



## Newsletter – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Click the link to view a digital version of this newsletter: <https://youtu.be/z5yEzjD2zo8>

Today is the final school day of 2022. As I look back upon this year, it has been one where many significant changes have taken place across school, more so, than any other year that I have been here. Our quest to continually improve and provide the best for your children is always at the forefront of our minds and the many positive amendments that have occurred over the past 12 months have only strengthened our desire to continue to offer excellent facilities and high quality experiences to support positive relationships and provide the best education for your children. I thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you in 2023.

Miss Beswick and her partner, Mike, welcomed a baby girl into the world on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December as their daughter, Riley, was born. We were all very pleased to hear this happy news and I am sure you will join me in sending Miss Beswick and her family all the best wishes at this time.

In newsletters this year, we started to provide you with some background information about our school governors. The third one of these below is from me, as my role means I am automatically a governor for the duration of my time at St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery:



*I have been the Headteacher at St George's Central CE Primary and Nursery School since September 2012. My role means that I am automatically a governor. Before joining St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery I was the Deputy Headteacher at Parklee Community School in Atherton and prior to that I was a teacher at St. Peter's CE Junior School in Leigh. In 2011, I founded Atherton and Tyldesley Sports Association (ATSA) which provides various sporting opportunities for the primary schools across the area. I live locally and I am married with two children. Phoebe is 14 years old – she enjoys swimming for Wigan BEST. Annie is 10 years old – she likes looking after the guide dogs we 'foster'. We all enjoy watching Bolton Wanderers together. I enjoy going to the gym and going on bike rides to keep fit.*

### Class attendance updates:



Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:EH	90.10%	Y1NT	94.93%	Y3LK	95.20%	Y5HJ	93.23%
YR:TK	92.88%	Y1/2TL	94.74%	Y3/4CS	94.01%	Y5/6NC	91.89%
		Y2BR	93.28%	Y4CB	93.21%	Y6AM	91.16%
<b>Whole school attendance: 93.30%</b>							



*\*%s are up to and including Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022*

As I stated at the start of the school year: **'Good attendance at school is not just valuable, it is essential. Going to school is directly linked to improved performance in school which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities and better job prospects for your children (you will want your children to earn their own money when they are older!). As well as this, going to school helps your children to develop relationships with others (you will want your children to have lots of friends). Therefore please ensure your child is in school, on time, every day to benefit from all that St. George's Central has to offer.'**

**2023 will see St. George's Central continue to offer your children a rich and varied range of opportunities:**

**please ensure they are in school on time every day, so they do not miss out!**

***'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**



**Visit St. George's Church** – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November saw our Reception classes enjoy a lovely walk within the local community to visit St. Georges Church for the morning. During the visit they performed songs from their Christmas nativity and heard the Christmas story. The children listened as Reverend Cath kindly shared information about the important work both her and Rector Martin, our Reception governor, undertake in church and the community.

**World Cup Cultural Week** – To celebrate the start of the World Cup 2022 football tournament, we held a World Cup Cultural Week. Each class was allocated a country and throughout that week the children enjoyed learning all about their country's geography, history, language, citizens and festivals. Thanks to Mr Kenny for coordinating the events in school during that week. The children had a great time and learned lots. Click the link to view the performances from each class: <https://youtu.be/YI3eX1RMalo>



**Year 1 'sleepover'** – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November saw some of our Year 1 children return to school for the first ever fun-filled sleepover in our school hall. The children had a great time playing party games and dancing their socks off in a Zumba class before settling down for supper and a movie. The following morning, they enjoyed having the playground to themselves before going home for a much needed rest. A fantastic time was had by all.

**Year 3 and Year 4 Chester trip** – Children in Year 3 and Year 4 had a fascinating time in Chester as part of their learning about the Romans. On arrival at the Grosvenor Museum, children were greeted by a Roman soldier, who showed the children around the museum and explained why the Romans came to Britain and also specifically Chester. Within a workshop, children learned about artefacts and Roman archaeology. After lunch, the children enjoyed a Roman soldier tour, carrying shields and marching through Chester to the amphitheatre, where they partook in Roman formation soldier training.



