Schools Lacrosse Nationals for three years running with the First Team.

## IN CONVERSATION



### Jessica Palmer

Jessica Palmer (2005-2012) works as a Business Development Manager. She explains, 'I am responsible for driving financial growth in the companies I work for by selling their products and services to new clients and by growing existing accounts. I love what I do because it is all about helping people and the businesses achieve their goals.'

Jessica is proud to work in the Diversity and Inclusion Space, helping businesses create more Inclusive workplaces. She came out as bi when she was at Uni and is passionate about women, people from the LGBT + community and from ethnic minority backgrounds being able to bring their whole selves to work.

'It's the right thing to do to create a better society and it actually makes businesses more money in the long run - when people can be themselves they work harder, they are more motivated and innovation thrives.'

### Describe how your time at St George's prepared you for the future

More than anything, St George's gave me an unwavering confidence in myself and my abilities. I left in 2012 aged 18 and walked into the big bad world - which would have looked and felt much bigger and badder had I not been pumped full of Georgian confidence.

### What was your definition of success when you left St George's?

Do something you love. At the time that I left school, this meant studying Politics and International Relations at University. I knew this probably wouldn't define my longer term career, but I have always lived by the principle of doing what I love and not settling for less. This has meant that, in all aspects of my life, if I don't really love something - if it doesn't give me energy - I get out. If I don't want to jump out of bed to see my colleagues and speak to my clients, it's not worth doing!

### Has your definition of success changed or developed since then? If so, how?

Nope.

### What advice would you give to current Georgians about success?

Believe that you will be a success whatever you choose to do. You might not get into the Uni you think you want to go to now. You might not make the lead in the next school play or win House Music but if you can honestly look back at your year, your time at school or Uni experience and say you had the best time, then that is a success. Don't get caught up in the minutiae. Don't beat yourself up over a few grades. St Georges' is teaching you so much more than how to label an atom!

### What is your funniest or fondest memory of St George's?

Oh my goodness I cannot isolate just one memory. Looking back, the thing that warms my heart the most is just thinking about every break time in Upper Sixth; being in the common room with all my friends ranting about exams, boy drama, driving tests, uni applications etc.

It was so mundane at the time but honestly we had no idea how lucky we were.



### Sara Sall

Sara Sall (1991-1997) runs her own garden design consultancy now where she works closely with architects on the landscape side of projects and also designs gardens for people. She trained in Architecture (BA, MA) then moved over to study horticulture with the RHS and then Garden Design.

### Describe how your time at St George's prepared you for the future

We were encouraged to work hard and be independent.

### What was your definition of success when you left St George's?

I think at the time I thought success was doing well at school and trying your best.

### Has your definition of success changed or developed since then? If so, how? \*

I think it has. There are other ways to measure success now. You don't have to just be good at one thing and it is not unusual to have more than one job at a time or to change careers.

### What advice would you give to current Georgians about success? \*

Being happy in yourself is a huge measure of success. Try to think of all the things you have already achieved and you will see that you are already very successful. I am trying to set myself small realistic personal goals which are doable (as it's really easy to be too hard on yourself).

## IN CONVERSATION



### Jennifer Bloy

Jennifer Bloy (1970-1977) is currently a freelance designer of jewellery, silverware and objet d'art. After leaving college she started in the industry by working as an employee in a Hatton Garden jewellery workshop, then moved to one producing objet d'art and has been self employed ever since. At one time, she worked with the prestigious company McCabe McCarty Ltd designing pieces for foreign royalty.

Jennifer has also taught the subject for over 30 years, starting at London Metropolitan University then Holts Academy and more recently at the Goldsmiths Centre in London.

#### Describe how your time at St George's prepared you for the future.

St Georges gave me the opportunity to work at the only subject that I showed any aptitude for and that was art. As chair of several trade organisations, I have had to deliver speeches to large audiences. If I hadn't been encouraged to develop public speaking skills at St George's, for example by speaking in chapel (I was terrified!), I wouldn't have been prepared to do it later in life.

#### What was your definition of success when you left St George's?

When I left St Georges I'd have been quite happy if I'd just managed to make a living in the field of art. That changed later.

#### How did this affect your post school choices?

Being strong in only one subject, my future was bound to go in that direction. While in the Sixth Form at St George's, I had been allowed to do a days jewellery making class at South Hill Park in Bracknell. It was while attending this course that I was encouraged to think about applying for the Sir John Cass School of Art, Architecture and Design in London. I applied, was successful and took a four year diploma course there. After some time in the industry I went back to The Cass, now the London Metropolitan University, as a teacher.

#### Has your definition of success changed or developed since then? If so, how?

I used to think that success was fame and money but now I know it's health, contentment and enough money to pay the bills with just a little over. Also I think that success is being lucky enough to love or enjoy what you do.

#### What advice would you give to current Georgians for the future?

Do the best that you can and treat everyone the way you would like to be treated. Don't forget to thank people and praise them when they have done a good job. A kind word goes a long way.

#### What is your funniest or fondest memory of St George's?

The funniest would be being butted by the school's pet goat! I also have hugely fond memories of Mrs Hollins who took countless hours teaching me to read when I was diagnosed with dyslexia.

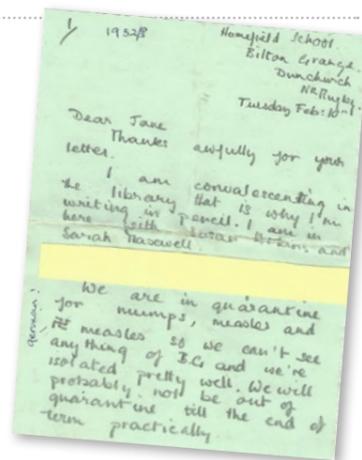
## NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

### 6. NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

Name	Cohort	News
Angela Wallis (née Bond)	1947	<p>Today (3 December 2020) here in Switzerland, we had the first snow of the season - late, after a fine Autumn. Our family celebrated our sixty-first year in our house, at an altitude of 1000m, so we are clad for winter for the next three months. Hopefully some family will be allowed to be with us. Swiss Covid regulations are quite firm and sensible. Due to age, my husband and I, both in our nineties, are in voluntary lockdown and we can shop once a week. Today we had a long phone call with Edwina Barford - a Georgian contemporary. She was bridesmaid at my wedding in 1953 and we have been in contact ever since. She now lives in North Carolina.</p> <p>This brief note comes with my very best wishes to you all.</p>
Jillian Roberts (née Fripp)	1951	<p>As it has been for everyone else, it has been a strange year but we did manage to get to New Zealand for six weeks after Christmas and catch up with the family there and also a quick trip to France just before the first lockdown. Then no great excitement until France again in the summer when we were able to spend six weeks out there which made a marvellous break from all the uncertainties generated by Covid. Some good times to look back at as my husband's health has taken a turn for the worse and travelling will be difficult. The family is doing well and everybody was thrilled when our grandson took the sword of honour when he passed at Dartmouth. He has been posted to the Prince of Wales for his first session at sea.</p>
Susanna de Vries	1952	<p>Congratulations from a writer and former magazine editor on the excellent quality of The Dragon. I am in my eighties and widowed and remain active by producing a new book each year and promoting them on radio and television in Australia. This year's book is about an heiress who became an arts journalist as I did. Nell Tritton moved to Paris and married the former Prime Minister of Russia who ran an anti-Stalin newspaper. Nell worked with her husband and they had to escape from Paris before the Germans invaded and their car was bombed by German planes on the road to Spain; a crime against humanity which has not been adequately documented, so my latest book is arousing attention on the internet at a time when most bookshops are closed due to Covid. A large part of this book takes place in Paris where I went to study after leaving St George's. In spite of the fact I was at St George's in the grim years after World War 2, I enjoyed school and its library taught me the joy of reading, for which I will always be grateful. April Edwards, our inspiring English teacher died last year and I will always be grateful to her and to Mrs Hopkins-Lewis who taught me to appreciate classical music and Miss Woodruff who taught Art History, a topic taught by few schools in the 1950s, which led to my studying art history in Paris. I was lucky to have been at St George's, although our food and our bedrooms by today's standards were fairly grim and cold.</p> <p>I love looking at the magazine and seeing what a wealth of activities today's students have which we did not have in the 1940s and 1950s. Best wishes to those of you who want to experience the joys (and difficulties) of becoming a writer. My 21 books (listed on my wikipedia entry) have given me a long, happy life and a second husband, who was a famous architect and did my cover designs and travelled with me and took photos for the books which was a great joy in what has been a productive life. So thank you St George's, for setting me on the path to become an avid reader and a biographer of women.</p>

## NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

Name	Cohort	News
Diana Smyly (née Purser)	1952	<p>It has been a hectic year with good news and not so good news. Firstly, my sister Wendy [Liebtrau, 1952 cohort] was attacked in her garage by a man released from prison the day before. He tried to throttle her but my son-in-law Michael, who lives in the same complex, heard there was a stranger wandering around so went to check - not stopping to arm himself. He rushed to Wendy's aid and was stabbed through the mouth, cheek and carotid artery. The burglar had thrown Wendy to the ground and she saw her chance to grab her garden rake. She used it so effectively that it broke in two, and he let go of Michael and ran off. Michael 'died' twice whilst being operated on in hospital and then had a stroke, but is recovering in a miraculous way. Wendy is still in constant pain so I am writing on behalf of both her and my elder sister Judy [Hann, 1948 cohort].</p> <p>We had a wonderful ending to the Year, when Tilly Strangman - daughter of Alicia (née Watson, 1961 cohort) - phoned me saying she and her son Zach were campervanning around Africa. I have never been so excited! Tilly is an amazing person, driving and sleeping in this enormous van. We all had a lovely day and visited both Wendy and Judy.</p>
Wendy Liebtrau (née Purser)	1952	<p>Wendy's sister Diana, reports that Jeanne Liebtrau (Wendy's daughter) had a successful bone marrow transplant from a donor in Germany.</p>
Carol Johnston (née Innes Hopkins)	1959	<p>After reading The Dragon 2019, I can't help regarding Green Flippet! It was Country Dancing with a Scottish flavour, and we had sessions every week in term-time, but not in the summer. I remember it well, because being tall for my age, I usually had to dance as the man!</p> <p>Anyway, it stuck with me because I went on to marry a Scot, and we celebrated our 56th wedding anniversary in March 2020! We dance regularly and are members of the RSCDS (Royal Scottish Country Dance Society) although at 77 and 79, perhaps not quite so energetically as in our youth!</p>
Jane Carr (née Attenborough)	1954	<p>I thought this letter from my sister Elizabeth Attenborough (later at St. George's) to me (Jane Attenborough) while I was at St. George's might be a reminder of the many 'Lockdowns' we had to undergo during our school days.</p> <p>I am not absolutely sure of the date, but I was at St. George's from 1949-1953.</p>



A letter from Jane's sister Elizabeth detailing her own quarantine

Name	Cohort	News
Priscilla Coley (née Hedley)	1955	<p>Alas, the planning ahead for travel - let alone anything else - is on hold at the moment, but my grandson, Fred, won his place (and I mean won - strong competition) to read Medicine at Southampton University and started in September 2019. That too is on hold at the moment, but he is keeping up his studies while he must be at home - a terrific focus which will stand him well in his career.</p>
Lisa Peacock (née Hamilton)	1957	<p>As my work in the classical music business, 2020 has been a complete disaster, with all performances in Central London cancelled because of the virus.</p> <p>Let's hope that 2021 will be better for both performing musicians, concert halls and concert managers. However, it is amazing how quickly time passes, going back to basic housework, cooking, etc!</p> <p>I do not have much else to say, as I've not been anywhere!</p>
Diana Heimann (née Macleod)	1963	<p>I became a great-grandmother this year; she is lovely and named Aife-Rose.</p>
Deborah Dobson (née Burrough)	1964	<p>I have had a hectic year from 2019 and have moved house twice. From Bathwick Hill House, Bath (as we needed rooms on the ground floor for my husband of 45 years, Roger - who had Parkinsons and Lewy Body Dementia - with his carer), to Brocas Farm at Lower Froyle near Alton. But I lost Roger, just nine days before that move. My son and daughter said, "you can't go rattling around in such a huge house", so now I am living in The Old Manse, High Street, Broughton, Stockbridge, Hampshire SO20 8AE ( 01794 301963).</p> <p>Any Georgians in the area are welcome to visit. It would be lovely to catch up with some friends. Let's hope 2021 will be a better year for us all.</p>



Lisa Peacock



Diana Heimann's great granddaughter, Aife-Rose

## NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

Name	Cohort	News
Jo Gardner (née Harding Newman)	1963	<p>I have had several wonderful replies from Old Georgians and it has been fantastic reading about all of their memories of St. George's. Some of us agree that we didn't learn that much. We didn't really feel pushed to learn or feel the need to always get to grips with a subject, at least I didn't. I found revising for exams really hard and I wasn't good at it. I could never remember the details when in an exam, everything just froze and what I had learnt left my brain. The only subject I really enjoyed was Human Biology and in my mock exam I did really well and had high marks.</p> <p>Come the real thing, I found it very hard to answer any of the questions, so nil points! I was very disheartened as I always thought I would like to be a nurse, but my Mother said that I would be far too sympathetic, which perhaps wouldn't be ideal.</p> <p>Anyhow, I ended up being a secretary in London for several years, the typing is reasonable even now! I had some very interesting jobs: J Walter Thompson, Berkeley Square, Reader's Digest, and Ogilvy &amp; Mather (advertising). Plus, lots of temporary jobs at: The Dorchester Banqueting Department (delicious cakes for tea, our bosses having chosen the best first), an antique glass shop in Grosvenor Street where I learned how to recognise different glass under ultraviolet light etc. I was sacked from an architect's office. I couldn't read my shorthand back..then found out I was working for my boyfriend's grandfather. I sometimes went to work on the back of my then boyfriend's motorbike. That was exhilarating, especially going through the Hyde Park underpass at speed (make sure you lean with the bike I was told). I've always loved speed and used to choose the car first and then find out who owned it, I went for E-types, AC Cobras, MG's etc.! I did find out what Green Flippet was, from Diana Macleod: Country/Scottish dancing taken by Miss Lowe. The Green Flippet refers to 'the hideous green tabard' which we had to wear, as she put it. I know I always had to dance as the male partner. Was that because I was quite tall? I don't know!</p> <p>I do remember well having music/singing lessons with Mrs Phillips. She was a really nice person as a teacher but we didn't appreciate having to sing, 'Nymphs and Shepherds Come Away'. I think there was a slight groan from all of us in the class, not our favourite! I think Mrs P thought it would be a good challenge! On Sundays in the Fifth Year, I'm sure we were allowed to play records on the gramophone in the gym and in summer with the windows open so it could be heard outside by those of us sitting on the steps. I'm not sure it wasn't a wind-up one! The food was pretty revolting but I suppose we ate it because there was nothing else and we were usually quite hungry (I suppose it taught us not to be fussy...maybe?!). We had powdered egg for the scrambled eggs which turned up in a great big silvery urn, sometimes not mixed well; you could still see the powder. The crumble had lumps of flour in it. We sometimes had to help with the washing up of plates after lunch. I can't remember if it was a punishment or just one of those things one had to do possibly once a term. I'm sure everyone will remember that - so many wet plates, ending up with soggy drying-up clothes - lovely! We washed our hair, I suppose, once a week, and had to dry it in front of Matron's electric bar stove in her room. We must have been on a rota, what fun it all was.</p> <p>Anyhow, now back to present day. Thank you to all who have emailed it has been wonderful and brought back so many memories, especially good to hear from you in this strange year. I would absolutely love to hear from anyone else who cares to email: jogardner@btinternet.com</p>



Jo Gardner with one of her Grandsons, photo taken a couple of years ago

Name	Cohort	News
Margie Riley (née Vaughan)	1966	<p>I'm still kicking along in hot, sunny SE Queensland, Australia. Our lovely house at Cedar Creek has sold and we are now nearer family - and just outside Noosa (for travellers!). Talking of family, ours has expanded hugely in 2019 with the discovery of an unknown offspring of my husband, Mike! We are thrilled with this expansion and love our new rellies.</p> <p>I am still editing, write a little and ghost-write as much as I can; words are my thing. Mike has relinquished his architect's registration but still is not retired - he never will be! It was great fun to see Meredith (Harper) in 2019 and to see Vanessa (Brower) and Julia (Fisher) when I visited London for a huge family bash.</p>
Troth Wells	1966	<p>I spent most of my working life in publishing, including at Oxford University Press and The Spectator in London, and then at The New Internationalist (NI) magazine in Oxford where I live now. We wrote about what are called 'developing' countries or the 'global south' and it became more apparent how the rich countries had got richer. This seems to be the way things still are, with inequalities increasing within countries too, including the UK.</p> <p>After campaigning at Greenham Common and other places, I find myself now campaigning to try and stop some developments in Oxford that would remove green spaces that have become even more precious during COVID lockdowns. Maybe my spirit of resistance was nurtured at St G's...</p> <p>Aside from this, I still go riding regularly and enjoy seeing my grandchildren in London and Brighton when I'm allowed to. It's been a difficult year for so many people.</p>
Moira Curl (née Kinsman)	1969	<p>This has been a strange year for all! I now have three grandchildren who are adorable but I don't get to see them much at the moment. Andrew has now sold his business so we were planning to spend winters in Barbados - maybe next year! My daughter was due to get married last June but her wedding is postponed until next June (hopefully!). We celebrated my father's 99th birthday in the summer and he wants a life before he has no life!</p> <p>I must be grateful, however, as the summer was glorious and the pool was a lovely bonus!</p>
Nicola Minihan (née Beresford)	1969	<p>Not much news with me as lockdown due to Covid has meant no choir since March, but apart from that life went on much as usual with gardening, walking the dogs etc.</p> <p>My daughter and partner had a beautiful baby girl, Amelia, in September, sadly I have only held her twice because of the second lockdown, photos are a poor substitute.</p>



