# St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery



#### Newsletter - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Click the link to view a digital version of this newsletter

After a fantastic month, it looks like everyone has settled into school life with our youngest children starting in Nursery, Reception and others settling in new classes. It was pleasing to see so many of you at our 'Meet the teacher' meetings throughout September and it was great to welcome our Reception parents/carers and Reverend Cath into school for our 'Welcome to our school Worship' last week. It was lovely to see many of you in St. George's Church for the Harvest Festival earlier this month. Harvest Celebrations have taken place in school today with Reverend Cath. Thanks, as always, for your fantastic support with donations. We will ensure these are distributed within the community over the coming month.









\*\*Please let your child's teacher know if you require a school laptop so that your child can access all our wonderful online resources for their home learning activities. We have laptops ready to re-issue so please let us know in school\*\*

Attendance - 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. See below for current classes and whole school attendance:



Class \*% Class \*% Class Class \*% YR:CR 91.4% Y1KB 95.5% Y3ES 97.0% Y5RO 98.2% 95.3% YR:NT Y1/2PD 98.9% **Y3/4LB** 93.9% **Y5/6GC** 97.4% Y2TL 96.0% Y4CB 94.9% Y6AM 91.4% Whole school attendance: 95.6%

\*%'s are up to and including Friday 20th September 2024





2024 - 2025 School Impact Plan Summary - Each year we develop key priorities for each area of school and set about putting actions into place in order to achieve these via our annual School Impact Plan. We usually have 5 key priorities, with actions to support our improvement in these areas across school. We have a detailed plan in place, for each priority area. For your convenience we have summarised, and listed for you, 3 of the key ways that we are aiming to make positive progress towards achieving each key priority this year, click the link to view our

2024 - 2025 School Impact Summary document

### '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

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<u>Nursery/Reception swimming sessions</u> – Swimming sessions at The Pelican Centre have continued this year for our Nursery and Reception children with the first groups currently enjoying their sessions. It was wonderful to see the children having fun whilst learning important skills at the same time. Over the course of the school year, all Nursery and Reception children will be having a group of six swimming sessions. We are sure the children will enjoy their sessions and gain lots of water confidence.



<u>European Day of Languages</u> – This year's European Day of Languages took place yesterday. We celebrated this by having a whole school worship to introduce the day and to highlight why language learning is so important. Our KS2 children then spent the day learning geographical and cultural facts about a particular European country as well as learning some basic vocabulary in the target language. We were also challenged in our Capital Cities of Europe competition – well done to our deserving winners!

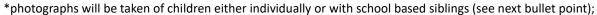




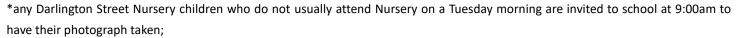
<u>Parent/carer workshops</u> – It was great to see so many of you at our recent workshops. Thanks to Mrs Leech and Mrs O'Brien for leading our whole school 'Inclusion workshop'; Mrs O'Brien, Miss Beswick, Miss Dennett and Mrs Leech for leading the Reading and Phonics Workshop for KS1 parents/carers and Mrs Malley for leading the Reading Workshop for KS2 parents/carers last night. Please see below for other upcoming parent/carers workshops:

Date	Event
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Reception Reading and Phonics Workshop for Reception parents/carers –
	3:30pm – 4:00pm & 6:00pm – 6:30pm.
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Maths Workshop for Year 5 and Year 6 parents/carers –
	9:00am – 9:45am & 6:00pm – 6:45pm.
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Maths Workshop for Year 3 and Year 4 parents/carers –
	9:00am – 9:45am & 6:00pm – 6:45pm.
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Maths Workshop for Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers –
	9:00am – 9:45am & 6:00pm – 6:45pm.
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Maths Workshop for Nursery and Reception parents/carers –
	9:00am – 9:45am & 6:00pm – 6:45pm. Select which session is best for you to attend

<u>School photographs</u> – **Don't forget**.....we will receive our first visit of the year from the school photographer on **Tuesday 1**<sup>st</sup> **October**. On this day he will visit both our Darlington Street School site for the morning and our Lancaster Avenue Nursery site for the afternoon. Please note:







\*any Lancaster Avenue Nursery children who do not usually attend Nursery on a Tuesday afternoon are invited to nursery at 1:00pm to have their photograph taken.

All children will have their photograph taken and a small 'sample' photograph will be sent home for you to decide if you would like to complete any purchases.



<u>National Poetry Day</u> – Next Thursday is National Poetry Day: an annual mass celebration that encourages all to enjoy, discover and share poetry. This year, the theme is 'Standing on the Shoulders of Giants'. To celebrate this in school we will be receiving a visit from poet Andrew Weale who will work with classes across school delivering some creative reading and writing workshops. The children will come together at the end of the day in a

celebration assembly where they perform a variety of poems. Like last year, your children will be learning a poem over the course of each half term so that they can perform it to others across school/in class. Each poem has been carefully selected so that it links to other topic areas that your children will be learning about and you will see in your child's year group how there is a poem in the English section. Maybe you could learn the poem together? Click the link to view our Curriculum Overviews.