**Year 5 and Year 6 Museum trip** – Children in Year 5 and Year 6 had a wonderful time when they visited Bolton Museum on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December. The children had a tour of the museum, saw lots of interesting artefacts and took part in a workshop to enhance their learning about Ancient Egypt.

**Tri-Kidz (Resilience Day)** – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December saw a return to school of Tri-Kidz' with our Year 3 and Year 4 children (and even some of our staff) turning into triathletes as part of a 'Resilience Day'. Everyone enjoyed taking part in the usual 'swimming', cycling and running sessions. Well done to everyone! Tri-Kidz will return to our school in February as children in Year 5 and Year 6 experience the 'Resilience Day'.



**Show your support for England Days** – Many thanks for your support with these days over the last few weeks. Yet again we have 'shown our support' for England in their World Cup campaign whilst supporting Atherton and Leigh Foodbank. Earlier this week all the food was collected by staff from Atherton and Leigh Foodbank. In total, we collected **274.2kgs in food**, which equated to approximately **203 meals**. Thanks again for your tremendous support.



**\*\*Thanks to your donations, we managed to raise:  
£245 for Children in Need and £626 for the Poppy Appeal\*\***



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



Click the links below to view our school based Christmas performances.

Year group	Performance details
Darlington Street Nursery (all children)	Children sang some Christmas songs: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MpfNaeUnFaU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MpfNaeUnFaU</a>
Reception (both classes)	Children performed 'A Miracle in Town': <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYyMvzxxokE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYyMvzxxokE</a>
Year 1 and Year 2 (all children)	Children performed 'It's a Census Get Me Out of Here' <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMD-4ThLWSU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMD-4ThLWSU</a>

Congratulations and well done to all the children who took part in these performances at school and the ones at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery. I know how, in these situations, it is a real team effort in school/nursery and at home, to ensure that 'everything is alright on the night' and so thank you for all your help and support with providing costumes, helping the children to learn lines and bringing them into nursery for extra sessions to perform. A big thank you should also go to all the school staff involved with the shows who not only prepared the children for performances, but also ensured that all photographs were uploaded to Seesaw and that a final recording of the performance was ready to be shared for you to enjoy. You can see from some of the comments from our school visitors' book below how much people enjoyed all the opportunities to see their children perform:



***"FABULOUS! Lots of hard work paid off! You were brilliant!"***  
***"Wonderful and uplifting performance. Definitely ready for Christmas now."***  
***"AMAZING!! So proud of all the children and staff!"***



Thank you to everyone who attended all the performances. Through purchasing raffle tickets at school based performances, you helped to raise **£506**, which was then used to fund Christmas parties and events in school. Thank you for your continued support.



**FREE Pantomime trip** – Children in Reception – Year 6 enjoyed an afternoon at the Opera House for the **FREE** Pantomime trip. The children all enjoyed a swashbuckling trip to Neverland to see Peter Pan take on the villainous Captain Hook. The children loved the special effects, stunning costumes and the ice-cream treat was a particular hit.

**Kevin the Clown** – Children from our Lancaster Avenue Nursery and Darlington Street Nursery were entertained by Kevin the Clown on their party day. There was lots of fun and laughter and he was enjoyed by all as always.



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### Musical performances and school choir events



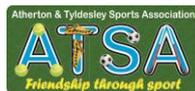
Parents/carers of children in Year 4 were recently treated to a tuned percussion performance from the children in Year 4CS and Year 4CB. Our school 'buys in' to the Wigan Music Service 'Wider Opportunity Music' scheme which means that each week a specialist music teacher (Mrs Lord) comes into our school to teach the children to play musical instruments. Our children learn to play a different percussion instrument each term – this term, the children have been learning to play the African Drums. It was a great performance from the children. After Christmas, the children will be learning to play a different percussion instrument and there will be another whole school performance just before Easter.

Our school choir has been involved in a few events over the last few weeks. Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November saw our children sing at the switching on of the Christmas lights in Tyldesley. It was a proud moment for school to see England football star and former pupil, Ella Toone, turn on the lights. Last week, the children sang at the Rotary Club Community Carol Service at St. George's Church. It was great to see our children sing: 'Little Drummer Boy' and 'Feliz Navidad'. It is pleasing to see how our school continues to take a central role in all community-based events.