Troth and two of her grandchildren

## NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

Name	Cohort	News
Louella Hanbury-Tenison (née Williams).	1969	<p>2020 started off so well and we felt that the numbers denoting the year looked like two swimming swans. What could be nicer?</p> <p>Robin and I returned from a week in France on 14 March and two days later he was rushed to hospital and into intensive care with Covid. Seven weeks later, after a ventilator, dialysis and a tracheostomy, he came home. It has taken six months of physiotherapy to get back to robust health.</p> <p>The papers, news channels and television followed his happy story of recovery. Unable to wake from 5 weeks in an induced coma, he was wheeled from intensive care into a healing garden at Derriford hospital. The first of its kind for ICU patients. He woke up in the garden. The power of nature to heal us has never been in dispute, but the ability to plan hospitals and rehab units with access to it has been forgotten. We are campaigning for all hospitals with ICU and rehab units to find a space to create this facility and speed up recovery for high dependency patients. Do start this conversation with your county hospital if you can. Our fundraising total for a healing garden for our local hospital is now at over £68,000.</p> <p>On a more cheerful note, we have handed over the farm to our son, moved to a lovely new home close by, had a new granddaughter and released beavers on our river. Every day is so precious. We hope everyone stays safe.</p>
Eleanor Wright (née Guthrie)	1969	<p>I am still working with SOS SEN, a national charity helping families of children with special educational needs and disabilities. We are busier than ever, though struggling with the financial problems caused by lockdown: if anyone knows of anyone looking to fund a very worthy cause, send them our way!</p> <p>Chris has semi-retired but is still pretty busy and in demand. Our big news is the birth of our first grand-daughter, Rowan, in September 2019 to our youngest son, Alex and his partner: she is of course the most gorgeous, perfect child ever. Jenny is working at Hampton Court and praying that Covid doesn't take her job away. Tom is busy at St Thomas' Hospital but also doing rather well with a YouTube channel on London topics which has become very popular, with the result that YouTube is building up his savings nicely.</p>
Priscilla Draper (née Matthews)	1972	<p>What a year for all of us. I finally retired on 1 January 2020 and had so many plans. I had trips to Spain and the USA booked, a cruise reserved and so many plans to visit the UK to catch up with friends and to spend more time with my children and grandchildren. But here I am, stuck at home in Belgium. Video calls have become the lifeline to friends and family and one of the best is on most Monday nights, when I get to connect via Zoom with Bishy, Champ, Clubie, Mary-Lou and Sandra. Anyone else from our year want to join in?</p> <p>Hopefully, by the time this gets published and read, we will all have been vaccinated and living life as it should be. Anyone wanting to get in touch can do so via email – priscilladraper@yahoo.co.uk</p>

Name	Cohort	News
Julia Salvat (née Robinson)	1977	<p>I think that it is fair enough to say that it has been an incredibly difficult year for a lot of us. In 2020 life ground to a halt, no travelling, cultural events, or seeing family and friends for several months. Plans scuppered! I felt as though I were living through some kind of war where no bombs fell and that scuttling from A to B was not a pleasant experience. However, life was so quiet, the skies were clear and hardly a car was on the road. Our boys came home to help on the farm (33 and 30) which was an unexpected pleasure as they both have busy jobs.</p> <p>My thoughts turned more and more to all my old school friends and come Easter, I plucked up courage and sent an email to as many girls from my year as I could, describing lock down here in France and to say that I was thinking of them all. The response was huge and emails came flooding back from all over England and Mel (Palmer) in Gozo. Luckily, everyone was well and, like us, living with several generations under one roof. It is wonderful that despite all the years of not always seeing each other, those St George's ties are so strong and we were able to exchange news through email.</p> <p>There's nothing like sharing a dorm, a 'fred' or the agony of having your exam results read out in public at the end of the year, to form lifelong ties!</p> <p>Our youngest son got married in Poitiers Cathedral in October just before the second lock down began and I was lucky enough to get over to England in August to visit family. I went up to London to buy my wedding outfit with the help of Amanda (Goodman) and Camilla (Coldwell). It was such fun and one of the highlights of the year! Here's hoping that the world will get back to some kind of normality as soon as possible and that as Vera Lynn sang and the Queen said, 'we will meet again'...</p>
Dinah Bentley	1978	<p>What a year to be 60! A very happy birthday to all of us born in 1960, and hello to all other special school friends. I really hope that you have fared well over the past months.</p> <p>Here is a picture on my Birthday in June at home in Fife with Blackberry ( Pam Bradshaw/ Clayhills-Henderson, my sister-in-law ). We were blessed with a rare wonderfully hot Scottish summer day... a garden party of course!</p>  <p>Caroline (Williams) was encouraging us to plan a get together this year but alas it has had to wait. If you would like to join in with a fun drinks/tea gathering in London once we are returned to safer, easier times, please contact me or Caroline with email details. I'd love to hear from you whatever. Thanks to Caroline W (Cummins) - a wonderful organised lawyer, as she is the force behind this future fun get together.</p> <p>carolinejanecummins@gmail.com dinahbentley@hotmail.com 07774 631 480</p>

Dinah and her sister in law Pam Bradshaw (Clayhills-Henderson) on her birthday in June

## NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

Name	Cohort	News
Georgina Jackson-Sytner (née Smithson)	1978	<p>Even though we are in curious times: a second lock down, life in London is great. The park is still open so I am able to do early morning walking meditations which keep me sane!</p> <p>We are on the final edit for our latest book in our 'less' series, 'Worry Less' soon to be published. A book showing you how we all have within us the tools to do this.</p> <p>We have our own pharmaceutical company inside our bodies, it's about understanding how to access it – Worry Less shows you how.</p> <p>I run a daily Zoom exercise class which any Georgians are welcome to join. I also have a "6 Week Kick Start Programme" for people to change their lifestyle and get to the weight they want to be. My website has all the information <a href="https://www.georginajacksonsyntner.com">https://www.georginajacksonsyntner.com</a></p> <p>My twelve year old is off to Bradfield next September – anyone with any children going I would love to meet up. My daughter has just finished her four years at Norland and is currently in Ibiza with her first family which she is loving. I am in Battersea and would enjoy hearing from any Georgians.</p> <p>The bog boys, tuck boxes, red cloaks, apple pie beds, crocodiles to church, school dances, Hill View sweet shop, Nurse and Miss Horne seem a long time ago!</p>
Polly Ciolli (née Cox)	1982	<p>Time has flown since I was a Dragon! I'm now 56 with two sons who are 16 and 20. My eldest, Olly, is in his second year studying Architecture at Kingston University and my youngest Lucca is attending an exclusive design and engineering sixth form college and hoping to get an apprenticeship with James Dyson. Myself,</p> <p>I was working last year for a Hollywood film director's family in Bath. I'm now looking after a couple in their eighties with a chocolate brown alpaca and two Persian cats. So even in lockdown, I am still doing the school run every AM and working until 2pm.</p> <p>During the first lockdown we hatched six chicks Only one was not a crowing cockerel! I have seen a bit of Ginny as she lives locally now.</p>



