



Newsletter – Friday 18th October 2024

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We have come to the end of a very busy first half term, thank you for your 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.

Class attendance updates:

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:CR	97.0%	Y1KB	94.3%	Y3ES	96.2%	Y5RO	96.7%
YR:NT	94.5%	Y1/2PD	97.8%	Y3/4LB	95.2%	Y5/6GC	97.5%
		Y2TL	95.9%	Y4CB	93.8%	Y6AM	91.8%
Whole school attendance: 95.4%							

**%s are up to and including Friday 11th October 2024*

Reception starters 2025 – The link on the Wigan Council website for 2025 Reception places opened recently: [Primary School Admissions](#). If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, you can now submit an application for your child to start our Reception class in September 2025. The closing date for admissions is **Wednesday 15th January 2025**. 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 2025, 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) to make an appointment to meet with me and have a look round our school.



Black History Month – Throughout October, we have been celebrating Black History Month. This year, the theme is 'reclaiming narratives' and has focused on sharing stories of Black History and culture as well as correcting historical inaccuracies. The children have listened to stories about famous historical figures and their achievements to inspire them to 'dream big'. They have produced poetry, artwork and various pieces of writing to reflect their learning.

Poet Visit – We celebrated National Poetry Day, by welcoming poet Andrew Weale to St. George's Central. This year, the theme for National Poetry Day was 'Standing on the Shoulders of Giants'. We were lucky enough to hear Andrew perform many of his poems. 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.



'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

Parent/carer workshops – It was great to see so many of you at our recent workshops. Thanks to Mrs O'Brien and Mrs Rankin for leading the Early Reading/Phonics Workshop for Reception parents/carers. Thanks also to Mrs Malley for leading our KS2 Reading Workshop and Maths Workshops. We believe that schools and families working in partnership will always bring about success for your children. Should you have any questions about any of the workshops then do not hesitate to contact staff in school.



KS1 Great Fire of London Workshop – On Friday 4th October, children in Key Stage 1 were treated to a visit from Trunk Theatre who put on a great performance, teaching them all about the Great Fire of London. They sang, danced and even had a go at putting out the 'fire' for themselves. Finally, they worked together to create ideas for the rebuilding of London after the fire.

Year 3 and Year 4 Stone Age Experience – On Wednesday 9th October children in Year 3 and Year 4 took part in a Stone Age Experience Day to conclude our History topic 'Who first lived in Britain?' The children enjoyed flint knapping with soap, an archaeological dig using cookies, building Stonehenge with Weetabix, exploring and sketching artefacts, as well as cave painting. The children enjoyed putting their knowledge from this half term into practice.



Class Worship – It was great to welcome many of you into school for Y6AM Class Worship last Friday. Should you wish to attend the Class Worship of your child's class, please just come to the main entrance once you have dropped your children at their classroom door and we will welcome you into school for the **9:05am** 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 1 st November 2024	Y5/6GC	Friday 7 th March 2025	Y2TL
Friday 15 th November 2024	Y5RO	Friday 9 th May 2025	Y1/2PD
Friday 17 th January 2025	Y4CB	Friday 23 rd May 2025	Y1KB
Friday 31 st January 2025	Y3/4LB	Friday 13 th June 2025	Reception
Friday 14 th February 2025	Y3ES	Friday 27 th June 2025	Darlington Street Nursery

There is also the Year 6 Leavers' Worship in school on Friday 18th July 2025.



Bikeability sessions – 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, 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. Should you wish to attend any of the performances, please just come to the main entrance once you have dropped your children at their classroom door and we will welcome you into school for the 9:05am 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:



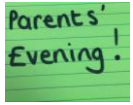
Musical performance dates
Wednesday 18 th December 2024
Wednesday 12 th February 2025
Wednesday 2 nd April 2025
Wednesday 21 st May 2025



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'Stay and Plays' and open afternoons – It has been great to welcome you all into our school this week to spend some time learning alongside your children. Thank you to everyone who visited. Our next planned 'Stay and Plays' and open afternoons will be in January and February 2025. Please check the [2024/2025 Key Dates letter](#) for the exact dates.



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 these meetings after the half term. Please see the table below with our 'updated plan' for the Autumn Term parents' evening:

Date	Event
Wednesday 16 th October	Paper copies of confirmed parents' evening time slots were sent home
Monday 28 th October	Lancaster Avenue Nursery Parents' Meetings throughout the week
	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (4:00pm – 7:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: CR, Reception: NT, Y1KB, Y1/2PD, Y2TL
Tuesday 29 th October	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (4:00pm – 7:00pm): Y3ES, Y3/4LB, Y4CB, Y5RO, Y5/6GC, Y6AM
Wednesday 30 th October	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (4:00pm – 7:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: CR, Reception: NT, Y1KB, Y1/2PD, Y2TL
Thursday 31 st October	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (4:00pm – 7:00pm): Y3ES, Y3/4LB, Y4CB, Y5RO, Y5/6GC, 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 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 **Thursday 31st October 2024**. The main information page and admissions booklet can be accessed by clicking on the following link: [Secondary School Admissions](#). You will be notified in March 2025 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: Compassion

Reflective question: Who has shown you compassion?

Forest School sessions – Friday 1st November will see our **Year 4 children** start [Forest School sessions](#). Half of the year group will have a Forest School session in the morning, and the other half of the children during the afternoon. For our Year 4 children, these sessions will take place each Friday, up to and including Friday 13th December, and will be led by staff from the BeWell team from Wigan Council. Some additional clothing is required for these sessions and we do have resources in school to support your children with this.



Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 10th 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.

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Children in Need – On Friday 15th November we will be supporting Children in Need Day. Children can come dressed in non-uniform with a £1 donation. If they wish they could wear something yellow! Classes will take part in various activities, including a Team Point Challenge to mark the day. Click the link below to see more information about the fundraising event and activities you may like to take part in at home: [Children in Need](#).



KS2 Poetry Performance – On Thursday 3rd October, National Poetry Day, we held our ATSA 'Poetry Performance' evening at The Snug in Atherton. The event was introduced by poet Louise Fazackerley, who told us a bit about her work and performed some of her poems. Children from six local schools came together to perform some poems they had been learning in school, on stage to an audience. The ATSA KS1 Poetry Performance event will be on Thursday 21st March, which is World Poetry Day.

'Kickstarter' Taster Session – On Monday 7th October, three of our Reception children took part in a fun, fitness 'Kickstarter' 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 five other schools.



Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session – Some Year 5 and Year 6 children took part in a Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session. The session was led by Toni Aspinall from Toni Marie Yoga.

Year 3/4 Futsal Competition – Friday 11th October saw the Y3/4 Futsal team take part in a Futsal Competition against nine other schools. I am pleased to announce that our team beat Holy Family in the final to be crowned the **2024-2025 Futsal champions!** Well done to the children who represented our school at this event and thanks to coach, Mr Hardcastle.



KS2 Cross Country – Yesterday morning, some children from St. George's Central took part in Cross Country races, against children from twelve 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 **4th overall!** Well done to all members of the team!

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

- **KS2 Kurling Competition**
- **Y6 Road Safety Quiz**
- **KS2 Basketball Competition**
- **Yoga and Dance 'Access to Success' 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 3:20pm and our Lancaster Avenue Nursery will close today at 3:00pm. Both sites will re – open for children on **Monday 28th 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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