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St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery Darlington Street • Tyldesley • M29 8DH T 01942 883773
E enquiries@admin.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk

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Puberty lessons – This half term, children in Year 5 and Year 6 will be visited by 'HH Kids' who will be delivering a specialised puberty package to support the delivery of our PSHE and Relationships and Sex Education curriculum. Lessons will explore: visible and emotional changes during puberty, personal hygiene and an outline to the stages of pregnancy. Throughout the sessions, the children will develop their understanding of ways to manage changes, stay safe and keep healthy. Click the link to see information about all areas that we cover as part of the PSHE Curriculum.





Autumn Term parents' evening - We are looking forward to welcoming you into school for our Autumn Term parents' evenings. At our Darlington Street site, we will be sending home paper copies of the parents' evening letter on Monday 7th October. Over the next few weeks, Mrs Skinner will contact all 'pre-school' parents/carers at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery site to arrange a suitable meeting time. See the table below, with our 'plan' for how we

will manage the Autumn Term parents' evenings:

Date	Event
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Paper copies of parents' evening letters will be sent home (please check bags)
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> – Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup>	Select an 'evening' and a 'time slot' that would be most convenient for you
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Return your child's completed form to the class teacher by today
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Our teachers will meet in school to arrange time slots to coordinate times for siblings
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Paper copies of confirmed parents' evening time slots will be sent home (please check bags)
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 31st 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.

Reception starters 2025 - The link on the Wigan Council website for 2025 Reception places is now open: 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) and we will make an appointment to meet with me and have a look round our school.



Class Worship and Musical Performances in school - We have planned for the children to share their learning with you from each class, via our 'usual' Class Worship approach. Before the next newsletter, Y6AM Class Worship will have taken place on Friday 11th October, 9:05am start in the school hall. There will also be regular musical performances by our musicians and our school choir throughout the year. The first one of these this year is on Wednesday 16th October, 9:05am start in the school hall. You are all very welcome to

attend these events in school. Please note: no letters will be issued for any of our Class Worships or Musical Performances and there is no need for you to provide us with prior notice of your attendance. Simply turn up on the day and enjoy!

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<u>Stay and plays and open afternoons</u> – Parents/carers of children in our **Nurseries and Reception** will be welcomed into school during week commencing **Monday 14**<sup>th</sup> **October** for the first of our 'Stay and Play' sessions. Please see either Mrs Skinner, Mrs Davies, Mrs Rankin or Miss Taylor to sign up to one of the sessions, which will take place on various days and times during that week. During that same week, parent/carers of children in Year 1 – Year 6 will have an opportunity to spend some time in school as part of our open afternoons:



Date	Event
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Open afternoon for Y5RO, Y5/6GC and Y6AM (2:00pm – 3:00pm)
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Open afternoon for Y1KB, Y1/2PD and Y2TL (2:00pm – 3:00pm)
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Open afternoon for Y3ES, Y3/4LB and Y4CB (2:00pm – 3:00pm)

There is no need to sign up for any of the open afternoons, simply wait at the school office for the 2:00pm start.



<u>Bikeability sessions</u> – Towards the end of this half term, some Year 6 children will be taking part in 'Bikeability' sessions. The children will be learning 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.* 

<u>Year 1 'sleepover' meetings</u> – At 6pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October, a meeting will take place for parents/carers of Year 1 children regarding the Year 1 sleepover in school. This meeting is for all Year 1 parents/carers as we would like you all to hear the information about the sleepover before fully committing to your child attending. The meeting is for adults only and so there will be a crèche available for children. The 'official' letters regarding the sleepover will be sent home the day after the meeting.





<u>Secondary School applications</u> – 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 31**st **October 2024**. The main information page and admissions booklet can be accessed by clicking on the following link: <u>Secondary School Admissions</u>. You will be notified in March 2025 of the name of the Secondary School that your child will be going to.



<u>ATSA Advanced Writing Workshop</u> – This year, ATSA now offers a wider range of events, beyond sport. Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September saw four children from Year 6 join with children from four other local schools for an Advanced Writing Workshop at our Atherton Library. Author, Dan Worsley, led the session, sharing some stories, along with writing tips and hints about how to improve your own stories. Dan then challenged the children to create a piece of writing based around a pirate themed character. Look out for more ATSA sessions of this nature at our local libraries.

<u>ATSA Sports Council</u> – Some members of the ATSA Sports Council recently came together at St. George's Central. Each school within ATSA selects two Sports Council members and so this was an ideal opportunity for the children to come together to discuss ideas to improve ATSA.





<u>Boxing Taster Session</u> – On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, four children from Year 5/6 were joined by children from seven other local schools for a Boxing Taster Session at our school. 'Boxing for Better' coach, Dave, led the session and the children experienced a variety of fitness activities linked to boxing.

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

\*\*KS2 Poetry Performance\*\* \*\*Reception Kickstarterz Taster Session\*\* \*\*Y5/6 Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session\*\*

\*\*Y3/4 Futsal Competition\*\* \*\*KS2 Cross Country Competition\*\*

As well as being on the school website, there are paper copies of this newsletter available in the letter holders in the entrance area in school and at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Have a great month.

Mr M Grogan, Headteacher

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