Georgina Jackson-Sytner's Children



Georgina Jackson-Sytner

Name	Cohort	News
Mona Arain Crites (née Arain)	1985	<p>Sadly, this year has been a washout due to the pandemic but really hoping to see a return to normal so that guests can continue to enjoy the spectacular weather, tranquil natural landscapes, views and as great local food we are known for at Al Lago. (<a href="http://www.al-lago.es">www.al-lago.es</a>)</p> <p>Small businesses around the world have suffered so much, especially those in the travel and tourism sector.</p> <p>Both kids are doing well, our son Casim started at Durham university in September and our daughter is in her GCSE year.</p>
Emma Davies (née Alun-Jones)	1987	<p>I am still working pretty much full time as a nutritional therapist with Naturedoc and busy as ever. I love my job and have been so fortunate to have been able to continue apace despite the Covid Pandemic and lockdowns.</p> <p>The family is all well and my eldest son leaves school this summer, followed next year by his brother. I cannot believe how quickly their school years are going. My daughter is also thriving having moved school just this year.</p> <p>I continue to keep in touch with many fellow old Georgians and regularly see Juliet Cornell (née White), Alicia Pawson (née Crossley), Annette Miller (née Gordon), Hattie Hathaway (née Dawson) and Rachel Gibson (née Aldridge). When we meet it's like we're straight back at St G's and nothing has changed.</p>
Rachel Gibson (née Aldridge)	1987	<p>These days I am a mum of four and a carer in the community. In May 2018, I started up Young at Heart, an intergenerational group for the elderly to assist with the education of primary and nursery school children - <a href="http://youngatheart.me.uk">youngatheart.me.uk</a> - this has proved a huge success and we were covered by the BBC programme Inside Out. As they were filming us at the time Covid broke out, they then continued to follow our story through lockdown with my eldest daughter, now 21, being paid by the BBC as my in house journalist! As our filming became a current story, not only was it aired on Inside Out but also on BBC South East, South, London and BBC World News also aired our coverage!</p> <p>We set up a "JustGiving" page to help through lockdown and through this coverage, fellow Georgian's got in touch - Annette Gordon, Britta De Vries, Claire Blossie-Lynch, Victoria Braithwaite to name a few. Serena Althaus was amazing and "shook the tin" in London raising our fundraising to £5,500 overnight! Huge support also came from Lucinda Pipe, Alicia Crossley, Anna Wiley, Emma Alun-Jones, Hattie Dawson, and Victoria Harting.</p> <p>It is heart-warming that after all these years you have an instant support network. Friendships carry on where they left off. Friends are so important - St George's has proved this time and time again!</p>



Mona Arain Crites' Restaurant and Hotel in Spain, Al Lago



Alicia, Emma, Annette, and Rachel from a recent very fun night together

## NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

Name	Cohort	News
Pippa Heggie (née Thompson)	1990	<p>Joining The Murray Parish Trust (<a href="http://www.themurrayparishtrust.com">www.themurrayparishtrust.com</a>) at the end of January, just before a major operation would put me out of action for at least 6 weeks, was always going to be a challenge. However, with the arrival of Covid-19, schools closed the same day I was discharged just 48hrs after an 8hr op, so homeschooling took precedence over recuperation and charity fundraising became an even bigger challenge with all the planned projects and events cancelled.</p>  <p><b>Pippa's Scarecrows</b></p> <p>Homeschooling Heggie style consisted of lots of cooking (I now have two very proficient bakers); dog walks with a purpose, like foraging wild garlic to make pesto and litter-picking, growing vegetables and masses of craft projects. With no imminent return to school, we clothed a pair of scarecrows with uniforms, recycling at its best - although I think they look a bit too friendly to scare the rather well-fed wood pigeons that have enjoyed much of the produce. With overseas holiday plans abandoned, we enjoyed a brilliant fortnight within in a stone's throw of home: a 5 day sailing course on the Solent; cycling in the New Forest; kayaking on the Hamble River; visiting Stonehenge and lots of walking in the South Downs and 'Eating Out' at fabulous local pubs.</p> <p>The charity's plans continue to be disrupted by the ongoing situation, but we have some exciting projects in the pipeline to look forward to. Do follow our journey advancing paediatric emergency medicine in the South of England.</p>
Emma Hawkins-Haile (née Hawkins-Adams)	1992	<p>I am now living in the South of France with the family which is super. We are at Chateau de La Bataille, Villeneuve de Marsan, Landes, Nouvelle Aquitaine. 40190 Villeneuve de Marsan.</p> <p>We moved over in July this year when Wales was still in lockdown with all the horses, dogs, cats, tortoises etc. I hope everyone is well.</p>
Alexandra (Zandy) Ayres (née Judd)	1993	<p>As for most people, 2020 has been a challenging year. We have also had to deal with the death of both my mother-in-law (Pippa Ayres) in May, and my mother (Jan Judd) in August. Coincidentally, they were both at St George's in the 1950s. I have been incredibly lucky with my relationship with them both and am feeling their loss greatly.</p> <p>I am incredibly grateful for my wonderful extended family and dear friends (many from St G's) who have been there for me over the past few months – albeit at the end of the phone or on a Zoom call rather than in person!</p> <p>My boys grow apace, now aged 9 and 10 and I am back teaching a Year 1 class 3 days a week. As my darling mum would say, 'and this too shall pass', no doubt 2021 will bring a change and I look forward to a time when we can all be together again.</p>

Name	Cohort	News
Belynda Rand (née Green)	1994	<p>A year, apart from the obvious, which has been marked by my youngest son starting school and my career taking a new direction. I'm working alongside an incredibly inspirational chap assisting him as he travels the world (currently virtually!), on fundraising adventures and providing inspirational &amp; motivational talks to businesses, colleges &amp; schools. When we mapped out our aspirational careers in Sixth Form, I never thought working for a real life superhero would be part of it!</p>  <p><b>26. Belynda and Georgian friends met up over the summer</b></p> <p>See <a href="http://www.adventureman.org">www.adventureman.org</a> for more details.</p> <p>In between lockdowns, I was also lucky enough to briefly catch up with some Georgian girlfriends which as usual ended up being a complete tonic, filled with much hilarity!</p>
Alexandra Richards (née Francis)	1994	<p>1994 leavers. We are still great friends and get together whenever we can - always giggling and remembering fond memories from our school days.</p> <p>Belynda Rand (née Green) - Gloucestershire Katie James (new Brooke) - London Alexandra Richards (née Francis) - Scotland Lorna Edwards (née Mackay) - Oxfordshire</p>  <p><b>18. Belynda Rand (née Green), Katie James (née Brooke), Alexandra Richards (née Francis) and Lorna Edwards (née Mackay)</b></p>
Hannah Willoughby (née Biggs)	1996	<p>I haven't done this before so there should be a lot of news. In summary, I'm living in South London (West Norwood) with husband Jamie and Chloë (12), Jack (10), and Finn (3).</p> <p>Chloë's just started at secondary school in nearby Streatham where St G's very own Polly May (1995 leaver) is Director of Music! Fond memories of Mr Hillier's Chapel Choir with Kate Sutcliffe (Scrubbi) flood back!</p> <p>In fast forward, I studied Chinese at Edinburgh University, moved into law, got married, lived in Singapore for a few years, started an amazing daytime choir for mums and children, moved back to London in 2012, changed direction into legal tech and six years on have decided to take a step away and am looking forward to some new challenges in 2021.</p> <p>I'm still in touch with lots of St George's girls, and hope that not working full-time will mean I can see more of them - once Covid allows.</p>

## NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

Name	Cohort	News	Name	Cohort	News
<p>Mary Rouvière (née Beharrell)</p>	<p>2001</p>	<p>I am still living near Grenoble, France with my husband, Jean-Baptiste and our children Isabelle (11) and Samuel (8). I am self-employed, teaching English to children and adults, both at home and in schools. I also give private piano lessons.</p> <p>I was delighted to be able to release my second album of piano compositions ('Morning Will Come') in February of this year! More information can be found here: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/maryrouvieremusic">https://www.facebook.com/maryrouvieremusic</a></p> <p>I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease in 2013, which is an ongoing challenge, but my faith in God, as well as composing music and doing exercise, help immensely.</p>	<p>Lucy Jones</p>	<p>2003</p>	<p>I had four very happy years at St George's, around 97 - 2001.</p> <p>I'm now an author and journalist - my second book <i>Losing Eden: Why Our Minds Need the Wild</i>, was published by Penguin in March of this year. It wasn't the greatest time to publish a book(!) but I've been busy talking about the book's subject - the science behind nature and mental health - in the context of the pandemic.</p> <p>It was longlisted for the Wainwright Prize and will be published in Italy, Spain, Germany, Estonia and the US. I am forever thankful for the brilliant teaching of Dr Cushing and also the orchard, with many happy memories of chilled-out break times. Both planted seeds of interest in words and the calming properties of connecting with the natural world.</p>
<p>Nadia Ghezelbash (née Dahlawi)</p>	<p>2002</p>	<p>Hello fellow Georgians, we've now moved to Chelsea and I wanted to see if there are any other Georgians out there who would want to meet up?</p> <p>My daughter Aryana is now 17 months old, here is a photo of us on her birthday.</p>	<p>Georgie Naisbitt (née Wale)</p>	<p>2003</p>	<p>It's now two years since my husband Doug and I moved our family up to Nottingham from London and it's been the best decision we have made. We welcomed our second child Phoebe this year in June and are loving being a family of 4. Oscar, my son, turned 4 in July and is besotted with his little sister.</p> <p>My business, DrawInk Designs is still going strong and I have been loving creating new pieces over the last few months. <a href="http://www.drawinkdesigns.com">www.drawinkdesigns.com</a></p>
<p>Laura Douglass (née Sebag-Montefiore)</p>	<p>2002</p>	<p>I thought this time I would send some news! Short and sweet.</p> <p>Firstly I am now Laura Douglass.</p> <p>I got married last year and this cake was a wedding present from work! The layers were chocolate, lemon, carrot and apple and poppyseed.</p> <p>I had a baby in August - Rupert Ivan Archibald.</p>	<p>Luisa Prothero (née Gray)</p>	<p>2004</p>	<p>On the 14 April, lockdown changed dramatically for us with the arrival of our twin boys. They have brought so much joy to such a tricky year and are the perfect addition to our family.</p> <p>Welcome to the world Oliver and Maximilian!</p>



