

St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery



Newsletter – Friday 28th May 2021



Well here we are at the end of another half term. For me, each half term represents a small milestone as we move towards a return to a more 'normal' and stable routine. During this last half term, music lessons have re-started in school, our Year 3 and Year 4 children have started swimming lessons at The Pelican Centre, we have welcomed more visitors into school, our children have taken part in inter-school sports competitions and we have re-introduced extra-curricular activities for our children.



You will see from the Summer Term (2nd half) dates letter, attached to this email, that within the final half term of the year there will be lots more happening in school as we continue to make further strides towards our usual calendar of events. Our aim with the newsletter this month is to not only provide you with updates about school but to provide details about the approach we will take with many of these events within the final half-term of 2020/2021. Many thanks to everyone who recently completed our short 'Lockdown Survey'. We hope that we never really have to fully put our 'Lockdown systems' fully into place again. Nevertheless, the feedback provided was invaluable to us as we continue to look to improve our overall offer.



Staffing updates – As we start to plan for September 2021, there have been several staffing developments over the last few weeks and so I am now able to fully update you with some of the changes. Today, **Mrs Reeder** leaves our school to spend time looking after her twin grandchildren (Florence and Frances). Mrs Reeder has worked at St. George's Central for over 20 years and we thank her for all her hard work during this time. We are sure that we will see her again! Miss Jones will now be working in our Breakfast Club until the end of this term.

Upon our return to school on Monday 7th June, Y6AJM will become known as Y6AM as **Mrs Malley** will become the full time Y6 class teacher. Mrs Malley has worked at St. George's Central for 15 years and will be permanently increasing her hours to work Monday – Friday.

At the end of this school year, after 25 years as a teacher (11 of those years at St. George's Central) **Mrs Wright** will be retiring from teaching. The Wright family will be moving to Garstang as they embark on the next stage of their lives. Since Mrs Wright started at St. George's Central in 2010 she has been involved in all areas of life at our school, including being a school governor, the school council leader, the art Leader and let's not forget.....a brilliant teacher and team member of St. George's Central. We wish Mrs Wright and her family good luck for the future.



In September, **Miss Beswick** will be starting at our school as one of our Reception teachers. Miss Beswick has recently qualified as a teacher and we are pleased that she will be starting her career at our school. Miss Beswick will be in school for our new intake 'Welcome Sessions' and for other meetings throughout June and July.

Miss Derighetti was recently appointed as our Breakfast Club Leader and as a permanent teaching assistant in school. Since March, Miss Derighetti has been working at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery. In order to prepare for this new role in September, Miss Derighetti has recently been working alongside Mrs Reeder in Breakfast Club. This means that we are currently working to recruit an Early Years Assistant to work at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery from September.

Finally, I am pleased to confirm that this week, both **Mr Kenny** and **Miss Killian** were appointed as permanent members of teaching staff at our school. We are pleased that they are continuing to work with us as a part of our school team.

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Charitable Work – As part of Y4HJ’s work on persuasive writing, children looked at a letter written by Bill Oddie on behalf of the Gorilla Organisation. Many of the children were so affected by the plight of the world’s last few thousand gorillas that they were keen to help. The children wrote letters to me explaining that all four sub species of gorillas are at risk of extinction due to human activity and habitat loss and could we have permission to complete a fundraiser in school, largely to support the work of the brave rangers who live alongside the gorillas in the rainforests. After receiving the go ahead, children brought in donations of sweets to fill a jar and a competition took place to guess the total number of sweets. Thanks to some generous contributions we were also able to extend our activities to selling small bags of sweets. I am sure you will join me in celebrating our caring pupils who managed to raise **£76.30** – well done Year 4HJ (and well done to James Marsh from Year 5/6NC for winning the ‘guess the number of sweets’ competition).

Class Worship – During May, the following Class Workshops have taken place. Click the links to view all the recent performances:

Date	Class(es)	Link to Class Worship
Friday 14 th May	Year 5JY and Year 5NC Class Worship	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NxPpP8j0qtU&t=9s
Friday 21 st May	Year 4HJ Class Worship	https://youtu.be/yzljDkHLid0
Friday 28 th May	Year 3/4CS Class Worship	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMzf3R2c0GE

Please see the Summer Term (2nd half) dates letter, attached to this email, for the dates of all other Class Workshops in June and July.



