



Newsletter – Friday 21st October 2022

Click the link to view a digital version of this newsletter: <https://youtu.be/5bXDHQmAZsQ>

Here we are at the end of a very busy first half term at St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery. Thank you for your continued support during this time. Please find attached to the 'newsletter email' the Autumn Term (2nd half) dates letter. You will have already received a list of the 'key dates' for the school year. Our aim is to provide you with as much notice as possible with these main events that will take place across school and so that is the reason we email these dates to you in July.

However, over the course of the school year, other opportunities for your children arise and so there are additional events added. We therefore provide you with a half-termly updated list of events. Paper copies of the Autumn Term (2nd half) dates letter will be in the entrance area at school and there will always be a link on the opening page of the school website.

Over the next few months, we will be providing you with some background information about our school governors within our newsletters. See the first one of these below from our **Chair of Governors, Mrs Fiona Taylor:**



I am from Tyldesley and attended Tyldesley Central, which was also known as the mission school. I was third generation to attend and there have been further generations attended here. I became a governor when my son Cameron started at St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery about 16 years ago. I have been in the privileged position as Chair for over 10 years. I am also very active with the work of our Parish Church and I am deeply committed to our community. I am married and a mum and grandmother. I have worked for over 40 years in the NHS, where I trained as a Nurse, Midwife and Health Visitor in Salford. I moved into management in 1992 and my last role has been as Chief Executive of two clinical commissioning groups. I am passionate about making sure the children receive a great all round education with lots of opportunities hopefully to equip them for their future as citizens in our local community and wider society. I like swimming and have just started Pilates.

Class attendance updates:

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:EH	88.60%	Y1NT	96.25%	Y3LK	93.64%	Y5HJ	92.23%
YR:TK	95.09%	Y1/2TL	93.48%	Y3/4CS	93.15%	Y5/6NC	90.94%
		Y2BR	96.37%	Y4CB	92.96%	Y6AM	91.49%
Whole school attendance: 93.11%							

*%'s are up to and including Friday 14th October 2022



Reception starters 2023 – The link on the Wigan Council website for 2023 Reception places recently opened: <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Schools/School-Admissions/Primary-schools.aspx>. If your child

was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019, you can now submit an application for your child to start our Reception class in September 2023. The closing date for admissions is **Sunday 15th January 2023**. Should your child attend either of our nurseries and you have any questions or if you require any support with completing the form, then please do not hesitate to contact us in school. Should you know anyone with children starting school in September 2023, please let them know that, like every year, I will show people around school on an **individual basis**. Please ask people to ring or email (using the details in the footer of this newsletter) and we will make an appointment to meet with me and have a look round our school.

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European Day of Languages – We celebrated European Day of Languages in school on Monday 26th September. The morning began with a whole school worship introducing the ideas of European Day of Languages as well as thinking about why learning languages is so important. Our KS2 children then spent part of the day researching a European country and learning a popular children's song in that language. The day culminated in a sharing assembly with a Eurovision theme, in which all KS2 classes shared some facts they had learned about their country and performed songs they had been practising.

Harvest celebrations in school and church – Our Harvest celebrations started in school on the day the last newsletter was sent out. In the morning, Reverend Cath, led a service with our Reception and KS1 children. Later in the day, Mrs Malley and Mrs Jeffries led the service with our KS2 children. Each class contributed to the services, which this year centred around Jesus feeding the 5000 and the theme of sharing. With this in mind, we added the non-uniform day to raise money for the Christian Aid Appeal to help with famine relief in East Africa. It was also great to see so many of our children and families in St. George's Church as part of the Sunday Harvest Service on 2nd October. Many thanks for your harvest gifts that you kindly donated. We will be in contact with Atherton and Leigh Foodbank to come and collect the donations so that they can be distributed within the community. A great example of a fantastic team effort from children, staff parents/carers and the community!



Black History Month – In October, we have been celebrating the incredible influences that black people and people from other cultures have had on our global society. Our school, was visited by the incredible black poet, Levi Tafari, who put on fantastic poetry workshops for all the children. We remembered the historic struggles that black people have encountered such as: slavery, segregation and apartheid. Within each class, we have had discussions, debates and produced work to celebrate their lives. Our children carried on this research at home and we have been inundated with poems and pieces of art that have been inspired by a variety of inspirational black people. It has been a fantastic month of celebrating global diversity.



Poet Visit and Green Room projects – We celebrated National Poetry Day, by welcoming poet Levi Tafari back to St. George's Central. Levi was last in our school in September 2018 when he opened our fantastic school library. This year, the theme for National Poetry Day was 'The Environment'. We were lucky enough to hear Levi perform many of his poems based on this theme. Children across school took part in a whole host of poetic experiences to help them develop their poetic writing techniques as well as their speaking, listening and performing skills.