Mary with her husband Jean-Baptiste and children Isabelle (11) and Samuel (8)



Nadia and her daughter Aryana



28. Laura Douglass and her amazing wedding cake



Losing Eden, by Lucy Jones



Luisa's twin sons Oliver and Maximilian

## NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

Name	Cohort	News
Laura Earle	2005	<p>I recently got married! My husband, Phil, and I got married at Christ Church, Virginia Water on 12 September 2020 and Mr Hillier played the organ for us which was a very special moment.</p> <p>We were very lucky as we got married just before the restrictions changed to 15 people (and now no weddings are allowed). Afterwards, we had a fantastic meal back at my parents' house. We have moved the wedding reception we originally planned to December next year so we can celebrate with all our friends and family.</p>
Henrietta Russell	2006	<p>Since leaving St George's, I have worked in some of London's leading catering kitchens and launched my own company, Peapod &amp; Co.</p> <p>Rooted in the countryside, available in the city. Peapod &amp; Co. is a boutique catering company delivering service, taste and experience orientated events. We're passionate about food and creating unique events for our clients.</p> <p>Our kitchen is conveniently nestled in Hampshire for all types of events across the South of England and London. Ballymaloe trained, I have had fifteen years of experience as a professional Chef and won Country Life's Canapé of the Year award in 2017 and 2018 when I worked at Rocket Food in London.</p> <p>Since COVID-19, we have launched a new ribbon-tied canapé box delivery service: Canapé Boxes by Peapod &amp; Co.</p> <p>Dreamt up over kitchen suppers during lockdown, Canapé Boxes by Peapod &amp; Co. was born. Passionate about creating creative canapés, I was excited to launch a new service which would not only bring happiness to homes but would encourage celebrations, both little and large.</p> <p>The new canapé delivery service delivers beautiful savoury and sweet handcrafted canapés in ribbon-tied boxes direct to your doorstep.</p> <p>Further information and photos:  <a href="https://www.peapodandco.com/canape-box-delivery">https://www.peapodandco.com/canape-box-delivery</a>  <a href="http://www.peapodandco.com/about">www.peapodandco.com/about</a>  <a href="http://www.peapodandco.com/news">www.peapodandco.com/news</a></p>



12. Laura Earle at her wedding

Name	Cohort	News
Alice Pakenham	2007	<p>I have had a baby - Sienna. She was born on the 10 February 2020 and is just over 9 months old. We live in Hampshire and I work for a women's health charity - funding medical research because I didn't think I could have children.</p> <p><a href="https://www-healthawareness-co-uk.cdn.ampproject.org/c/s/www.healthawareness.co.uk/fertility/endometriosis-and-my-pregnancy-journey/amp/">https://www-healthawareness-co-uk.cdn.ampproject.org/c/s/www.healthawareness.co.uk/fertility/endometriosis-and-my-pregnancy-journey/amp/</a></p> <p>Hope you are all well.</p>
Annabel Wilkinson (née James)	2009	<p>After having had our wedding in June cancelled due to the pandemic,</p> <p>Stu and I decided to have a mini wedding on 17 July 2020, two weeks after the ban was lifted! We had our immediate family, best men and bridesmaids there. Face masks were mandatory in the church, which was strange to see when walking up the aisle (!), but it was such a special and intimate day, we are just so glad we went ahead with it!</p> <p>We are still hoping to have a big celebration next summer, if the rules permit, and hopefully a honeymoon next year too.</p>
Emma Cory	2010	<p>I've recently launched Beyond: The Frozen Future, an immersive and unique futuristic fiction novel to entertain, thought-provoke and stimulate readers.</p> <p>Further details are on my website <a href="http://www.emacory.com">www.emacory.com</a> (Ema Cory is my pen name).</p>
Polly Edsell	2010	<p>I have a new collaging business called Polly's Picture Soup which was featured in Tatler recently in which they described me as 'celebrating the bizarre'.</p> <p>I sell originals, prints and also do commissions.</p> <p>To see images take a look on the <a href="https://www.instagram.com/pollypicturesoup">pollypicturesoup</a> Instagram!</p>



Annabel's sisters Elizabeth and Emma (both old Georgians) were two of my bridesmaids, and Elizabeth's daughter Edie was our flower girl



21. 'Gaslit', by Polly Edsell, as featured in Tatler

## NEWS OF FORMER PUPILS

Name	Cohort	News
Georgiana Pilkington	2012	<p>Georgiana shared news of a new business venture:</p> <p>"Preppy Pineapple is brought to you by Georgiana Pilkington, whose passion for food stems from her childhood in the Yorkshire countryside.</p> <p>Georgiana's love for cooking and entertaining led to her training at Leiths School of Food &amp; Wine, she graduated with her diploma in June 2019 and went on to create Preppy Pineapple.</p> <p>Preppy Pineapple brings an abundance of flavour, colour and excitement to every dish to create memorable dinner parties, feasts and experiences.</p> <p>"I offer bespoke dinner party services, either prepared in your own home or in my home kitchen"</p> <p>In addition to dinner parties, Preppy Pineapple offers private household chef services, weekly prepared food deliveries, cookery classes and event catering for all occasions. Preppy Pineapple is passionate about creating events with food that is not only delicious but fresh, seasonal and sophisticated."</p> <p><a href="https://www.preppypineapplecatering.com/">https://www.preppypineapplecatering.com/</a></p>
Victoria Rayner	2016	<p>Victoria's father provided us with an update in November 2020:</p> <p>"Victoria is now on active duty in Poland and is the first woman in the British Army to qualify in her new role. Victoria will be defending the Polish borders on Christmas Day this year."</p>
Zafirah Sheikh	2017	<p>I graduated with a First in BSc Economics (Hons) this summer, and have secured a job as a Policy advisor in the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).</p>



Georgiana Pilkington at work at Preppy Pineapple



Victoria on active duty

Name	Cohort	News
Kasey Tang	2019	<p>It has been almost two years since I said farewell to St. George's but I still have flashbacks from the student life I had there from time to time! I guess some memories just never go away, especially when they have played a significant part in helping you evolve and develop as a person. I spent five years at St. George's from Third Year to Upper Sixth and I have built a strong connection with many of the students there who I still keep in contact with to this day, which highlights the tight knitted community St. George's is.</p> <p>I am currently studying Fashion Marketing at Regents University, London but my passion for art and design has never faded as I still have an active art account that I post regularly on. With the great support I had at St. George's from Ms. Antonik, Ms. Townsend, Ms. Morgan and Ms. Gilbert, I have developed the necessary skills in Art and photoshop in order to excel in my degree, especially in modules such as Fashion Images and Digital Marketing in fashion.</p> <p>I have recently created a small business on Instagram called Hidden Gems that not only shares my profound love for antique jewellery, but also my passion for photography and styling as all photographs on the page are taken and edited by me. I also have an art account that shares my work dated back to 2018, when I was still doing my Art, Textiles and Photography A-levels at St. George's up until the present day.</p> <p>It has been a pleasure to be part of the St. George's community and I feel extremely honoured and proud to be an ex-Georgian. I hope all the staff and girls are still doing well and I have no doubt that St. George's will continue to nurture and pave the way for future leaders!</p> <p>Art Instagram: @kgt_art_official Business Instagram: @hiddengems.antiques</p>