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

School Value: Hope

Reflective question: What is a hopeful person like?

Sun Protection in school – With our School Value for next half term being hope, I **hope** we start to see some good weather over the May half term break. There are some steps you can take to help protect your child from the sun when they return to school. As children will be outside for a relatively short period of the day we advise that they should come to school with a water bottle, a sun hat and sun glasses and that any sun cream should be applied at home before children come to school so that re-application in school will not be necessary. We will adapt any outdoor activities within our Early Years and PE sessions and children will be encouraged to drink from their water bottles on a regular basis throughout the day.



Extra-curricular clubs – Due to the number of events taking place after half term, clubs will be starting back on Monday 7th June (the first day after half term). This is to provide your children with as many weeks as possible to access them. Should you wish for your child to join any of the clubs after half term, then please let us know in school by 9:30am on Monday 7th June. All extra-curricular clubs will finish on Friday 25th June for this school year. Click the link to view the letter that was recently emailed to you: [https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/home/Summer%20Term%20\(2nd%20half\)%20clubs%202021.pdf](https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/home/Summer%20Term%20(2nd%20half)%20clubs%202021.pdf)

School Books and presentation – In order to support our transition activities across school and ensure that children make an effective start to their learning in September, when they return to school on Monday 7th June, every child from Reception – Y5 will be starting their new ‘September’ exercise books in each subject area. This will support your child’s new teacher in September as they will be able to look back at the standard of work your child has produced in their final weeks of their previous year group. Starting ‘September’ books in June has worked well for us over the last few years. As usual, exercise books will be sent home at the end of the year, with a sample of school books being kept by class teachers.



Tri-Kidz (IronKidz Challenge) – Wednesday 9th June and Thursday 10th June will see school visited by The Tri Kidz charity project. Children from Year 1 – Year 6 will receive free triathlon coaching from a team of qualified coaches. Children will take part in some fun based cycling and running sessions. This session will ‘replace’ your child’s ‘usual’ outdoor PE session and so for this week (apart from Year 4HJ swimming on Monday) children should come to school in their outdoor PE kit on the following days:

Wednesday 9th June: Y1TL, Y1/2OB, Y3/4CS, Y5/6NC and Y5JY **Thursday 10th June:** Y2JW, Y3LK, Y4HJ and Y6AJM

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European Cultural Awareness – During our first week back, to mark the long awaited Euro 2020 football tournament, we will be holding a European Cultural Awareness Week. Each class has been allocated a country that they will represent and throughout that week they will learn all about their country’s geography, history, language, citizens and festivals. On Friday 11th June, the children will have the opportunity to show you, virtually, what they have learned through their cultural performance. On this Friday, we would like your child to dress in the ‘colours’ of their country. If you originate from one of the countries that are in the tournament and would like to share your expertise with our children then please contact your child’s class teacher as we would love to welcome you into school during this week. See below for the countries classes will be studying:



Lanc Ave Nursery – France	Darlington St Nursery – Italy	Rec: NT – Spain	Rec: TK – Germany
Y1TL – Turkey	Y1/2OB – Poland	Y2JW – Netherlands	Y3LK – North Macedonia
Y3/4CS – Portugal	Y4HJ – Croatia	Y5JY – Ukraine	Y5/6NC – Belgium
			Y6AM – Sweden



Assessment Week (including Y1/2 Phonics tests) – During week beginning Monday 14th June, children from Year 1 – Year 6 will undertake end of year assessments in Maths, Reading and Spelling Punctuation and Grammar. During this week, all children in Y1 and some children in Y2 will undertake a phonics test. This will be delivered by staff in school and will involve the children being tested on their knowledge of the sounds of letters, and groups of letters, within words. The children are typically asked to say the sound/word from a given list. All your child’s results will be included in their end of year report that will be sent out in July.

Mindful Minis – Tuesday 15th June will see our re-arranged, Mindful Minis programme take place in school. Mindful Minis Both 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.



