



Newsletter – Friday 30th August 2024

Welcome back to the new school year everyone and a special welcome to all our new Nursery and Reception families. I hope you have all had a good summer and have enjoyed getting out and about as much as possible. This newsletter contains some useful information, as you prepare for your children returning to (or starting at) our school or one of our nurseries. Over summer, our staff have worked really hard to ensure that everything is in place for your children returning to school and we are very much looking forward to seeing you all next week.



Returning to school – On Tuesday 3rd September, classroom doors for **children in Reception – Year 6**, will open when the first bell rings at **8:40am**. Our second bell will ring at **8:50am** and this will signal to class teachers that they need to close their classroom doors for the start of the school day. All children who are not in school at this point will need to enter via the main school entrance. Doors will be open for you to collect children at **3:20pm**. During next week, home visits will be taking place for children who will be starting at our Darlington Street Nursery. Please see the table below which shows starting/returning to school information for all year groups:

Year groups	Date starting back at school/nursery	Arriving		Leaving
		Doors open	Doors closed	Doors open
Reception – Year 6	Tuesday 3 rd September	8:40am (bell)	8:50am (bell)	3:20pm
Lancaster Avenue Nursery	Tuesday 3 rd September	*8:55am	As children arrive	3:00pm
Darlington Street Nursery	Monday 9 th September	**8:50am	As children arrive	**3:00pm

Please note: officially, nursery sessions start at 9:00am and finish at 3:00pm. As a sign of good faith and to support you with any other children attending our school:

*we will continue to open our Lancaster Avenue Nursery doors at 8:55am at the start of the day.

we will continue to open our Darlington Street Nursery doors at 8:50am at the start of the day. We will also allow families who have **siblings further up school to collect nursery children up until 3:10pm.

When on our school site, in order to ensure everyone is 'safe', 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.

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.



SGC Life Skills – This year will see us continue with our SGC Life Skills where the children in each year group will work towards 'completing' their SGC Life Skill. Although we will work on this in school, your support at home will be appreciated with this. Click the link to see our [SGC Life Skills](#) in full. I look forward to seeing children achieve these skills over the course of this year.

'Never settle for less than your best'

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September 2024 PE kits



Like last year, **children in Year 1 – Year 6 can come to school in their PE kit on the day that they have outdoor PE and on the day they have indoor PE.** The only item of PE kit that will need to remain in school are pumps as children may prefer to walk to school in trainers. So that your child feels 'comfortable' all day in school when it is their indoor PE day (especially on a cold Autumn day), they could wear their full school tracksuit for both days that they have PE (with maybe their shorts underneath on the indoor days). Some children may prefer to come in their shorts on these days.



For the first week only, we are asking that:

*On the first day, all children come to school wearing their 'usual' school uniform;

*Children in Y5RO, Y5/6GC and Y6AM come into school wearing their outdoor PE kit on **Wednesday 4th September only** and

*Children in Y3ES, Y3/4LB and Y4CB come into school wearing their outdoor PE kit on **Thursday 5th September only.**

Outdoor PE kits will not be needed on any other days for children in KS2 during this first week back.

Click the link to see information regarding [PE kits and our 2024/2025 PE timetable](#)

School Uniform reminders:

****All uniform and PE kit MUST be named****

****Jewellery (including earrings) other than a wrist watch is not permitted****

****No smart watches are to be worn****

****Make-up, nail varnish, false nails, nail extensions and temporary tattoos are not permitted****

****Hairstyles not considered appropriate for school include:**

brightly-coloured/dyed hair, shaved lines, headwear with bold patterns or colours, excessive hair accessories**

****Hair products such as wax, gel or hairspray should not be applied and long hair must be tied up****

****No trainers – plain black school shoes only****

Click the link to see the full version of our: [School Uniform Policy](#)