Kasey reunited with Samira Boumeid in 2019, London



Kasey reunited with Samira Boumeid in 2019, London

## NEWS OF FORMER STAFF

### 7. NEWS OF FORMER STAFF

Name	Left	News
Olga Kellaris	2019	I have been well and am currently working with non verbal autistic children at Treehouse School, which was set up by Ambitious About Autism.
Judit Hadnagy	2011	<p>Since the pandemic in England, my husband and I have been staying in Hungary at Lake Balaton. Here, we are in perfect physical and social isolation. We are spending the days sailing, cycling and walking. We hope our flight will be on 17 December and we will be able to spend Christmas in England with our 5 grandchildren.</p> <p>During the last 7 months I used social media and my blogs, <a href="http://glutentheenemy.blogspot.com">glutentheenemy.blogspot.com</a> and <a href="http://dietandlife50.blogspot.com">dietandlife50.blogspot.com</a> to publish some articles.</p>
Andrew Stafford	2009	<p>As some of the "St George's Noughties" may remember, I taught English between 2001 and 2009 at St George's - and was singing in a London church Choir and bringing up two children at junior and then secondary school. Now I have retired and the children are no longer at home (my son married and a Paramedic in London, my daughter is trying to follow a Postgraduate Diploma at the Royal College of Music), I have been with my wife been managing the house, and while she has been busy being Maths Adviser conducting youth orchestras at the Albert Hall and elsewhere, I have pursued an energetic round of voluntary activity: becoming a churchwarden, conducting a church choir, welcoming visitors to St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, running a local am-Dram group, chairing a tribunal and finding time to walk in the Chiltern Hills and farmland near my home and spending holidays walking in Tuscany, Umbria and Sicily.</p> <p>The arrival of CV19 has radically changed all this. Cancelled holidays; no drama rehearsals; no choir; Windsor Castle shut; no orchestras. Faced with the lockdown, what to do? Well, contacting my friends by phone, initially, as I cannot visit them; increasing the walking each day (unless it rains) and developing skills using Zoom (it is amazing how one can learn to wield the tools when one needs to). Through the medium of virtual conferencing, there have been drama rehearsals and recordings as "radio performances" of plays by Wilde (The Importance of being Earnest), Shaw (The Dark Lady of the Sonnets) and Chekhov (The Bear) plus some adapted or written by me. I am trying to write a Murder Mystery from scratch, and I can tell you that the plot has become so convoluted and the means of death so confoundingly clever that I cannot work out who should be the villain as every one of the suspects has the motive, means and opportunity. I am full of admiration for those clever authors who provide a seamless, clear and swiftly moving plot and entertaining characters and dialogue.</p> <p>Through Microsoft Teams (another novelty) I have been able to continue with my Education Appeals hearings: and so successful has the process been, I doubt we will return soon to the hearings conducted in all the dignity and intimidating solemnity of the Town Hall. It is rather more difficult to determine how much of the truth you are hearing when you do not have the appellants in front of you, but you are saved from overlong presentations of the case, and oddly, chairing such meetings is a more disciplined affair. I once had to insist that an appellant stopped participating in the case until they had parked their car safely: I had spotted that the scenery was moving as they were driving!</p>

Name	Cohort	News
Jacquelyn Black	2009	<p>This is my old friend and Colleague Mrs Yvonne Thompson ( First &amp; Second Year Housemistress) who now lives in New Zealand when she came to visit me last summer as I have recently moved to beautiful Torquay - it really is the sunny English Riviera.</p> <p>I love living here and this is taken at a fabulous seafood restaurant in the neighbouring pretty picturesque fishing town of Brixham. We had a lovely time catching up &amp; reminiscing about happy school days at St George's and tasty midnight feasts. She could not travel to the UK this year due to Covid so I'm really looking forward to hopefully seeing her next summer.</p>
Carol Duval	2008	<p>(Carol taught English, Film Studies and Critical Thinking in 2003 to 2008) Along with the rest of the world, I've been stuck in lockdown but at least Down Under, the virus is coming under control. I've had plenty of time to get on with my second book, School Gaze. The first, Trying Lives, was mostly about my house swapping and pet sitting experiences while the new one has a much wider sweep — schools! Naturally St George's has a chapter all to itself, Burnished Bronze and Frosty Fields. It will probably be another self-publishing effort unless I become more ambitious!</p> <p>Apart from the fun of writing and reminiscing, I've reconnected with some past students, including musician Peter Byles who I'd last seen when he was in Year 5 and I was teaching primary school. It's at times like these that I really appreciate my choice of career! My husband and I were all booked for our regular trip back to the UK this year but with Covid and Australia closing the borders, we made other plans. There are always silver linings. There's so much to see and do right here in our own backyard as I'm sure so many Georgians understand. Some of my old GCSE girls might recognise Piggy's rock from Lord of the Flies, which I discovered on the cliff walk between Freshwater and Curl Curl beaches. Who'd have thought to have found it in Sydney? We've visited boutique wineries near Bowral in the southern highlands and dipped back into pet sitting by looking after chickens and a couple of huge dogs near Kangaroo Valley.</p> <p>We've also made excellent use of plentiful Aussie limes in Moscow Mules while enjoying pastoral views along the Waterfall Way between Dorrigo and the hippy town of Bellinger. All in all, despite rearranged travel plans, life has been good to us and I've come to value one emotion above all others: gratitude. I wish all my Georgian friends a merry Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year.</p>



Mrs Yvonne Thompson in Brixham in 2019, visiting Mrs Jacquelyn Black



Carol Duval



Carol Duval and her husband

## NEWS OF FORMER STAFF

Name	Left	News
Sue Van der Veen	Retired from teaching 2008, Alumnae Officer 2008-2018	<p>As is the case for everyone this year, our normal activities have been hugely curtailed – in particular visits to our elder son and his family (including three of our seven grandchildren) in Barcelona. We haven't seen them since last Christmas and will greatly miss them this year, too. FaceTime – though a life-saver – just isn't the same. We've seen our younger son and his family (wife and four lovely little girls) on two occasions since the spring lockdown, but as I write this the prospects for seeing them at Christmas look rather more hopeful. When the Rule of Six is in force, the maths just don't allow us to meet up with them. However, we have been delighted to be able to go for walks and outside lunches a couple of times (when the rules were more lenient) with some erstwhile St George's colleagues. This photo was taken at Painshill Park in Cobham and shows, left to right: Mrs Margaret Bruce, Mr Foster, Mrs Sue Foster, Mr Bruce, Mr Van der Veen, Mrs Sue Van der Veen, Mrs Bridget Hughes and Mr Hughes.</p> <p>All good wishes to everyone I knew during my nearly 30-year association with St George's. It's good to see the school flourishing – judging by all the wonderful images on Instagram, which I follow avidly!</p>
Marie-Christine Bissinger	2002	<p>I write from Lorraine in Eastern France where my husband and I have lived since 2004. We have had to cope with Covid like the rest of the world.</p> <p>Being in a village, it is easier to put up with distancing; we can walk to fields and along the river where the birds, wild rabbits and hedgehogs aren't bothered about wearing masks. Hairdressers have had to close their salons so women have been reminded that long hair used to be the norm for them. I asked my husband if he liked my new flowing locks to which he replied: "You'd be lovely with a saucepan on your head" so I took this selfie! You can form your own opinion.</p> <p>To all of you young and older Georgians I send my love and wishes for a quick return to normal life.</p> <p>I am grateful for the fruitful relationships I developed with pupils and staff. I am often transported back to Room 16; is it still a French classroom I wonder?</p>



From left to right: Mrs Margaret Bruce, Mr Foster, Mrs Sue Foster, Mr Bruce, Mr Van der Veen, Mrs Sue Van der Veen, Mrs Bridget Hughes and Mr Hughes.



Marie-Christine Bissinger demonstrates her new hairstyle, with accessories

## IN MEMORIAM

### 8. IN MEMORIAM

Name	Cohort	News
Anna Laurie-Walker (née Cook)	1967 cohort and Governor until 2020	<p>Anna Laurie-Walker passed away peacefully at home on Friday 29 April 2020, following a short battle with cancer. Many of you will remember Anna as a former pupil of St George's, a great supporter of the school, it's girls and staff, and a long-standing and hugely committed governor over many years.</p> <p>Please see Anna's Obituary for more about her life.</p>
Susanne Lloyd-Jones	Staff, Left 1989	<p>Susanne Lloyd-Jones died in Thurso on 19 May 2020. Susanne was the first full-time Assistant Director of Music at St George's; prior to that the Director of Music had many helpful colleagues but they were all part-time. She was a superb pianist. In addition to class teaching, she directed the Junior Choir and accompanied the Senior Choir.</p> <p>She was responsible for introducing the new GCSE syllabus for music which replaced GCE music in 1988, and she shared the teaching of A-level. She left St George's in 1989 to take a Director of Music job near Stockton-on-Tees. Subsequently, she worked in Cheshire but by then she had discovered the joys of hill-walking and eventually she headed north to Scotland.</p> <p>She spent her last years in the far north. She became a performer on the clarsach (small harp), winning prizes in competitive festivals. She joined the Highland Branch of the Clarsach Society; subsequently she was elected to the Society's Executive Council and Music Committee. She became formally hand-fastened to her long-time partner George Pain in 2019.</p>
Katherine (Kate) Stopford	1983 cohort	Kate very sadly died early in 2020 (before and not related to the pandemic).
Una Robertson (née Spearing)	1956 cohort	Sarah very sadly passed away in March 2018, reports Heather Thomson (née Silver). Sarah was a dear friend and one of the kindest people I have known. She was also a great character with a huge sense of humour. She will be sadly missed.
Sarah Copeland (née Winter)	1964 cohort	Una's son Charles wrote to us in September 2020 to advise that his mother, who attended St George's during the 1950s (she was born in 1939), passed away recently.
Jaqueline Clarkson (née Fuller)	1942 cohort	<p>Eleanor Wright (née Guthrie) tells us: "Jackie Clarkson died in September 2019 and was a contemporary of my mother's in the late 1930s and early 40s: somewhere I have an old programme of a St George's production of Pride and Prejudice in which she played Mr Collins whilst my mother was Mr Darcy!</p> <p>She kept in touch with my mother all her life and was very kind and supportive after my mother had a stroke in 2011, which is why I also had been in contact with her. Her husband was David Clarkson, who worked in publishing, and she had three children, Julian, Catrina and Neville, and various grandchildren."</p>

## Name

Irene Wright

## Left

Staff,  
Retired  
2011

## News

From Mrs Victoria Potter, Former Teacher of French, with help from Mrs Emma Gregan and Mr Russel Pearn. "It is with great sadness that I inform you of Irene Wright's death on Saturday 14th December 2019 after a massive fight in ICU. She had pneumonia and other complications which the medics threw everything at but to no avail. Irene taught at school for many years as Head of Drama."

