



Newsletter – Friday 24th January 2025

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In the blink of an eye, the first month of 2025 is almost over! I hope you and your families have had a great start to the year. We have lots of plans for 2025 as we look to continually improve our school. Your support will be needed in some areas and so look out for any online surveys we may send out as we value your feedback in helping to improve our school offer. Please remember, to ensure everyone is 'safe' on our school site,

***we ask that you and your children stick to the paths,
keep off any of our school equipment, avoid riding bikes and scooters on school grounds
and do not play any 'ball games' on the playground before and after school:
Please support us by taking full responsibility for your children at all times when on our school site.***

Class attendance updates:

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:CR	92.2%	Y1KB	93.6%	Y3ES	93.9%	Y5RO	94.8%
YR:NT	93.8%	Y1/2PD	95.5%	Y3/4LB	94.9%	Y5/6GC	94.4%
		Y2TL	95.9%	Y4CB	95.1%	Y6AM	91.6%
Whole school attendance: 94.2%							

190
DAYS
100%

Very best chance of success

183
DAYS
96%

Off to a flying start

179
DAYS
94%

Less chance of success

175
DAYS
92%

Harder to make progress

More than **18** days absence less than **90%**

Persistent Absence (Not fair on your child)

*%s are up to and including Friday 17th January 2025

As previously stated: ***'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. As well as this, good attendance helps your children to develop positive relationships with others and a sense of responsibility. Therefore please ensure your child is in school, on time, every day to benefit from all that St. George's Central has to offer.'***

2025 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!



Earlier this month, children who attended school each day during the Autumn Term received their 100% attendance certificates! This is the first year these awards have been introduced. If your child was absent from school during the Autumn Term, then they still have the opportunity to collect a Spring Term Attendance Award. We have decided to present these awards on a termly basis with each child starting the term knowing that they have the chance to receive a 100% award for each term!

Please ensure you ring school at the start of each day that your child is absent so we can account for all our children.

If ever you are unsure about sending your child into school please click: [Is my child too ill for school?](#)

If you are unsure about where to go if your child is ill please click: [Primary Care Booklet \(GM NHS\)](#)

'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



Nursery places for September 2025

It is never too early to have your child's name down on our nursery lists for either our Lancaster Avenue Nursery or our Darlington Street (school based) Nursery. If you have a 2 or 3 year old child who will be needing a nursery place at either of our nurseries for September 2025 then please contact Mrs Smith at our school site (01942 883773) who will add you to our lists so that you will then receive letters in April/May inviting you to our 'Welcome Sessions'.



Reception starters 2025

If you have a church card to support your child's application into our school for September 2025, please ensure you hand this in at the school office by **Friday 28th February 2025**.



Curious Critters – On Wednesday 22nd January, Key Stage 1 were treated to a visit from a variety of animals and creepy crawlies from 'Curious Critters'. They learned where the different creatures originated from and how they are adapted to suit their environment.

Online Safety – Safer Internet Day follows the theme 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. On Tuesday 28th January we will be visited by 'Altru Drama' who will be undertaking some online safety workshops with KS1 classes and an online safety drama performance for KS2 classes.



'Lunar New Year' 2025 – On Wednesday 29th January, we will celebrate Lunar New Year – the 'Year of the Snake'. Each class will experience a range of activities throughout the day to develop their understanding of Lunar New Year, including art, cooking and research. We are looking forward to children engaging fully with this celebration. What a wonderful way to join in celebrations for the year of the snake!

To celebrate the start of **Children's Mental Health Week**, there will be a 'Dress to Express' Day on **Monday 3rd February** where children will be welcomed into school wearing an outfit to express their uniqueness. Children may choose to dress in a colour to express how they are feeling or an outfit to represent their favourite things. This year's theme is, 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself' and we will be learning about the importance of self-awareness and expressing emotions. It is through knowing ourselves and speaking with others, that we can build resilience, grow and develop.



Friday 7th February will see us come together as a school to mark '**Heart Month**'. On this day, children can come to school wearing something red with a £1 donation for the 'Healing Little Hearts' charity.

Open afternoons and 'Stay and Play' sessions – Thank you to everyone who came to our 'Open Afternoons' earlier this week. Our next round of 'Stay and Play' sessions across Early Years classes, will take place **during the week commencing Monday 10th February**. Staff across Early Years will make you aware of the sessions available during that week and so please see Mrs Skinner at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery or your child's teacher at our school site, to sign up to a session.



****From Monday 10th February – Friday 14th February, the book fair will be in our school library both before and after school. Please access the library via the playground door each morning at 8:30am and after school from 3:20pm****

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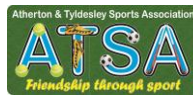


Friday 14th February will see us come together as a school to mark **International Childhood Cancer Day**. On this day, children can come to school wearing something orange with a £1 donation for The Azaylia Foundation. Over the day, children will be learning about the brave children, adolescents and families that are affected by cancer and how we can show support as a community.

School Swimming – Our children in Year 3 and Year 4 will start school swimming lessons at The Pelican Centre after February half term. For parents/carers of children in **Year 4CB**, it is worth noting that the children will be attending their first swimming session on the **first day back after February half term**. More information has been included on the letter that has been sent home with all Year 3 and Year 4 children yesterday.



World Book Day – On Thursday 6th March, we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. This is an annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and the joy of reading. To celebrate this in school, children can come to school in non-uniform and bring in their favourite book to share. We will be receiving a visit from poet, Dom Colon who will work with classes delivering some creative reading and writing workshops.



Football leagues – Our children are taking part in the Tyldesley section of both the mixed football league and girls' football league. Matches have been taking place over the last few weeks at Fred Longworth each Monday and Friday. Our mixed team are playing their first game today, with the girls starting their matches in February. The eventual winners of the leagues will play the winners of the Atherton section of the leagues in July.



ATSA Circus Skills Workshop – Friday 17th January saw the third ATSA event take place, in collaboration with our local libraries. Three children from Key Stage 1 joined with children from seven other local schools for a Circus Skills Workshop at Tyldesley Library, led by Adrian Catch.

Y5/6 Dodgeball Competition – Monday 20th January saw the Y5/6 Dodgeball team take part in a competition against nine other schools. The team played really well, winning five games and drawing one. Well done to the children who made up the Y5/6 Dodgeball team.



Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session – Some Year 3 and Year 4 children took part in a Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session. The session was led by Toni Aspinall from Toni Marie Yoga.

'Active Minds' Team Building Competition – Yesterday, our sports council members took part in a team-building event, completing a range of different tasks alongside children from other schools. Though many of the challenges were difficult, the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and learned valuable skills such as communication, problem solving, leadership and collaboration. Congratulations to our team who were crowned the **winners** of this event.



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

****Kickstarterz Taster Session** **KS1 Kurling Competition** **Y3/4 Zumba Taster Session** **First Aid for Sport****

You will receive the Spring Term (2nd half) dates letter on Friday 14th February, the final day of this half term. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday 28th February. Have a great month.

Mr M Grogan, Headteacher

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