

St George's Central CE Primary School



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Newsletter – Friday 21st October 2016

Please remind children to stay off any school equipment before and after school. This includes the tyre park, trim trails and the climbing structure at the front of school. In order to keep everyone safe, any children who come to school on bikes and scooters are reminded that they should dismount and push their bike/scooter when they are on the school grounds at all times.

We have quickly arrived at the end of our first half term. School will close today and re – open for children on **Monday 31st October 2016 (first bell at 8:50am with school starting at 8:55am)** (when the countdown to Christmas really begins!). Attached to this email/newsletter, you will find a parental version of our School Improvement Targets for this school year. We produce a lengthy document each year, having spent the summer months analysing the school data to see what we need to do to further improve the school. The sheet you have is a breakdown of the main targets that we have set for this year. Also attached is a list of the key dates for the next half term – this, amongst other things, includes dates and times of the Christmas productions. Your child will come home with their most recent attendance data (September 2016 – Friday 14th October). The colour of the paper this sheet is printed on denotes whether or not your child has met the school's attendance target:

| Colour | Indicates | % |
|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Green | Met or exceeded the target | Above 96% |
| Amber | A satisfactory level of attendance | 90.1% - 95.9% |
| Red | An unacceptable level of attendance | Less than 90% |

Class attendance update:

| Class | *% | Class | *% | Class | *% | Class | *% |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| YR:EP | 97.30% | Y1CS | 96.69% | Y3VG | 98.00% | Y5NC | 96.67% |
| YR:NT | 96.56% | Y1/2EG | 96.62% | Y3/4DF | 99.12% | Y5/6JW | 97.05% |
| | | Y2OB | 98.15% | Y4HJ | 95.57% | Y6JY | 97.93% |

*%'s are from Tuesday 12th September up to and including Friday 14th October.

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



Mrs Pearce @MrsPSGC

Miss Taylor @MissTSGC

Mr Cooke @MrCookeSGC



Change of approach with Nursery and Reception Christmas performances

On the dates letter you will receive today, you will see we have penciled in dates for all our Christmas productions. Due to space available for the children and for parents/carers, we are going to take a slightly different approach with our nursery and reception children this year in that there will be a performance from the nursery children **AND** a separate performance from our reception children on the same day. First, all the nursery children will come into the school hall and perform some Christmas carols on stage to the nursery families only. All visitors who have come to watch will then have the opportunity to go down to nursery to spend time with their child in nursery for a stay and play session. Later on the same day, the children in reception will take to the stage to perform their Christmas production, in the school hall, to their families only. This will be repeated the following day. However, as nursery may get rather busy, we would ask that you only attend one of the stay and play sessions. All children in Year 1 and Year 2 will perform together as in previous years. Please see the dates letter for further details, especially for when tickets are on sale for all our performances.

'Never settle for less than your best'



Reading Champions – We recently launched a new weekly ‘Reading Champion’ award in school for each class with the winners receiving the ‘Reading Champion’ medal to wear in school throughout the next week. The medals will be given out each Friday and so teachers will be on the look-out for the child who has impressed them with their reading, whether that be the amount of reading they have done at home/in school or with their overall attitude or improvement towards reading.

Open afternoon – Monday 10th October saw school open its doors fully for this year’s first open afternoon with Headteacher forum. We welcomed parents/carers of children in nursery, reception and KS1 into school to spend part of the afternoon in classes and then part of the afternoon having some refreshments in the school hall where I was available to answer any questions about school and life at St. George’s Central. Our open afternoon with Headteacher forum for KS2 parents/carers is planned for Monday 21st November.



‘Hats for Hospice’ – It was great to see so many of your children supporting ‘Hats for Hospice Day’ earlier this week. Wigan and Leigh Hospice is the chosen charity this year, for the Mayor of Wigan and so your £1 donation for your child wearing a hat in school for the day went to this worthy cause. Your fantastic support helped school to raise **£174**. Thank you very much for your continued support.

Church Christmas Fair – St. George’s Parish Church will be holding its Christmas Fair on Saturday 12th November at Astley and Tyldesley Methodist Church (opposite St. George’s Church) from 10:00am until 1:30pm. Stalls will include a café, tombola, cakes and homemade jams and lots more. Miss Gray and our school choir will be in attendance to perform at the start of the Fair. It would be great to see you there to help raise funds for our church.