Joan Cauldwell, Teacher of Mathematics and ICT and longstanding colleague of Mrs Wright at St Georges, writes:

Irene Wright came to St George's as Head of Drama in 1991. It wasn't long before her colleagues were aware of her love of, and devotion to, the subject. During her time as Head of Drama she put on a number of amazing whole-school productions, many in collaboration with the Music Department, including her first production at St George's - The Beggar's Opera - performed in the Concert Hall (now half of the dining room). This was followed by Shakespeare's As you like it (the first drama performance in Sue Cormack hall), The Wizard of Oz, Final Cargo, A Bridge to the Stars and Calamity Jane. In addition to school plays, Mrs Wright played a part in supervision of the bi-annual House Drama and Declamation Competitions – always very popular events with both girls and viewing staff.

A major part of her role was preparing her GCSE and 'A' level students for their practical assessments in their acting skills. Attainment was always very high in the department and in 2008, 5 girls achieved 100% overall for their drama which earned personal congratulations from Jerry Jarvis the chief executive of Edexcel. Then there were Drama Showcases and various other dramatic performances being organised at different times.

Preparation for all these events was incredibly time-consuming. Mrs Wright amazed all her colleagues with her ability to stay at school until 9 or 10 pm for rehearsals, and then appear again first thing the following morning to register her tutor group and go on to teach a full timetable. She was indefatigable, never more visible than during her attempts to perform "a play in a day" with visiting prep school children. This was no 10 minute showcase - it was a full blown dramatic performance featuring 50+ year 5 and 6 children, rehearsed and realised in a single school day. Her energy and enthusiasm for the subject shone through in all her work. She wanted her pupils to have the full experience of what Drama has to offer. This enthusiasm included taking girls on theatre trips to London, or wherever there was something of theatrical interest going on. She also led several foreign drama trips to places such as Italy, Greece, and New York.

Her devotion to the Drama Department was a driving force behind the amazing facilities we now enjoy at St George's. Her push for perfection and attention to detail was channelled into the specification and desire to build the Sue Cormack Hall. She wrote in the Dragon in 2002, "The last day of term brought the opening of the Sue Cormack Hall and my excitement was intense as I anticipated the opportunities that lay ahead as the department prepared for the move to the wonderful new facilities... I hope that you will enjoy attending our performances as much as we intend to enjoy preparing them".

Irene's passion for drama and theatre has left a legacy for the next generation of Drama teachers. She was a highly intelligent, knowledgeable and inspirational teacher and Head of Department, who is missed by all who knew her.

## Name

Barbara Matthews

## Cohort

Staff,  
retired  
1991

## News

From Marie-Christine Bissinger, Former Head of French at St George's: This is a personal account of my relationship with Mrs Barbara Matthews who was Head of History and Head of Churchill House, and who was both a colleague and friend to me for many years at St George's.



Taken during a family celebration at Royal Holloway College featuring Marie-Christine Bissinger (Head of Modern Languages and Alexander House), Joan Cauldwell (Head of IT and Mathematics teacher) and Barbara Matthews ( Head of History).

Mrs Matthews was appointed as Head of the History department in the mid-seventies by the then Headmistress, Dr Riding. Mrs Matthews retired in the early nineties. Her daughter Alison became a pupil at St George's at the same time where she successfully took O and A levels before reading Economics at University which she now teaches.

From the beginning, Mrs Matthews and I realised we had the same professional approach to teaching. For example, at breaktime as soon as the first of two bells sounded telling all staff and pupils to prepare for the next lesson we'd make our way to our classrooms but when the girls arrived we would often be greeted with the words: "You're never late", from those who would have preferred to enjoy a few extra free minutes. Every day began with Chapel; though we were both agnostics we'd attend the service as it was the moment when notices were given for the day and for me a chance to sing as music has always been a bonus in my life.

Mrs Matthews gained the respect of all her pupils. Many a Georgian chose to study History at A level because they found her lessons inspiring. She had the knack of impressing upon the children the notion that in order to understand who one is and what one's future might be, one needs to understand where one comes from and that this knowledge applies to the world one lives in, not just to one's immediate circle. When a gifted Georgian was taking her 3rd year finals at an Oxford University College, she proudly told Mrs Matthews that she complemented her tutors' notes with her A level revision cards!

Barbara Matthews ran a Public Speaking Club which went from strength to strength; she indefatigably trained our girls - who were often reticent to start with - to gain confidence in expressing their views on given subjects, debating with poise and growing self-assurance. They won many trophies in local competitions. One such successful speaker, who admitted that an academic approach was not her forte, thanked Mrs Matthews profusely for providing her with the right tools to get a good job for which the requirement was ability to communicate convincingly and see through the thinking processes of others.

As Head of Churchill House, Mrs Matthews oversaw the preparation for many competitions and the House often won much-coveted trophies; as I was the Head of the rival Alexander House we often teased each other but were able to enjoy the good sport, music or drama performances given by all the girls.

Another interesting fact about Mrs Matthews is that in her 15 or so years of teaching at St George's, she never had a day off except the day when she arrived suffering terribly from ear-ache and was sent home and to the doctor's by Mrs Goodland, the then-Headmistress.

No, Mrs Matthews was not a saint. She would have hated to be described as superhuman. She would have said, I'm sure, about her life at St George's:

Name	Left	News
Barbara Matthews (continued from previous page)	Staff, Retired 2011	<p>"I loved teaching History and helping the girls develop into mature and responsible citizens. What I did was both a pleasure and a duty towards educating the next generation in every possible way. That's all."</p> <p>Mrs Matthews lived in Old Windsor with her husband and their two children before the latter married. There she was a volunteer for the Darby and Joan Club (for the youngsters amongst you readers this was a club for senior citizens offering entertainment on a weekly basis). For decades, Barbara drove its members to and from their chosen recreational activities; one day she was amused when she realised she was in fact older than many of the ladies and gentlemen she took to the club. Mrs Matthews will be remembered for her perspicacity, kindness and devotion to others in many fields.</p>
Phillipa Ayres (née Bristow)	1960 cohort	<p>Pippa died peacefully at home on May 5 2020, having bravely endured the debilitating Motor Neurone Disease (MND) since early 2018. Following in her mother's footsteps (Joan Frances Bibby), Pippa arrived at St George's in 1956. After leaving St George's, Pippa went on to train as a nurse at Great Ormond Street Hospital, qualifying in July 1965. She thoroughly enjoyed her time as a nurse, and had the perfect temperament for the job. When she finished her training, she stayed on as staff for six months on the infectious ward, and during that time managed to catch both rubella and chicken pox from patients. After leaving Great Ormond Street, she went to work on the special care baby unit at Queen Charlotte's for about 6 months. During this time she met Andrew Ayres who she would go on to marry. As Andrew was seconded to work in Canada, Pippa went too and worked on a general ward at the Wellesley Hospital in Toronto for 8 months. They got married in September 1968. After their marriage she went to work in a nursery school in Notting Hill which she found great fun. Andrew and Pippa moved out of London to Surrey in 1972.</p> <p>Their first son (Christian) was born in March 1973, followed by twin boys (Alexander &amp; Douglas) in September 1977. They lived very near The Royal Surrey hospital at this time, so when the twins were about two years old she started doing "twilight" shifts (on a voluntary basis) on the Children's Ward for two evenings a week which she very much enjoyed. When the twins started school, aged 5, she went to work in a local playgroup. In 1984 Andrew and Pippa moved house, again in Surrey, so Pippa gave up nursing and joined the staff of a lovely little local nursery school where she worked for 15 years.</p> <p>Alexander married Zandy (née Judd) in 2007 and Pippa was delighted to be a co-mother-in-law and grandmother with fellow 'Georgian' Jan Judd (née Fraser). In 2012 Pippa and Andrew moved close to Henley, an area where she had always wanted to live and to be nearer grandchildren, of which she had 6; Doug has two boys and a girl, Alex has two boys, and Christian one boy. Pippa had a strong faith and got involved in the life of the local church wherever she lived. She was never happier than when looking after young children, be they her own, her grandchildren, her nursery school pupils or the Sunday School children she cared for. Pippa was a kind, caring and generous wife, mother and grandmother. She loved her family and being surrounded by her grandchildren. Her warm smile and calm nature is missed by all who knew her.</p>

