



Newsletter – Wednesday 31st March 2021

It has been lovely to see you and your children in and around school over these past few weeks. Your children have settled right back into school life and it has been pleasing to see our classrooms working at 'full capacity' and our outdoor areas being used by more children. Attached to the newsletter email today is a Summer Term (1st half) dates letter. Before May half-term, we will email you key dates for the 2nd half of the Summer Term as, hopefully, many of our usual end of year events can start to 'safely' take place.

Class attendance updates:

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:NT	95.58%	Y1TL	95.98%	Y3LK	93.00%	Y5JY	94.58%
YR:TK	94.99%	Y1/2OB	94.23%	Y3/4CS	96.11%	Y5/6NC	95.96%
		Y2JW	97.01%	Y4HJ	92.43%	Y6AJM	96.48%
Whole school attendance: 95.12%							

*%s are from Monday 8th March 2021 up to and including Friday 26th March 2021



Inspiration – Well done to Anabelle in Year 1 who asked her mum to cut her hair short so she could donate her hair to 'Little Princess Trust'. Anabelle also managed to raise over **£400** in the process! We are all really proud of Anabelle who, in line with our School Vision, has truly shown herself as a 'beacon of light' in our community. Her actions have inspired some of our staff who may soon be undertaking 'hair related' fundraising opportunities.....watch this space!

Community Award – We recently received a visit in school from Councillor Nazia Rehman, who came to present both Mr Young and myself with the 'Thank you Tyldesley' Award. It was very humbling to have been nominated for the award in recognition of the work we had undertaken trying to make people smile during the recent lockdown. Click the link to see the 'final' video we put together on Friday 5th March: <https://vimeo.com/519613384>. The whole idea with the videos initially came from me asking staff to put together videos for your children as part of the remote teaching offer. I felt I had to lead by example with this. I had also seen a primary school in London where the Headteacher regularly makes use of video messages to communicate with the school community. Of course, we wanted to do things differently and so our videos evolved into what you saw online. We hope you enjoyed them. Click the link to view our acceptance speeches from receiving the awards last week:



<https://vimeo.com/530477553>



World Book Day – Thank you to Mr Young who arranged for Scott Allen, author of 'Llamas go large' and 'Llama United' to visit classes via Zoom on World Book Day. It is good to hear around school how children are continuing to make full use of their school reading book as well as our online resources (Reading Eggs and Reading Plus).

Easter Service – Thank you to all our children and staff who have worked really hard within their class bubbles, to put together our whole school Easter Service. I am always amazed at the approach Mrs Jeffries takes when she plans for these performances and this time it was no different as the children created artistic representations of both Coventry Cathedral and Christchurch Cathedral in New Zealand. Both these buildings were destroyed and rebuilt and are used to represent the Resurrection. Children also worked on models of the Cathedrals using cardboard and these can be seen in the video. Click the link to view the whole performance via our YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/a2y2--G_DWw



'Never settle for less than your best'

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Over Easter and after Easter

Work planned in school – As part of our continuing school improvement there will be some ‘upgrades’ and ‘additions’ in school over the next few weeks:

Over Easter:

- the Nursery/Reception wooden canopy at the front of school is being replaced and
- the flooring in the Year 1TL classroom is being replaced to support the new ‘continuous provision’ approach we are taking in KS1.

After Easter:

- there will be a permanent ‘wig-wam’ feature outside the Reception classroom and
- a new stage will be built at the far end of the school field.

I am also in very early talks with the local council about extending the school boundary to incorporate part of the wooded area at the rear of school so that we can start to make use of this area for learning opportunities for all children across school.

Nursery fees – From Thursday 1st April 2021 onwards, our Nursery fees will slightly increase in light with local authority increases. Prices from this point onwards will be:



£5.36 per hour for our 2-year-old provision (Lancaster Avenue Nursery) and
£4.14 per hour for our pre-school provision (Lancaster Avenue Nursery and Darlington Street Nursery)



All price increases will be reflected in your nursery fees from **Tuesday 20th April 2021** when children return to nursery.

Reception starters 2021 – If you have applied for a Reception place for 2021, you will receive an email from Wigan Council informing you of your school on Friday 16th April. Please ensure that you read and follow the information within the email which will guide you on what to do following confirmation of your school place offer.



