



## Newsletter – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020



Today has been our final school day of 2020, a year that will always be remembered as being slightly 'different' as the world was turned upside down and we all had to think and act differently. The picture of me with some of our Year 6 from last year (left) was taken on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020, when we lived in more 'innocent times'. As I spoke with those children after the photograph was taken on that morning, little did I know that for many of them, it would be their last day altogether as one at St. George's Central.

Life continued to be 'different' as your children returned to school in September 2020 and we all adapted to new rules and routines. The main reason people decide to work in a school is because of the children and, over the last four months, your children have all been amazing! On the days when it has been tough, they have brightened up our lives as the lights of the world that they are. I thank you as parents/carers for your continued support over the last year. I know how the pandemic has affected many people in many different ways and yet your fantastic support for us in school has never wavered. I would like to thank all our staff who have continued to work 'above and beyond' in order to ensure your children achieve their best. Finally, I would like to thank our school governors who have supported our school team during this very difficult time. I am very much looking forwards to 2021 and all it has to offer, in the hope that we will soon 'return to innocence'. Click the link below to view a montage of life at our school since September 2020:

<https://vimeo.com/492194430>

### Staffing updates

Today was the final day at St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery for our Year 3 teacher, **Miss Glassbrook**. We thank Miss Glassbrook for her hard work during the last eight years at our school and wish her all the best as she starts 2021 as Deputy Headteacher at St. Andrew's CE Infants School in Leyland. At our Lancaster Avenue Nursery, today was also the final day for our Manager, **Ms Naughton** and our Room Leader, **Miss C Booth**. We again thank both staff members for their hard work over the last four years and wish them both well as they move on to next stage of their lives. Good luck to you all!

We have recently undertaken recruitment processes to ensure that we have staff in place in school for each vacancy that has recently arisen. Individual classes/areas of school have already been informed of our changes but I am pleased to inform everyone that from January 2021, our Year 3 teacher will be **Mr Kenny**, our Deputy Manager at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery will be **Mrs Evans** and our Admin Officer in school will be **Mrs Grimes**. I am sure you will join me in welcoming our new staff members to the St. George's Central team:



**Mr Kenny**



**Mrs Evans**



**Mrs Grimes**

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

*Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.' John 8:12*

**Christmas at St. George's Central Primary School and Nursery**

 **YouTube** Christmas performances 2020  **YouTube**

If your child was involved in any of our 'virtual' Christmas performances this year, you will have hopefully received links to our school YouTube channel via Seesaw and/or email. Thanks to all our staff who, in a short space of time, have become proficient in using the recording equipment we have in our 'Green Room'. Please see the links below for all our performances this year:

Year group	Performance details
Lancaster Avenue Nursery (pre-school children) and Darlington Street Nursery (all children)	Children sang some Christmas songs: <a href="https://youtu.be/VIPfrONkUtc">https://youtu.be/VIPfrONkUtc</a>
Reception (both classes)	Children narrated the Christmas Story with songs: <a href="https://youtu.be/6ytwfXNCxUc">https://youtu.be/6ytwfXNCxUc</a>
Year 1 and Year 2 (all children)	Children narrated the Christmas Story with songs: <a href="https://youtu.be/gjKvXMFu-9o">https://youtu.be/gjKvXMFu-9o</a>
Year 4 (African drumming performance)	Y4CS: <a href="https://youtu.be/2MIWonSHJ9c">https://youtu.be/2MIWonSHJ9c</a> Y4HJ: <a href="https://youtu.be/CGyqw4rjMpM">https://youtu.be/CGyqw4rjMpM</a>
Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 (all children)	Children sang carols from different European countries: <a href="https://youtu.be/hM8P-whxas4">https://youtu.be/hM8P-whxas4</a>



**Reindeers in school**



**Christmas dinner**



**Christmas jumpers and Pantomime in school**



**Christmas party days**



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**Parent/carer questionnaire results** – Below are the results from the recent parent/carer questionnaire. Many thanks to everyone who returned a completed questionnaire. As we move into 2021, with your support, we will be looking at how we can improve our school so that in the future we have more responses in the ‘Strongly Agree’ or ‘Agree’ category. Should you wish to discuss the results of this questionnaire, or provide any further comments, please do not hesitate to contact me in school.