1943 - 2020

Name	Cohort	News
Jan Judd (née Janet Fraser)	1960 cohort	<p>In August 1 2020 Jan underwent a serious heart operation and, very sadly, never regained consciousness.</p> <p>Jan attended St George's between 1954 and 1958. She was an exact contemporary of one cousin, Sarah West (née Mays Smith), and a few years ahead of another cousin Judy Delafield (née Fraser). Over the years Jan kept up with several friends that she made during her time there, including Judy Bate (née Redman whose daughter Arabella was Jan's goddaughter) and Cathy Clapperton (née Horsman). Jan attended the '50s' reunion in 2011 and was pleased to catch up with some other contemporaries there.</p> <p>She had fond memories of some of the teachers, including Miss Pike whose phrase, 'thief, thief, where's my rubber?' became a bit of a family catchphrase. After her time at St George's, Jan went to St Clare's, Oxford, to study A Levels. After A Levels, Jan and her cousin Sarah spent several weeks travelling by Greyhound coach across America, which, in 1960, was quite an eye-opening experience. Jan went on to study at Cambridge Tech where she gained a diploma in General Commerce and Book-Keeping. After finishing her studies, she first worked at the RIBA and then became an Interior Designer. During this time took a sabbatical to visit Australia with her cousin Judy.</p> <p>Jan met Lionel Judd, a young lawyer, in 1969 and they married the following year. After the birth of their son, Edward, and daughter, Alexandra ("Zandy"), they moved to Buckinghamshire to a country home where Jan could fulfil her passion for gardening. Their marriage was a happy one and they would have celebrated their golden anniversary in September 2020. They had many shared interests and were lucky to be able to travel widely, including visits to friends in places such as Hong Kong, Australia and Jamaica. Jan loved entertaining and continued her parents' tradition of hosting vast numbers of all ages at Henley Royal Regatta, where her picnics were 'legendary'. Jan also enjoyed spending time with her extended family, including nine nephews and nieces. Two of her nieces, Charlotte Stephens and Amelia Perkins (both née Fraser) attended St George's, as did her daughter Zandy Ayres.</p> <p>Jan maintained her link with St George's, taking on the role as chair to the Old Girls' Association for several years. Jan also had, and was amused by, the St George's link with her co-mother in law Pippa Ayres (née Jill Bristow), whose son Alex married Zandy in 2007. Jan was delighted to be 'Gan Gan' to five grandchildren, including Zandy's two boys and Ed's two girls and a boy. She loved seeing how well they all got on, and was much amused by their unique personalities. Jan had a genuine interest in people and loved spending time with both the young and old alike. From the many kind messages the family have had, her quick sense of humour, keen intellect and balanced view of life will be very much missed by all who knew her.</p>



Jan Judd in her schooldays, along with friends on the South Lawn

1942 – 2020

## REMEMBERING

### 9. REMEMBERING ANNA LAURIE-WALKER

**Anna Laurie-Walker**  
(née Cook, 1967 cohort)  
1949 - 2020

Anna Laurie-Walker passed away peacefully at home on Friday 29 April 2020, following a short battle with cancer. Many of you will remember Anna as a former pupil of St George's, a great supporter of the school, it's girls and staff, and a long-standing and hugely committed Governor for almost 20 years.

Anna was born in 1949; her father was a leading journalist and her mother a well known 1930's model. Early years at Francis Holland school were followed by the Collège Protestant Français in Beirut where her father was posted, and from there she came to St George's in 1960.

Bridget Hillier (née O'Connor), one of Anna's classmates at St George's recalls her first impressions: "Anna seemed wonderfully grown-up and sophisticated. She spoke excellent French, had exquisite handwriting and wrote her letters home on green notepaper. To cap it all she had owned an Arab pony! To receive her friendship was rather special for me. Despite her sophisticated demeanour she was fun to be with, warm, funny and kind. I will always have delightful memories of her."

Another school friend, Carol Symon (née Thavenot) explains how she went from being one of Anna's Georgian friends to a lifelong friend: "At reaching the age when one went from large dormitory life at St George's, to the privilege of choosing your roommate for a small room, Anna and I shared a bedroom. My memories of those days were lots of giggling and hiding things like our Clearasil when we heard Nurse headed down the passage (having such cosmetics being against the rules!) During the summer of 1964 I spent a wonderful holiday with her and her family in Grimaud, South of France. The holiday will remain an idyllic memory of teenage freedom exploring the narrow cobbled streets with the ruined castle at the top, dancing with the locals at Le Grand Bal in the village square, cycling through the vineyards and spending hours working on our sun tan on the beach.

Anna was multi-talented, near the top of the form in many subjects, hugely artistic (I still have a drawing she did of me sewing in the classroom) and all accompanied by a great sense of fun. Her father was the Far East correspondent for the Daily Mail and Anna would recount colourful stories of a wonderful lifestyle in Beirut, how much she enjoyed the varied community of expats and about meeting actors like Peter O'Toole.

After school Anna's career took off. With both having busy work schedules we didn't meet often but always took up our friendship exactly as it was at school. She seemed to collect houses in various parts of the world, spending time in each and amassing many friends along the way. It was never a dull moment in her company - always full of animation and interesting chats. She clearly retained a big affection for her time at St George's which was demonstrated by many years as a Governor".

After leaving St George's in 1967, Anna went on to study Psychology at Aix-en-Provence. She later became a Management Consultant and ran her own successful communications consultancy for many years, specialising in strategic and crisis communications. Anna worked with several well known banks and her client list included many FT 250 companies, giving her an amazing network of contacts which she used to her best advantage. Her work involved extensive travel; Concord to New York and companies' executive jets were regular features.

It wasn't all work however, and with Alastair, her husband of almost 40 years, Anna enjoyed helicopter skiing in Canada and Switzerland, off-shore sailing, and riding safaris in India and Africa. Anna also spent many years developing her property portfolio with houses in the UK, Greece, France and Switzerland.

Almost 20 years ago, Anna was approached to become a Governor of St George's. Anna was horrified and reminded the friend suggesting the idea that she "had nearly been expelled, had no children and lived a long way from the school". However, after meeting the Headmistress of the time, Joanna Grant Peterkin, she decided that she "would love to put something back, and would accept". To the very end, she continued in this role. Mr Gerald Barber, who joined the board of Governors in 1991, remembers Anna:

*"Anna was a St. George's girl through and through. She became a Governor of the school in 2000 and immediately put her heart and soul into the job. She was a natural enthusiast, always positive and forthright, constructive and practical in her approach to problems. Her work in helping Oxbridge candidates with their interviews was invaluable. She much enjoyed her contact with the senior girls over the years. At Governors' meetings she was an energetic and perceptive colleague, always courteous and understanding. She had strong views and ideas and overall was a wonderful supporter of all that is good at the school. Her positive input will be sorely missed."*

As Gerald describes, being a specialist in external communications meant Anna was often called upon to make a vital contribution to the school in running a programme of Oxbridge interview training for the Sixth Form. She especially enjoyed attending Year dinners to meet current parents, and Prize Giving, where she could hear more about the Sixth-Formers' plans for the future.



Sophie Ross (2019 cohort) was one of the many pupils Anna helped with University applications. She explains the impact Anna had on her life: "In September 2018 I applied to study Medicine, a long-standing dream of mine. The application process required an interview for every offer. From the first minute I met Mrs Laurie-Walker, she overwhelmed me with her charismatic and friendly demeanour. Over the course of months, she spent hours and hours filming me and helping me, talking about my passion for Medicine. I will never forget the dedication she put into researching all the medical schools I applied to and their interview process and spent a huge amount of time helping me prepare for each and every one of these. Because of her generosity and guidance, I was offered all three places from the three interviews I had; a rare miracle for Medicine. I am fully aware I would not be where I am without her. She holds a special place in my heart".

Anna's dedication to St George's is best expressed in her own words, which were captured by former Alumnae Officer, Mrs Sue Van der Veen in an interview in 2012: "I have a strong allegiance to St George's and care a lot about our success...I am both surprised and immensely proud to play a part in the future of my old school. The added value and ability to turn out very special people is an ability that St George's has always had, and it is our role as Governors to be able to nurture and promote that."

Anna was absolutely one of those special people, and she will be greatly missed.



ST GEORGE'S  
ASCOT 

[www.stgeorges-ascot.org.uk](http://www.stgeorges-ascot.org.uk)

The Dragon 2019/20