Remembrance Sunday parade – Upon our return to school after half term, letters will be sent out asking for children to take part in the annual Remembrance Sunday parade – for the last four years we have been the only primary school in Tyldesley to do this and so I am hoping that we have a great turn out again this year on Sunday 13th November. Look out for the letter sent out upon our return to school. The Tyldesley Branch of the British Legion will be in school as part of our whole school worship on Thursday 10th November.



Children in Need – This will take place on Friday 18th November and this year, in order to raise money, we are saying that for a £1 donation, children can come dressed as a ‘pop star’! Will it be Justin Bieber or Taylor Swift? With your support, children will need to start planning now which ‘pop star’ they will come dressed as for the day.



PTFA News – Our first PTFA meeting took place last week in school and it was great to see so many new members come along as we discussed potential events for the coming school term. As a result of the meeting the following events have been planned:

| Date | Event |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Friday 25 th November 2016 | Non – Uniform day: donation of any of the following items: packs of Christmas cards, wrapping paper, Christmas decorations, lucky dip toys, chocolate. |
| Friday 2 nd December 2016 | Christmas Fair (3:30pm – 5:30pm) |

A further PTFA meeting has been planned to take place on **Wednesday 9th November at 3:30pm in school**, to discuss the Christmas Fair in more detail. For this event we are looking for ideas for stalls and people to lead them. So, if you have a particular talent or craft to share and are willing to support the school at this event, come along to the meeting on the Wednesday 9th and we can start to put our ideas together. At this meeting we would like to confirm who will be doing what, but if you cannot attend, please let the school office know how you can help in running a stall. In the past we have had volunteers painting nails, doing face painting and baking cakes or selling crafts to name a few and so with your help we can continue to raise funds to support some of the extra activities in school. I hope to see you at the next meeting.

‘Never settle for less than your best’



Boxing taster session – On Wednesday 5th October, 3 children from Year 6 took part in a Boxing taster session at Astley VIP Boxing gym. The children experienced a variety of fitness activities linked to boxing alongside children from other Atherton and Tyldesley schools. The club runs a **FREE** boxing session for 9 – 11 year olds, each Friday, 5pm – 6pm at the gym on Chaddock Lane.

Y5/6 Hockey festival – Thursday 6th October saw the Y5/6 hockey team take part in a festival against other eight other schools. The team successfully managed to qualify, from their group, for the final where they met St. Richard’s. In a great final I am pleased to inform you that the team successfully **won 1 – 0** to become the 2016 Y5/6 Hockey champions! Well done to Mrs Feeney and her team: Nathan Beca, Daniel Clarke, Rachel Clarke, Harvey Ince, Jessica Jones, Thomas Marsh, Daniel Senior and Mollie Toone.



Swimming gala – Eight children from St. George’s Central School recently took part in a swimming gala against children from ten other primary schools. The four boys and four girls took part in both individual and team races at the Pelican Centre. Well done to Jenna Binks, Oliver Briggs, Caitlin Davies, Lewis Edwards, Harry Edwards-Shorter, Heidi Marsh, Daniel Senior and Amelia Zgierun who made up the St. George’s Central team that finished **2nd overall!** All children swam exceptionally well and won 8 races within their heat. We are very proud of the efforts and team spirit that they displayed on the day.

Cross Country – Last night some children from St. George’s Central took part in a Cross Country race, against children from fourteen other schools, at Atherton Community School. The children had been training hard at dinnertimes and so it was great to see all their hard work pay off as the children finished **3rd overall!** Well done to all members of the team who contributed to this.



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

- **KS2 Inclusive Kurling** **Y5/6 Basketball festival** **Smite! taster session**
- **Table tennis taster session** **KS2 Dance festival**

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



Judo club update – Judo Education will be started their before school Judo club after half term (each Wednesday morning, 8am – 8:45am, starting on Wednesday 9th November). Anyone attending this club will enter the doors around the side of school (where breakfast club enter). Please avoid using the car park for dropping off or walking through.

The next newsletter will be emailed out on Friday 25th November. Paper copies of the newsletter will be made available at the school office for you to pick up should you wish. Have a great half term with your family.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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