Questions	This question is not relevant for my child	Strongly agree or Agree	Disagree or Strongly Disagree	Don't know	No response given
<b>61 questionnaires returned/completed</b>					
<i>Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding</i>					
1. My child is happy at this school.	N/A	93.9%	3.1%	3.1%	
2. My child feels safe at this school.	N/A	96.7%	3.3%		
3. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	N/A	93.4%	1.6%	4.9%	
4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.	61.3%	17.8%	6.4%	14.8%	
5. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	N/A	88.7%	6.5%	4.8%	
6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.	N/A	87.0%	6.4%	6.5%	
7. My child has SEND and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	65.6%	19.7%	1.6%	13.1%	1.6%
8. The school has high expectations for my child.	N/A	90.2%	1.6%	8.2%	
9. My child does well at this school.	N/A	95.2%	4.8%		
10. The school lets me know how my child is doing.	N/A	92.0%	6.5%	1.6%	
11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	N/A	91.8%		8.2%	
12. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	N/A	80.4%	4.9%	14.8%	
13. The school supports my child's wider personal development.	N/A	85.2%	4.9%	9.8%	
14. I would recommend this school to another parent.		<b>YES</b> 93.4%		<b>NO</b> 6.6%	

**Class attendance updates:**

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:NT	91.77%	Y1TL	93.86%	Y3EG	96.15%	Y5JY	95.20%
YR:TK	96.73%	Y1/2OB	94.42%	Y3/4CS	93.40%	Y5/6NC	94.75%
		Y2JW	97.22%	Y4HJ	93.13%	Y6AJM	96.20%
<b>Whole school attendance: 94.87%</b>							

*\*%s are up to and including Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December*

**\*\*If your child is currently waiting to take a COVID-19 test, or to receive the results of a COVID-19 test, I would be very grateful if you could continue to follow the process of informing the school if there is a positive result. Please email our school office with any results: [enquiries@admin.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@admin.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk). Should your child receive a positive result you should inform us as outlined above and follow the [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) that I emailed to you prior to the October holiday break from school\*\***

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## January 2021

Attached to the newsletter email today is our Spring Term dates 2021 letter. As much is changing in the world, at a more rapid pace than previously, I have decided against fully updating the 'key dates' letter and have simply made some subtle changes to events in school on the run up to Easter. We have changed some of the dates of the Parents' Evening phone calls home that will be taking place in February/March. Click the link to view the full Spring Term dates 2021 letter:

<https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/home/Spring%20Term%20Dates%202021.pdf>

We will continue to make use of Government Guidance over the coming months to make any updates to our Summer Term events, which we will communicate to you at Easter time.



**Class based Worship themes** – During the first half term of 2021, children will be focusing on the following:

**School Value:** Friendship

**Reflective question:** What do I value most in a friend?

**\*\*On our first day back to school, letters will be issued to some children who have been identified to take part in some after school tuition with their class teacher. Staff have made use of the recent assessments that children have undertaken in selecting those who would most benefit from some more individual support\*\***

**Mindful Minis** – During our first week back, we welcome the Mindful Minis programme into school. Both  Mindful Minis children and staff will participate in sessions which promote the theme of mindfulness. A range of workshops will be delivered to children in Year 1 – Year 6 with elements linked to meditation, breathing, yoga, reflection and the power of a positive mindset.



**Hinning House** – On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January, parents/carers of children in Year 5 will receive a letter regarding our annual residential trip to Hinning House in the Lake District. At the moment, residential trips are not permitted to take place and a review by a government education group is set to take place in February with the hope that outdoor centres and residential trips can start to take place after Easter 2021. We have provisionally booked for our Year 5 children to spend time at Hinning House in April 2021 as we return to school after Easter. We realise that the planning, organising and financing of a trip like this takes time and so we want to be fully prepared should we receive positive news in February. We need to be aware of the number of children who would like to attend and therefore, the letter families receive will be asking if they would like their child to attend and asking for a small deposit, which will be returnable should the trip not take place. Fingers crossed!

**Reception starters 2021** – Applications have almost closed for parents/carers to submit for their child to start our Reception class in September 2021. Applications need to be submitted by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**. **Please ensure that if you have a church card to support your Reception application you hand this in at the school office by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021.**



### **Admissions update for children starting in Reception September 2022:**

For the school year 2022-2023 we are proposing to amend our criteria slightly. Should you wish to, you are invited to read, and comment on, these proposed changes by Tues 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021. The full proposed arrangements can be read by following the link:

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Schools/School-Admissions/Consultations/index.aspx>

This is the final school newsletter of 2020. At school, doors will re-open at 8:30am on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and at our Lancaster Avenue, doors will also re-open on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January, at 8:45am. Thank you all for your support over the past 12 months. It is very much a team effort to ensure that we all follow the mantra of 'Never settle for less than your best'. I hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you all in 2021.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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