Meet the Teacher meetings – There is an opportunity for you to come into school to meet with your child's new teacher, starting next week at our 'Meet the Teacher' meetings. These will take place for all children in Year 1 upwards, in your child's classroom. At the meeting, lots of information about the year ahead will be communicated to you and it is also a chance for you to ask any questions. Meetings will start at **3:30pm** for those who are able to attend at this time and they will also be repeated at **6pm** should this time be more convenient for you. The meetings will last approximately 20 – 30 minutes. For the 3:30pm meetings you can access the classroom via your child's classroom door. If you are attending at 6pm, then please come to the main school entrance. This meeting is for adults only and so all children will be taken to the Computing Suite where you will be able to collect them when the meeting is over. We hope to see you at your child's meeting:

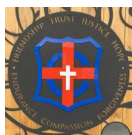


Date	Meet the teacher meeting (3:30pm or 6:00pm start)
Tuesday 3 rd September	Y6AM
Wednesday 4 th September	Y5/6GC
Thursday 5 th September	Y5RO
Monday 9 th September	Y4CB
Tuesday 10 th September	Y3/4LB
Wednesday 11 th September	Y3ES
Monday 16 th September	Y2TL
Tuesday 17 th September	Y1/2PD
Wednesday 18 th September	Y1KB

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Class pages on school website



For information about your child's class, make sure you refer to their class page on the [school website](#).
For school and class information in 'real time', make sure you follow our staff on 'Twitter'.



My X account links to the opening page of the school website: **Mr Grogan @MrGSGC**.

Link to class page on website	*X accounts
Lancaster Avenue Nursery	Miss Cowley @LancAveSGC
Darlington Street Nursery	Mrs Davies @MrsDSGC
Reception: CR	Mrs Rankin @MrsRSGC
Reception: NT	Miss Taylor @MissTSGC
Year 1KB	Miss Beswick @MissBSGC
Year 1/2PD	Miss Dennett @MissDSGC
Year 2TL	Mrs Leech @MrsLSGC
Year 3ES	Miss Scotting @MissScottingSGC
Year 3/4LB	Mrs Barlow @MrsBarlowSGC
Year 4CB	Miss Billington @MissCBSGC
Year 5RO	Miss Offord @MissOffordSGC
Year 5/6GC	Miss Cohen @MissCSGC
Y6AM	Mrs Malley @MrsMalleySGC

*Other school X accounts include: Mrs O'Brien @MrsOBSGC and Miss Gray @missvsgc



Seesaw (Home Learning) – This year, teachers will be continuing with the use of the online platform Seesaw to: communicate with you at home and to set weekly home learning. Please see your child's teacher if you have any difficulties logging on to Seesaw. Children will require a device at home to access their Seesaw account – **we do have some devices in school, which are available for families to loan and so please contact the school office if your child requires support in order to access their home learning on Seesaw.** Paper copies of all home learning will be made available in the classroom for your child to take if they wish. **Weekly home learning will be set on a Friday, to be returned for the following Friday.** More time will be provided for any longer term 'projects'. Click the link below to access our: [Home Learning Policy](#)

Extra-curricular clubs – The Autumn Term (1st half) extra-curricular clubs letter will be emailed to you on Tuesday (paper copies of the letter will be in letter holders in the entrance area on Tuesday also). The clubs on offer change each half term and so look out for the emails throughout the year. With some clubs, staff may be looking to select a team to take part in an event against other schools and so we do not want anyone to miss out on the opportunity to potentially represent our school and so when these letters come through, please have a chat with your children and see if there is anything they wish to sign up to. Clubs will be starting week commencing **Monday 9th September**.



Pupil information – Next week, we will be sending home our 'official' data collection sheets and health care plans for you to complete and return to school. Our data collection sheets contain all the contact information we currently have on file and so this is an ideal opportunity for you to update any names and numbers. Your child's medical information is included on your child's health care plan and so again, if you could please ensure you complete these with the most up-to-date information. We would appreciate it if you could return these to school as soon as possible so we can update all the information on our school files.