This year, poetry performances will be the focus of the work classes undertake in our 'Green Room' recording studio. Click the link below to watch the recent 'film' created: <https://youtu.be/L5QDGCGBAzo>



Parent/carer workshops – It was great to see so many of you at our recent workshops. Thanks to Mrs O'Brien, Miss Taylor, Mrs Leech and Miss Ranger for leading the Early Reading/Phonics Workshop for KS1 parents/carers. Thanks also to Mrs O'Brien and Mr Hadjigeorgiou for leading the Early Reading/Phonics Workshop for Reception parents/carers. We are looking forward to planning more parent/carer workshops this year so that you feel more informed about different areas of schools and elements of learning that your child may be involved. We believe that schools and families working in partnership will always bring about success for your children.

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Class Worship – It was great to welcome many of you into school for Y6AM Class Worship last Friday. The date for the Class Worship for each class is already in place for this year. Should you wish to attend the Class Worship of your child's class, please just come to the main entrance once you have dropped any children at their classroom door and we will welcome you into school for the 9:10am start time. Each Class Worship lasts for about 20 – 30 minutes and there is always an opportunity for you to have a quick chat with your child at the end. See below for the dates of the remaining Class Workshops this year:

Class Worship date	Class	Class Worship date	Class
Friday 4 th November 2022	Y5/6NC	Friday 10 th March 2023	Y2BR
Friday 18 th November 2022	Y5HJ	Friday 5 th May 2023	Y1/2TL
Friday 20 th January 2023	Y4CB	Friday 19 th May 2023	Y1NT
Friday 3 rd February 2023	Y3/4CS	Friday 16 th June 2023	Reception
Friday 17 th February 2023	Y3LK	Friday 30 th June 2023	Darlington Street Nursery

There is also the Year 6 Leavers' Worship in school on Friday 21st July 2023.

'Stay and Plays' and open afternoons – It has been great to welcome parents/carers into our Nurseries and Reception classes this week to spend some time learning alongside their children. It was good to see family members of older children in school as we 're-started' our open afternoons. Thank you to everyone who visited this week.



Bikeability sessions – During this week, some Year 6 children have taken part in 'Bikeability' sessions. The children learned how to cycle safely on the road including signalling, positioning and how to complete safety checks on their bikes. **A reminder for all that when bikes and scooters are brought onto our school site they are pushed and not ridden so as to reduce the risk of accidents.**

Musical Performance in school – It was good to welcome many of you into school on Wednesday this week for the first musical performance of the school year. Thanks to Miss Gray, who brought the children together for this performance. Our musical performances take place each half term and involve our choir being joined by our musicians from across school. The dates for these half- termly performances are already in place for this year. Should you wish to attend any of the performances, please just come to the main entrance once you have dropped any children at their classroom door and we will welcome you into school for the 9:15am start time. Each performance lasts for about 20 – 30 minutes and there is always an opportunity for you to have a quick chat with your child at the end of their performance. See below for the dates of the remaining musical performances this year:



Musical performance dates
Wednesday 14 th December 2022
Wednesday 15 th February 2023
Wednesday 29 th March 2023
Wednesday 24 th May 2023
Wednesday 19 th July 2023



Brathay Hall residential – Thank you to all the Year 5 parent/carers who attended the Brathay Hall residential meeting earlier this week. The children will be visiting Brathay Hall in the Lake District for their annual 5 day residential in February 2023. Should you have any questions about this trip or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Cooke in school.

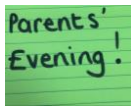
Dance Festival – The children from our KS2 after-school dance club participated in The Primary Dance Leaders Dance Festival on Wednesday 19th October 2022. Over this last half term, Darcy and Megan from Fred Longworth High School have come into our school to choreograph and teach the children their dance, which they then performed for other primary schools in the local area at the event earlier this week. Well done to all the children that represented our school and a big thank you to the children from Fred Longworth for all of your support.



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Autumn Term parents' evening – Earlier this week, you should have received a paper copy of your confirmed parents' evening time slot as we look forward to welcoming you into school for 'face-to-face' meetings after the half term. Please see the table below with our 'updated plan' for the Autumn Term parents' evening:



Date	Event
Wednesday 19 th October	Paper copies of confirmed parents' evening time slots will be sent home (please check bags)
Monday 31 st October	Lancaster Avenue Nursery Parents' Meetings throughout the week: <i>see Miss Cowley to sign up</i> Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: EH, Reception: TK, Y1NT, Y1/2TL, Y2BR
Tuesday 1 st November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): Y3LK, Y3/4CS, Y4CB, Y5HJ, Y5/6NC, Y6AM
Wednesday 2 nd November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: EH, Reception: TK, Y1NT, Y1/2TL, Y2BR
Thursday 3 rd November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): Y3LK, Y3/4CS, Y4CB, Y5HJ, Y5/6NC, Y6AM

For all appointments, please ensure that you arrive 5 minutes before your allocated time. In order to ensure we are able to accommodate all families, there will be with a time limit of 10 minutes. I will be available in the school hall on all school based evenings should you need to speak to me – no appointment will be necessary for this. I look forward to seeing you then.