In addition, this week, our half-termly musical performance took place with our choir being joined by our musicians from across school so that they could perform to the many visitors who came along. As well as hearing the choir sing, it was great to see some of the children who learn instruments in school perform for everyone. The next musical performance in school will be on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

**Thanks to all the families who attended and supported these musical events and to Miss Gray who brought the children together.**



**Table Tennis Taster Session** – On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November, children from St. George's Central joined with children from five other schools to take part in a Table Tennis Taster Session at Fred Longworth High School. Thanks to coach, Mr Lennon, from Fred Longworth High School for leading this session.

**KS2 Dance Competition** – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November saw our KS2 Dance team take part in a competition against four other schools. The children danced really well to 'Can't Stop the Feeling' by Justin Timberlake. Well done to the children who represented our school at this event.



**Zumba Taster Session** – Some Year 5 and Year 6 children took part in a Zumba Taster Session. The session was led by Anna Collins from Astley Zumba. Zumba Taster Sessions for Year 3/4 and Year 1/2 children are planned for the new year.

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

**\*\*KS1 Sportshall Athletics\*\*    \*\*Mixed and Girls' Football\*\*    \*\*KS2 Dodgeball Competition\*\*    \*\*Y3/4 Yoga Taster Session\*\***

### Over the course of the Autumn Term:

**124** of our children and **12** of our staff have represented St. George's Central in sporting events organised by ATSA.

Click the link below to see the various opportunities for your children to continue to access sports beyond the school day at the many local community clubs:

<https://www.atsa.org.uk/Documents/Community%20links.pdf>

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## January/February 2023

Attached to the newsletter email today is our Spring Term 2023 (1<sup>st</sup> half) dates letter. Clicking the link below will also take you directly to the letter on our school website. Paper copies of this are available in our entrance area. It will be a busy start to the year and so make sure you continually refer to this letter so that you know when things are happening:

<https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/home/Spring%201%20dates%202023.pdf>

Earlier this week, our Spring Term (1<sup>st</sup> half) extra-curricular clubs letter was emailed to you. Clicking the link below will also take you directly to the letter on our school website. Paper copies of this are available in our entrance area:

[https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/home/Spring%20Term%20\(1st%20half\)%20clubs%202023.pdf](https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/home/Spring%20Term%20(1st%20half)%20clubs%202023.pdf)



**Class based Worship themes** – During the first half term of 2023, children will be focusing on the following:

**School Value:** Friendship

**Reflective question:** What are your three essential ingredients for a friend?

**Reception starters 2023** – Applications need to be submitted by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2023** for your child to start in our Reception class in September 2023. Please ensure that if you have a church card to support your Reception application you hand this in at the school office by **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023**.



**Year 4 residential trip** – A meeting will be taking place in school at **6pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023** with parents/carers of children in Year 4 regarding our NEW 4 day residential trip to Low Bank Ground. As you will know from other newsletters sent out this past term, we have introduced 'experiences', some away from home, for children in Year 1 to Year 6. The Year 4 trip will take place **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023** and will involve the children taking part in lots of outdoor and adventurous activities in the Lake District. As

this is a new trip for Year 4, we realise that many of you may wish to listen to the plans for the trip and ask any questions before committing to your child attending and so the information will be for **all Year 4 parents/carers**. Look out for the letter on the first day back in school, in January.

**Open afternoons** – Our next round of open afternoons will take place towards the end of January. These provide you with an opportunity to spend part of an afternoon in your child's class. You do not need to sign up for these, simply come to the school entrance on the following dates/times:

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January: for Y3LK, Y3/4CS and Y4CB (1:30pm – 3pm)**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January: for Y5HJ, Y5/6NC and Y6AM (1:30pm – 3pm)**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January: for Y1NT, Y1/2TL and Y2BR (1:30pm – 3pm)**

**Year 5 Brathay Hall residential trip** – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February will see most children in Year 5 make the journey to Brathay Hall in the Lake District for a 5 day residential trip. The children will spend the week exploring the countryside, orienteering and kayaking as well as many other outdoor and adventurous activities. I am sure everyone is looking forward to the experience away from home.



This is the final school newsletter of 2022. Doors will re-open for children on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at both our Darlington Street school site and our Lancaster Avenue Nursery site. Thanks again 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 2023.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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