



St Georges Day
April 23rd

To aspire, endeavour and thrive together

Values



Our Values

Prepare to Thrive

Tenacity

Show motivation and determination, adopting a 'can do' attitude and a strong work ethic.

Hard Work

Work relentlessly to achieve and improve; understanding that trying your best can lead to achieving your ambitions.

Responsibility

Demonstrate compassion, generosity and empathy when confronted with difference or need, valuing and celebrating diversity.

Independence

Be self-reliant, organising time, resources and tasks, meeting deadlines and demonstrating maturity.

Visionary

Offer curiosity and thoughtfulness; seeking out new knowledge and weaving it into our understanding of a complex world. Value imagination, creativity and new perspectives.

Excellence

Produce high quality, crafted work, responding to feedback with enthusiasm and precision. Commit to the highest standards of behaviour, attendance and punctuality. Show pride in yourself and your school.

- **TENACITY** – show determination and dedication. Adopt a 'can do' attitude and don't give up
- **HARDWORK** – work relentlessly to achieve your goals – put in the hours of time and recognise that there are no short cuts to success
- **RESPONSIBILITY** – we are part of a community and with this comes responsibility for ourselves and others. Don't be selfish/uncaring – give of your time to others and look after one another
- **INDEPENDENCE** – be self-reliant. Set your own goals in terms of progress and achievements. Direct your own future and recognise that you may need to make sacrifices now to reap the rewards in the future.
- **VISIONARY** – be creative, think outside the box. Strive to find unusual solutions to problems and challenges you face. Don't be daunted by conventions – deep thinking is a vital part of achieving success in your learning
- **EXCELLENCE** – be the best you can be. Complete everything to the best of your ability – don't sell yourself short

Tenacity



To show determination and dedication. Adopt a 'can do' attitude and don't give up.

St George is remembered as someone who demonstrated tenacity.



Why do we celebrate St George's Day?



St George's Day in England remembers **St George**, England's patron **saint**. The anniversary of his death, which is on April 23, is seen as England's national **day**. According to legend, he was a soldier in the Roman army who killed a dragon and saved a princess.

WHO WAS ST GEORGE?

Think of St George and you're probably picturing a heroic knight slaying a ferocious, fire-breathing dragon. As the country's patron saint, today St George's story is as iconic as his white and red flag. But like many early saints, the exact details of his life remains a mystery.



9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ST GEORGE



1. ST GEORGE WASN'T ENGLISH...

St George might be hailed as a national hero, but he was actually born more than 2,000 miles away. He is thought to have been born in Cappadocia (modern day Turkey) and to have died in Lydda (modern day Israel) in the Roman province of Palestine in AD 303.



9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ST GEORGE



2. ... AND HE WASN'T A KNIGHT EITHER

He may have worn some sort of shining armour but George was probably a soldier, not a knight as we think of him in popular culture today. From the 11th century St George was depicted in sculpture as a knight or a warrior on horseback, but the truth is less fanciful. It is more likely that he was an officer in the Roman army.



9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ST GEORGE



3. ST GEORGE WAS A MARTYR

Like many saints, St George was described as a martyr after he died for his Christian faith. It is believed that during the persecutions of the Emperor Diocletian, St George was executed for refusing to make a sacrifice in honour of the pagan gods.

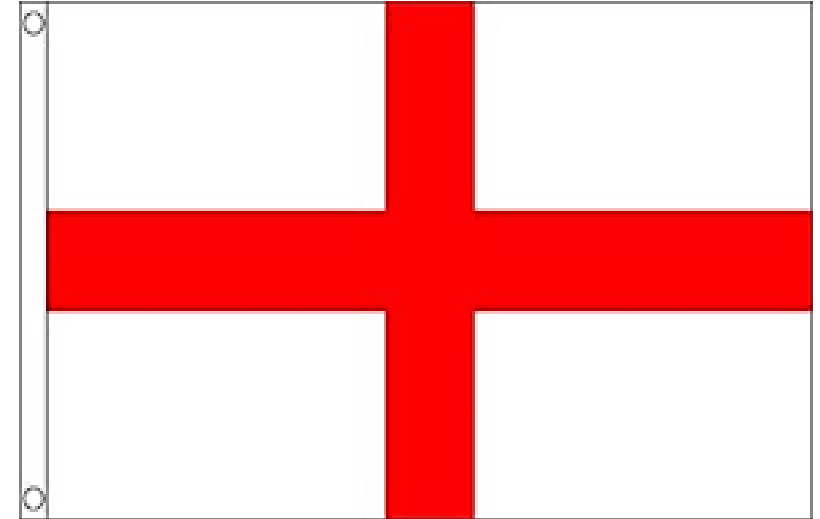


9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ST GEORGE



4. HE NEVER VISITED ENGLAND

While it's highly unlikely that St George came to England, his reputation for virtue and holiness spread across Europe from about the 7th century. During the Third Crusade in the 12th century, Richard I placed himself and his army under the protection of St George. He also adopted the emblem of St George, a red cross on a white background, which was worn as a uniform and later used on the English flag.



9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ST GEORGE



5. THE DRAGON WAS ADDED LATER

The famous tale of George and the dragon was popularised in the late 13th century in Jacobus de Voragine's *The Golden Legend*, which was a compilation about the lives of saints. The story goes that St George rode into Silene (modern day Libya) to free the city from a dragon who had a taste for humans. The *Golden Legend* was translated and published in English in the late 15th century.



9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ST GEORGE



6. ST GEORGE WAS A SAINT FOR 1000 YEARS BEFORE THE 'HOLIDAY'

St George was canonised in AD 494 by Pope Gelasius who claimed he was one of those 'whose names are justly revered among men but whose acts are known only to God'. A feast day of St George has been celebrated in England for hundreds of years on 23 April, which was possibly the date of his martyrdom. Following the Battle of Agincourt in 1415, St George's Day became one of the most important feast days in the English calendar.



9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ST GEORGE



7. ENGLAND ISN'T THE ONLY COUNTRY TO CELEBRATE ST GEORGE

St George is a truly an international saint and England is not the only region to claim him as its patron. England shares St George with Venice, Genoa, Portugal and Catalonia among others as their patron saint and many of these places have their own celebrations and ceremonies in his honour.



9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ST GEORGE



8. HE'S A PATRON OF MANY THINGS

It's not just cities and countries that have St George as their patron either. During the Middle Ages, St George was regarded as one of the 'Fourteen Holy Helpers' - a group of saints people turned to for assistance during times of need. St George is also the patron of other things including soldiers, armourers, farmers and even sufferers of the plague and syphilis.



9 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ST GEORGE



9. ST GEORGE CONTINUES TO BE LINKED TO ONE OF ENGLAND'S TOP HONOURS

Edward III is said to have founded the Order of the Garter on the site of [Eltham Palace](#) in 1348. To this day his cross still appears on the Garter badge and his image is the pendant of the Garter chain. The Order of the Garter is the highest order of chivalry in the country and Queen Elizabeth II is at the helm as Sovereign of the Garter.



Today's heroes



Today we can think of so many people that are showing the same bravery and determination as St George.

The coronavirus pandemic that is sweeping the world and has brought about so much change to our daily lives has highlighted so many heroes which I am sure you have heard about in the news.

Many key workers are putting their lives on the front line to help others. Nurses, doctors, firefighters, police, teachers, care workers, delivery drivers, supermarket workers, and many more.

Therefore, when we celebrate St George's Day on April 23rd let us think about today's heroes that continue to demonstrate the tenacity and bravery St George showed many years ago.