Secondary School applications – For the parents/carers of children in Year 6, do not forget to complete your child's application for Secondary School by the closing date of **Monday 31st October 2022**. The main information page and admissions booklet can be accessed by clicking on the following link:
<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Schools/School-Admissions/Secondary-schools.aspx>



You will be notified in March 2023 of the name of the Secondary School that your child will be going to.



Class based Worship themes – During the second half term, children will be focusing on the following:

School Value: Trust

Reflective question: Who would say they can trust you?

Year 1 'sleepover' – This year, as part of our new 'residential plan', our Year 1 children will be spending a night in school, on Friday 25th November, as we have the very first Year 1 'sleepover'. To provide Year 1 parents/carers with more information about this, a meeting has been planned in school, at **3:30pm – 4:00pm or 6:00pm – 6:30pm on Thursday 10th November**. Look out for the letter after half-term from Miss Taylor and Mrs Leech regarding the meeting.



Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 13th November will see our children take part in the annual Remembrance Sunday parade in Tyldesley. When we return to school after half term, a letter will be sent out inviting children to join us as we walk with the community from the market square to the Cenotaph. The service is always well attended by the community and by children from St. George's Central. Look out for the letter during the first week back in school inviting your children to take part.

Children in Need – On Friday 18th November we will be taking part in a SPOTacular Children in Need Day to show support for children and young people that are experiencing new challenges due to the cost of living crisis. Children can come dressed in non-uniform with a £1 donation and wear something with spots! Classes will spend time over the day taking part in SPOTacular activities. Click the link below to see more information about the fundraising event and activities you may like to take part in at home: <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraising/>



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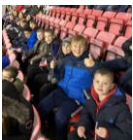
Year 5/6 Hockey Competition – Monday 3rd October saw the Year 5/6 hockey team take part in a competition against nine other schools. Well done to Mr Simmons and his team.

Boxing Taster Session – On Wednesday 4th October, four children from Year 5/6 were joined by children from four other local schools for a Boxing Taster Session at our school. ‘Boxing for Better’ coach, Damian, led the session and the children experienced a variety of fitness activities linked to boxing.



‘Kickstarterz’ Taster Session – On Monday 10th October, three of our Reception children took part in a fun, fitness ‘Kickstarterz’ Taster Session. This was a great opportunity for some of our children to take part in their first ever ‘after school’ ATSA event. Our children were joined by Reception children from four other schools.

Yoga Taster Session – Some Year 5 and Year 6 children took part in a Yoga Taster Session. The session was led by Toni Aspinall from Toni Marie Yoga. Yoga Taster Sessions for other year groups are planned for later in the year.



Rugby League World Cup – Earlier this week, our children joined with two other schools to go and watch Wales v Cook Islands, in the Rugby League World Cup at Leigh Sports Village. For many of our children, this was their first experience of watching a live rugby match and the children enjoyed a thrilling game.

KS2 Cross Country – Yesterday afternoon, some children from St. George’s Central took part in Cross Country races, against children from fourteen other schools, at Atherton High 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!



ATSA All Sports Holiday Provision – Don’t forget that next week, sporting activities have been organised for children in **Y2 – Y6 for £4 a day (with lunch included)**. I hope to see some of our children taking part in these sessions during the October half term:

Days	Provision	Venue	Time
Monday 24 th October 2022	Boxing Fun and Fitness	Parklee	9:00am – 3:00pm
Tuesday 25 th October 2022	Wigan Athletic FC Community Trust	Hindsford	9:00am – 3:00pm
Tuesday 25 th October 2022	Abigail Bibby School of Dancing	St. George’s Central	9:00am – 3:00pm
Wednesday 26 th October 2022	First Aid, Fun Swim and games	The Pelican Centre	9:00am – 3:30pm

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

- **KS2 Kurling Competition**
- **Y5/6 VX Competition**
- ****Futsal Competition (re-arranged)**
- **Y5/6 Basketball Competition**
- **Smite! Taster Session*

As well as being on the school website, there are paper copies of all newsletters available in the letter holders in the entrance area in school and at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery. Our school will close today at 3:15pm and our Lancaster Avenue Nursery will close today at 3:00pm. Both sites will re – open for children on **Monday 31st October**. Don’t forget that it is parents’ evening the first week back when we return to school. Have a great half term with your family.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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