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Breakfast Club (7:30am – 8:40am) – A choice of toast, cereals, fresh fruit and juices are available at our breakfast club each morning:



Prices	
Arrival between 7:30am – 7:55am	£4.00 per day
Arrival after 7:55am	£3.50 per day



Please remember to book your place at Breakfast Club by emailing: breakfastclub@saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk

Dinner money – For Nursery children this is **£9.10 per week** and for KS2 children, this is **£12.55 per week** and can be paid online via our Tucasi system or money can be sent into school each Monday in the yellow coloured envelopes (available for free from the school office).

****We have water coolers in both KS1 and KS2 so please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school each day****

Snack options: Nursery and Reception – There is **no snack charge** for all our Nursery and Reception children. Your children will help prepare some of the snacks on offer, which will include cheese and crackers, plain brioche, rice cakes, scotch pancakes and fruit.



Snack options: Year 1 to Year 6 – Current options for snack provided by school are: milk and toast.

Children can have both or just milk, or just toast. Payment for this is made **half termly in advance**, online using the Tucasi payment system or by cash in the white payment envelopes that are provided. See the Key Dates letter for all payment dates and the emails from school about the different costs. Please note



that your child cannot change options mid-term. If children are not accessing the snack provided by school, the only other snack option is for children to bring their own fresh fruit and plain water (**no cereal bars or flavoured drinks/juice**). **Information regarding school snack will be emailed to you today. All children will receive FREE snack on Tuesday and Wednesday next week. Please ensure you pay online by 3:30pm on Wednesday 4th September for your child to be on the list from Thursday onwards.**

Payments to school – Remember that with our Tucasi online payment system, no change will be returned – any funds overpaid will be carried forward to meet future payments. Please send all money into school in the correctly coloured money envelope (available for free from classrooms or the school office).



Class based Worship themes – During the first half term of the Autumn Term, children focus on the following:

School Value: Forgiveness **Reflective question:** Is it ever right not to forgive someone?

Nursery and Reception Swimming – Thursday 12th September will see some of our Nursery and Reception children start their swimming sessions at The Pelican Centre. The children will go in small groups over a six week period so that by the end of the year, all the children will have accessed these sessions.



Forest School sessions – Friday 13th September will see our **Year 5 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 5 children, these sessions will take place each Friday, up to and including Friday 18th October, 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. More information will be provided in a letter we will be sending out to Year 5 parents/carers next week.

Secondary School applications – For parents/carers of children in Year 6, the closing date for Secondary School applications is **Thursday 31st October 2024**. Most Secondary Schools will be organising their 'open evenings' and so over the next few weeks, please take the opportunity to visit the different ones on offer within the community.



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Welcome to our School Worship – On Friday 20th September, we look forward to welcoming the parents/carers of all our Reception children into school for a special ‘Welcome to our School’ Worship. Reverend Cath will lead this special Worship with our Reception children. All Reception family members are welcome to attend this service, which will start at 9:10am. I look forward to seeing you on that morning.

Harvest celebrations in school and church – Our children are also invited to be part of a Harvest Service at St.

George’s Church on Sunday 15th September as part of the 10:00am service – a letter will be sent out about this next week. For Harvest gifts this year we are again asking that children bring in a food item from home (please bring these in W/C Monday 23rd September) which will be collated for the staff from Atherton and Leigh Foodbank to collect. Harvest celebrations will then continue in school on Friday 27th September with Reverend Cath leading a service at 9:05am involving Reception and KS1 children and the service with KS2 children will start at 2:30pm. Due to the number of classes involved, and the space available, we are unable to safely accommodate any family members at either of these services on the day. Each class will be contributing to the services, which will be co-ordinated by Mrs Leech and Mrs Malley.