Show your support for England Day – In order to show our support for the England Football team (and support families within our local community) we will be having some ‘show your support for England’ days. On these days, children can come to school wearing red/white



or an England t-shirt (similar to St. George’s Day). Our aim is to celebrate these days when England play a match in the re-arranged Euro 2020 football tournament. Initially, this will be on **Friday 18th June** and **Tuesday 22nd June**. The further England progress in the tournament, then the more of these days we will have (fingers crossed!). All that we ask is that you bring into school a food item on these days that we can then collate together to create food hampers that we can distribute within our local community. Hopefully, we may inspire England all the way to winning the tournament whilst supporting local families as well.

Sports days

Our sports days this year will take place on the following days:

Monday 21st June – Key Stage 2 (9:30am start on the school field)

Tuesday 22nd June – Key Stage 1 (9:30am start on the school field & playground)

Wednesday 23rd June – Reception (9:30am start on the school field)

Friday 25th June – Nursery (9:30am start on the school field)



Unfortunately, we will not be having any spectators at any of these events this year



All sports days are weather permitting

***NEW Parents’ Evenings** – At the start of the school year, we planned for there to be a ‘third’ parents’ evening during the Summer Term. When we planned this, we thought we may be in a position to invite you all into school. Unfortunately, we are not quite there yet! **Therefore, these evenings will not take place this year.** We will provide you with more information about these evenings next year as we are confident (fingers crossed) that, you will then be able to come and spend some time in school for these evenings!

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KS2 end of year production – Rehearsals for Y6 children have started and children now know the part they will be playing in the end of year KS2 production. Y6 children will now need to spend the half term break learning their lines so that upon their return to school, they can ‘polish’ off their performance by practicing on stage without the need for scripts. Although Y6 make up the main actors for this performance, the children from Y3, Y4 and Y5 play a major role in making up the choir that sings all the songs during the play (which is a key aspect as the songs help to tell the story). Due to guidance and spacing in our hall, over the next few weeks, we will be filming the Y6 children on stage and children in Y3 – Y5 singing the songs in class groups so that there will be a YouTube clip of the final performance ready for you to view on **Friday 16th July**.



Inter-school ATSA events re-started on Monday 10th May and children from our school have recently taken part in the following:

KS2 Girls’ Football Cup Competition – On Monday 10th May, the girls’ football team took part in an ATSA competition involving five schools. The children from St. George’s Central played very well, winning all of their matches and so I am pleased to announce that we are the **2020-2021 Girl’s Football Cup Champions**. Children who took part in this were: Corynne Beca, Olivia Fearn, Macey Foley, Poppy Hampson, Mabel Iwelu, Maisie Millward, Leah Molyneaux, Miley Redmond, Matilda Sincup and Sienna Taylor.



‘Kickstarterz’ Taster Session – Earlier this week, eight Reception children took part in lots of fun style fitness activities at a ‘Kickstarterz’ Taster Session with Reception children from two other local schools. This was a great opportunity for some of our children to take part in their first ever inter-school ATSA event. Our children are very lucky as we also have ‘Kickstarterz’ sessions in school on a regular basis. For further information, search for ‘Kickstarterz’ on Facebook.

Yoga Taster Session – Also this week, sixteen Year 5 and Year 6 children took part in some Yoga activities at a Yoga Taster Session. The session was led by Toni Aspinall from Toni Marie Yoga. The next ATSA Yoga Taster Session will be at St. George’s Central on Tuesday 15th June and will be for Year 3 and Year 4 children.



Y5/6 Rounders Competition – Last night, our Y5/6 rounders team finished as **runners-up** in a competition against five other schools. Well done to Millie Briggs, Marley Crawford, Sam Hunt, Riley Hawkins, Mabel Iwelu, Princess Iwelu, Jack Lawrence, Eva Molyneaux, Leah Molyneaux and Finlay Twiss who made up the team.

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

- **Crown Green Bowling Taster Sessions**
- **Cycle Speedway Taster Session**
- **Y5/6 Yoga Taster Session**
- **KS2 Mixed Football ‘Cup’ Competition**
- **KS2 Netball League**
- **KS2 Kwik Cricket Competition**

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 25th June. Have a great half term with your families.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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