Class based Worship themes – During the first half of the Summer Term, children will focus on the following:

School Value: Endurance

Reflective question: Whose example of endurance do you most admire and why?

After school tutoring/clubs – During the first week 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. Should you receive a tuition letter, please ensure that you complete and return the reply slip so that an effective start can be made with this during week commencing Monday 26th April. During the same week, in a further step to return to ‘normality’ some extra-curricular clubs will re-start in school for some year groups. Please click the link to view the Summer Term extra-curricular clubs letter that was emailed out last week:



[https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/home/Summer%20Term%20\(1st%20half\)%20clubs%202021.pdf](https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/home/Summer%20Term%20(1st%20half)%20clubs%202021.pdf)



School Swimming – A separate letter has recently been sent out to the families of children in Year 3 and Year 4 informing them how school swimming will re-start for our children when we return after Easter. The classes below will therefore attend lessons on the following afternoons:

Monday: **Y4HJ** Wednesday: **Y3/4CS** Thursday: **Y3LK**

On the days your child attends swimming they may arrive back at school slightly later than usual. Children will only be handed over to you from classrooms doors once the children have returned to school. Please therefore ‘factor in’ a slight delay on the day your child attends swimming.

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St. George's Day – To celebrate St. George's Day in school, children will spend time in class during the first week back learning the story of St. George. Each class will use a different school Christian Value to reflect and respond to the story. Children will also be learning the song: 'When a Knight Won His Spurs' (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3pOHEc53pY>). All the work the children undertake (including the singing of the song) will be put together in a YouTube clip that will be shared with you on Friday 23rd April. Also, children can come to nursery/school dressed in red and white on Friday 23rd April.

Staying open! – Although school will still be used as a Polling Station on **Thursday 6th May 2021** for the elections, our school will REMAIN OPEN on this day (even with COVID-19 'restrictions in place!'). Like recent years, the Music Room in our new extension will be used for this. In order to ensure that all COVID-19 guidance is met for voters, Wigan Council will provide a marshall on the external door to this part of the school who will control the amount of people who can safely be in the building. On this day, the 'Peel Hall' playground entrance will be closed all day. In order to ensure school is more accessible for you, all classroom doors will be open from **8:30am onwards and closed at 9:10am**. Therefore, please head straight towards your child's classrooms doors as soon as you arrive. At home time, classroom doors will be open for you to collect children at the following times:



Year 1TL, Year 1/2OB and Year 2JW: **2:45pm onwards** (earlier than usual on this day)

Nursery and Reception: **3:00pm onwards**

Year 3LK, Year 3/4CS and Year 4HJ: **3:15pm onwards**

Year 5JY, Year 5/6NC and Year 6AJM: **3:20pm**

As always, if you have to collect multiple children from different classrooms, please aim to arrive at the 'later time' to avoid having to wait around our site. Should you use our school for voting purposes on the day, then please use the gate on 'Peel Hall' side of school and walk down to the extension where you will be able to cast your vote.



Inter-school Sports events (ATSA) – It is just over a year ago since the picture of our winning Mini Water-Polo team (left) was taken as they beat St. Philip's to become the 2019-2020 ATSA Champions. You may have recently seen that we are making a 'slow and steady' re-start to extra-curricular clubs in school and so it is hoped that at some point during the Summer Term, in line with updated guidance, we are able to come together to compete as local schools.

Assessments (Year 1 – Year 6) – This year, the usual statutory end of Key Stage assessments for Year 2 and Year 6 have been cancelled along with the statutory Year 1 Phonics Screening Check. Therefore, we have taken this opportunity to re-evaluate when we undertake all our assessment in school this year in order that your children are able to 'show their very best' to us. With this in mind, assessments for all children (Year 1 – Year 6) will be taking place throughout June with the final dates of these being communicated to you in our Summer Term (2nd half) dates letter that will be emailed to you on Friday 28th May.



****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. 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 have previously emailed to you ****

Paper copies of this newsletter are available in the letter holders in the school entrance area for you to pick up should you wish. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday 30th April. Our school site and Lancaster Avenue Nursery site will close today and re-open to children on Tuesday 20th April 2021. Have a great Easter with your family.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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