

# St George's Central CE Primary School



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## Newsletter – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016

If I have not seen you around school this month – Happy New Year! I hope 2016 is going well for you so far. During our first week at school we received some good news as Mrs Malley gave birth to a son! Thomas Gerard Malley was born on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January, weighing 7lb 5 ounces. Congratulations to Mrs Malley and her husband as they settle into life with their new son.



**Date change for parents' evenings** – The new dates for parents' evening are: **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March** (3:30pm – 6:30pm). Letters asking you to book an appointment slot will be sent home after the February half term.

**Parent/carer workshops** – Miss Glassbrook has recently led some successful workshops for Reception parents about how to support their children at home with communication/language and maths activities. Thank you to everyone who attended and for the lovely feedback written in our school visitors book. There are more workshops planned, for the parents/carers of children in different age groups within school – look at the Spring term 2 dates letter (to be sent home on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February) for the dates of these.

**Topic work (Y1 and Y2)** – On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January Year 1 and Year 2 went to visit Astley Park to support their current topic 'where do the leaves go in winter?' The children looked for deciduous and evergreen trees and they saw lots of leaves that had fallen to the ground. Also they found out about how the changing seasons affect plants and animals.



**Topic work (Y5 and Y6)** (written by children from Y5DF) – On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January Year 5 and 6 visited the Zakariyya Mosque in Bolton. We all thought it was a great opportunity to visit a different place of worship, as we don't really go and see other places of worship other than our church. Saeed showed us around the mosque and taught us about the 5 Pillars of Islam and showed us how Muslims wash before they pray. We thought the mosque was a very welcoming, calm and peaceful place of worship.

### **PTFA Events:**

**Bingo Night in school** – Our recent Bingo Night in the school hall was a great success, managing to raise **£111**. Thank you to everyone who came and supported the school. Thanks also to Mr Yates for being our bingo caller and for all members of the PTFA who organised this event. Our next Bingo night will be on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.



**School disco** – The table below shows the arrangements for the disco that **ALL** children are welcome to attend:

School disco: Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February		
Age groups	Price	Time
Reception/Y1/Y2 children	£2 (includes entry to disco, hot dog on a bun, drink and some sweets) Children do not need to bring any extra money	3:30pm – 4:45pm
Y3 – Y6 children	£1 Children can bring extra money to purchase refreshments	5:00pm – 6:30pm

Children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 are able to bring their disco clothes to school on the day and they will be able to change into them at the end of the school day. KS2 children should enter the disco via the main school entrance as normal. At 'changeover' time, KS1 children attending the '1<sup>st</sup>' disco will leave via the fire door which breakfast club use (near the car park). So if you are picking up at 4:45pm then head towards the car park and staff will be there to assist you. Please collect any KS1 children before taking any KS2 children round to the main school entrance. All KS2 children will leave via the main school entrance at 6:30pm. Thanks to Mr Young who will continue in his role as DJ. **(Please note – Choir, Football, and Art club will still take place, but they may finish slightly earlier allowing for KS2 to return for the disco)**

***'Never settle for less than your best'***



**Maths Day** – Earlier this week, Mrs Morris accompanied some children from Y5 and Y6 to St. Michael's School in Atherton for a 'Maths Day'. The children took part in different problem solving activities including turning an envelope into a tetrahedron, and train tickets into a cube! All the children had a great time and couldn't believe how quickly the day went. Check Mrs Morris' Twitter feed for pictures.

**Re-arranged class worship** – Don't forget that class worship for Y5/6JW will take place on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February**, all parents/carers welcome (9:05am start in the school hall).

**Chinese New Year** – This will be celebrated in school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February as the year of the Monkey commences. Each class will undertake a variety of activities throughout the day, with Mr Simmons leading a 'sharing' assembly in the hall at 2:30pm, where each class can showcase work completed during the day. Feel free to send any items into school to support your child's learning with this on the day.



**Y6 SATS meeting for parents** – A letter is being sent home today about a meeting for Y6 parents. This has been scheduled to take place at 3:30pm and 6pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February (you will be asked to select which time you can attend). The purpose of the meeting is to provide you with information about the national tests the children will be doing in May. The children in Y6 will be aware of much of the information as they are currently undergoing 'practise' tests. So, with this in mind, for all children whose parents/carers are attending the meeting, there will be a separate room provided.

**Open afternoon** – Our next open afternoon with headteacher forum will be on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February** (1:30pm start) for **Key Stage 2 parents/carers only**. We have considered a suggestion from our last event in November and so we will now be holding these afternoons for different areas of school at different times, in order to give people an opportunity to spend a sufficient amount of time in their child's class. Therefore only Key Stage 2 classrooms will be 'open' for visitors during this afternoon. The second part of the afternoon remains the same, where we will all come together in the hall and people are provided with an opportunity to ask me questions about school life. The next one of these open afternoons will be for **Nursery, Reception and KS1 parents/carers** and is planned to take place on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March**.