Parent/carer workshops – Throughout this first half term (and at regular points throughout the school year) parent/carer workshops will take place on a variety of themes, aimed at different year groups across school. Sessions are repeated so you can select which one you can attend (a crèche will provided at all meetings). Please see below for the sessions planned for the first half term:

Date	Event
Thursday 12 th September	Inclusion Workshop for all parents/carers – 3:30pm – 4:00pm & 6:00pm – 6:30pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Thursday 19 th September	KS1 Reading and Phonics Workshop for KS1 parents/carers – 3:30pm – 4:00pm & 6:00pm – 6:30pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Thursday 26 th September	KS2 Reading Workshop for KS2 parents/carers – 9:00am – 9:45am & 6:00pm – 6:45pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Thursday 3 rd October	Reception Reading and Phonics Workshop for Reception parents/carers – 3:30pm – 4:00pm & 6:00pm – 6:30pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Monday 7 th October	Maths Workshop for Year 5 and Year 6 parents/carers – 9:00am – 9:45am & 6:00pm – 6:45pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Tuesday 8 th October	Maths Workshop for Year 3 and Year 4 parents/carers – 9:00am – 9:45am & 6:00pm – 6:45pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Monday 14 th October	Maths Workshop for Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers – 9:00am – 9:45am & 6:00pm – 6:45pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Tuesday 15 th 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



School photographs – We will receive our first visit of the year from the school photographer on **Tuesday 1st 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:

- *photographs will be taken of children either individually or with school based siblings (see next bullet point);
- *only children who attend St. George’s Central CE Primary School and Nursery will be photographed;

*any Darlington Street Nursery children who do not usually attend Nursery on a Tuesday morning are invited to school at 9:00am to have their photograph taken;

*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.

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Our School App – To ensure that you do not miss out on any key events over the course of the school year, on your mobile phone you can download 'Our School App' (the green logo on the right) and search for St. George's Central. You will be able to save our school as your home page and this will provide you with quick links to our school website, Facebook page, my Twitter/X account and other key information. You can click the link to view the full [2024/2025 Key dates letter](#) or pick one up from the letter holders in our school entrance area.



ATSA Events – Children and staff at our school regularly take part in lots of sporting events which are organised by ATSA (Atherton and Tyldesley Sports Association). Last year, our school was the only school within the area to meet the ATSA 'Gold Award'. ATSA has started to evolve and now incorporates more than sporting opportunities. We will be very much looking to achieve this standard this year and so see below for all the events that will be taking place during this first half term:

ATSA event	Children	Date of event	Venue
Advanced Writing Workshop	Year 6	Friday 13 th September 2024 1:30pm – 2:30pm	Atherton Library
Sports Council Meeting	Year 6 Sports Council reps	Monday 16 th September 2024 1:30pm – 3:00pm	SGC school hall
Boxing Taster Session	Year 5/6	Monday 23 rd September 2024 4:00pm – 5:00pm	SGC school hall
Poetry Performance	Key Stage 2	Thursday 3 rd October 2024 4:00pm – 5:00pm	The Snug
Kickstarterz (Pre-School Sports Skills)	Reception	Monday 7 th October 2024 4:00pm – 4:45pm	SGC school hall
Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session	Year 5/6	Wednesday 9 th October 2024 4:00pm – 4:45pm	Toni Marie Yoga Studio
Futsal Competition	Year 3 and Year 4	Friday 11 th October 2024 1:15pm – 3:00pm	FLHS sportshall
Cross Country Competition	Key Stage 2	Thursday 17 th October 2024 1 st race: 10:00am	Atherton High School field



For more information about ATSA, look on the [ATSA website](#), look for the green logo (left) on Facebook or search for 'atsa2011' on Instagram.

The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday 27th September. Please ensure that we have an up-to-date copy of your current contact details (email and mobile phone number) so that you do not miss out on any information as we send most information out via email. We do have paper copies of most documents in the letter holders in the entrance area and these are regularly updated, please feel free to nip in and pick up a copy of what you may need. Have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing you all over the coming weeks as we return to school/nursery.

Mr M Grogan, Headteacher

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