**Premier Sport** – Don't forget to book onto the February half term 'Premier Sport' club based at our school. Children from all local schools are welcome to attend. Bookings for this are taken by going to [www.premiersport.org](http://www.premiersport.org). The timing of sessions will be 9am – 4pm each day with the price per day being £14.50 with sessions designed for 5 – 12 year olds. Any enquiries you may have should be made via the Premier Sport website.

**Young Voices** – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March will see our school choir join the likes of One Direction, Westlife and Take That as they perform at the Manchester Evening News Arena! The Young Voices concert brings schools from across the North West together to perform a variety of songs over the course of an evening. Over the last few months, Miss Gray has been working with the children as they learn the songs and accompanying actions that they will perform at the arena. Ticket orders for parents/carers have already been processed for this popular event and Miss Gray will soon be sending out a separate letter for choir members.



**World Book day (Advanced warning!)** – This year's World Book Day takes place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. As last year, we would like the children to bring their favourite books to school to share and also **dress up as a character from a book**. Each class has planned lots of different reading activities to take place throughout the day, including a shared reading session between the different classes and book themed puzzles to take part in. The KS2 children will have the opportunity to read books to children in KS1, some classes even sharing stories they will have written themselves! On this day, each child will be given a £1.00 book voucher. This voucher can be used to receive £1.00 off a book worth £2.99 or more, or alternatively it may be exchanged for one of the specially produced £1.00 books. (These will be listed on the reverse of your voucher). During week beginning Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March, you will have the opportunity to purchase books as we will have the large metal book cases from Scholastic available in the school library. Books will be on sale before school (from 8:30am) and after school (until 4pm) each day during that week. Please feel free to pop in and buy some books - £1 vouchers can be used here also!

***'Never settle for less than your best'***



**'Mini Whistlers'** – TV Cameras descended on St. George's Central School as we played host to a very successful 'Mini Whistlers' football referees course. 28 children from St. George's Central were joined by 72 pupils from other local schools to participate in the event which focused on respect. Part of the session was filmed and aired on 'That's Lancashire' TV. Feedback from all schools involved was very positive and all our children enjoyed being referees for the morning while learning valuable leadership skills.



**Smite!** – Children from St. George's Central were recently joined by children from 2 other school to take part in a taster session of the inclusive sport, Smite! This is a game similar to ten pin bowling as the aim is to knock down 10 different numbered pins and get to a score of fifty. To make things 'interesting', if you happen to score more than 50, your score reduces to 25 and any pins knocked down are stood back up wherever they land in the room! A big thank you to Ian Crosby from 'AllinclusiveSportsProjects' for leading this session which all the children enjoyed.



**KS1 Kurling festival** – Today, 4 children from Key Stage 1 will take part in a Kurling festival at St. Michael's School in Atherton. The children will compete against pupils from other Atherton and Tyldesley schools – I will let you know their results in the next newsletter.

**Before the next newsletter, children from St. George's Central will be taking part in:**

**\*\*Y3/4 Quicksticks (hockey)\*\*      \*\*Mixed football league starts\*\***

**See more about all these ATSA stories, above, on the ATSA Facebook page.**

Further Twitter accounts set up by staff since our last newsletter:



Mrs Davies **@MrsDSGC**

Mrs Fudge **@MrsFSGC**

Y1/Rec class **@RecY1SGC**



These accounts are being used to keep you updated with events in schools and also to update you with any resources, ideas or news of things we may be using in school. My account is linked to the opening page of our school website and over the next few weeks we are aiming to link **all** the Twitter accounts below to class pages on our school website:

Me **@MrGSGC**

Mrs Morris **@MrsMSGC**

Mr Young **@MRYSGC**

Miss Gray **@missvsgc**

Reception class **@SGCReception**

Miss Bennett **@MissOBSCG**

We do know that there are some issues with viewing and accessing parts of our new school website when you are using mobile devices. We are working hard to resolve this as quickly as we can and aim to have all areas 'accessible' as soon as possible.

**Children's Centre update** – Consultations are now taking place regarding proposed changes to how your local children's centre will be run and organised. Under the new proposals there will be a central 'Start Well Centre' based at Atherton Children's Centre with Mosley Common and Tyldesley Children's Centres becoming 'community hubs' offering a range of different services. The consultation is in the form of a questionnaire which you can collect from our school office to complete by the end of February. For more information, follow the link: <http://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/Consultations/Current/Childrens-services.aspx>. There will also be an information session at Leigh Library on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February from 2pm – 7pm.

**Monthly attendance update** (\*%'s are from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January up to and including Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January):

Class	%	Class	%	Class	%	Class	%	Class	%
YRJH/EG	95.71%	Y1/2OB	98.21%	Y3VG	95.79%	Y4HJ	93.57%	Y5/6JW	96.00%
YR/1SG	95.57%	Y2CS	96.19%	Y3/4RL	94.09%	Y5DF	97.70%	Y6JY	94.77%

The next newsletter will be emailed out to you on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Please ensure you have completed and returned the email address form to our school office. Paper copies of the newsletter will be made available at the school office for you to pick up should you wish. Have a great month.

Mr M Grogan - Headteacher

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