St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter – Thursday 3rd April 2025

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A busy half term has included: Reception children visiting Merly's Kitchen, a KS1 Edith Cavell Workshop, Year 3 and Year 4 undertaking local walks in the community, social media influencers visiting school for Year 5 and Year 6, a visiting poet for World Book Day, work undertaken for British Science Week and International Maths Day.



Class attendance updates:



	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	
e	YR:CR	93.6%	Y1KB	94.6%	Y3ES	94.5%	Y5RO	95.7%	Attendance
	YR:NT	94.1%	Y1/2PD	96.0%	Y3/4LB	95.1%	Y5/6GC	95.1%	
			Y2TL	95.9%	Y4CB	95.4%	Y6AM	91.9%	
	Whole school attendance: 94.8%								

*%'s are up to and including Friday 28^{th} March 2025

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



Nursery places for September 2025

It is never too early to have your child's name 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'.





St. George's Central

Funding available for all 3 year old places

secure a place please contac Mrs N Smith on 01942 883773



<u>Reception starters 2025</u> – If you have applied for a September 2025 Reception place for your child, you will receive an email from Wigan Council informing you of your school place on Wednesday 16th April. Please ensure that you read and follow the information within the email, which will guide you on what to do following confirmation of your school place offer.



<u>KS1 visit to RHS Bridgewater</u> – On Monday 3rd March, Key Stage 1 children visited RHS Bridgewater to support their learning in Science about how seeds and plants grow. They learned about what plants need to grow and survive and they took part in a workshop where they learned about the parts that all plants share and how they are affected by the seasons. They planted seeds and brought them back to school to germinate. Everyone had a great time and learnt lots.

'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>Careers Week</u> – Monday 3rd March saw the beginning of Careers Week. Children learned about different careers and the transferrable qualities and skills these individuals need for their role. We had visits from a Music Teacher and an ITV production member to name a few! Nursery enjoyed asking me about my role as a headteacher. This helped to inspire children's aspirations and think about skills they need for a successful future career.

<u>Year 5 Brathay Hall assembly</u> – Last week, children from Year 5, who went to Brathay Hall in February, led a short assembly to feedback on their experience of their week in the Lake District. It was good to see so many of you there to listen to the children as they shared stories about the residential. Congratulations to Ava-Mae who was announced as the winner of the *'Alan Murgatroyd Award for Outdoor Education'* for their efforts during the week in the Lakes. Click the link to view the <u>2025 Y5 Brathay Hall film</u>.

<u>Sign Language Week</u> – Monday 17th March saw the start of Sign Language Week. The children learned about how British Sign Language can support people who are deaf or have a form hearing loss. During this week, we also thought about different forms of communication and how we can help remove barriers to communication in our classrooms. The children took part in various activities to learn BSL and develop their awareness.

Neurodiversity Celebration Week – We recently took part in Neurodiversity Celebration Week. The children learned how important it is to recognise that everyone's brain works differently and processes information in different ways. They thought about their own individual unique strengths and challenges. We learned to embrace neurodiversity to help people thrive as individuals and enable them to experience the world through their own strengths.

<u>Smithills Farm Trip</u> – Children from our Darlington Street Nursery had a fabulous day at Smithills Open Farm on the 17th of this month. They had a fun tractor and donkey ride. They enjoyed a hands-on experience with chicks, rabbits and guinea pigs and fed a large array of other animals and the trip enhanced the learning in school about new life and growth in the Spring. Thank you to all the family helpers who supported the trip, it was a brilliant day.

Thanks to your support, we managed to raise £218 on Red Nose Day. Thanks again for your support!

Year 3 Low Bank Ground trip – Last weekend, 29 Year 3 children spent a weekend at Low Bank Ground in the Lake District The children spent time exploring the countryside, ghyll scrambling and canoeing as well as many other outdoor and adventurous activities. I am sure the children had a great time away from home, experiencing all these different activities. Family members of the children who attended are invited to a short 'Low Bank Ground assembly' at 9:05am on Thursday 1st May where the children will share their experiences with you.

<u>Wider Opportunities Music</u> – Parents/carers of children in Year 4 were recently treated to a tuned percussion performance from the children in Year 4LB and Year 4CB. Our school 'buys in' to the Wigan Music Service 'Wider Opportunities 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. It was a great performance

from the children. After Easter, the children will be learning to play a different percussion instrument and there will be another whole school performance just before the end of the school year.

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Mothering Sunday – St George's Church warmly welcomed children and families from our school to celebrate Mothering Sunday. Reverend Cath led the Service with lots of involvement from the children, re-enacting the story of Moses, sharing their artwork and thoughts about their mums and reading prayers. Daffodils and bookmarks were given out by the children, it was a lovely service and the refreshments in 'cafe church' were enjoyed by all.

Easter Bingo – Many thanks to everyone who supported our Easter Bingo night earlier this week either through providing Easter Eggs to school or through actually attending on the night! We raised **£272**. It was great to see everyone coming together as a school community to raise funds to support events in school. Thanks to our school staff who organised and supported this event. The money that has been raised from this event will be put towards resources to support children with their learning in school.





<u>Musical performance</u> – Parents/carers were recently treated to our usual half termly musical performance. As well as hearing the choir sing, it was good to see all the children who learn instruments in school perform for everyone. The next choir and musical performance in school will be on Wednesday 21st May 2025.

Easter Worship/Service – Thank you to Reverend Cath who came into school to lead an Easter Service for our Early Years and Key Stage 1 children. Reverend Cath talked to the children about the celebration of new life that we have at Easter. She also brought along 'Rainbow Egg' as a special guest! Children from all classes also contributed to short presentations about the signs of new life that are associated with Easter. Our Key Stage 2 Easter Service in St George's Church took place earlier today. Each class looked at a part of the story through poetry and song. The children were brilliant as always and we would like to thank all the parents and carers who attended.





Class based Worship themes

During the first half term of the Summer Term, children will be focusing on the following:School Value: FriendshipReflective question: Is it ok to argue with a friend?





<u>First Aid for Sport</u> – Some of our Y6 children took part in a First Aid for Sports session at Garrett Hall. The children learned basic first aid skills with a focus on the types of injuries children may experience in competitive sports.

KS2 Swimming Gala – Eight children from St. George's Central School recently took part in a swimming gala against children from fourteen other primary schools. The four boys and four girls took part in both individual and team races at the Pelican Centre. Well done to the children who made up our team.

Leigh Harriers Cross Country – Children from St. George's Central recently gave up their Saturday morning to support our school in the sixth 'Graham Jackett Cross Country Challenge'. The 24 children competed against children from twelve other schools. Our combined scores helped ATSA to retain its title. Thanks to all our children who took part in this event and the staff that attended too.













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Football leagues – Our children have been 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 has played all their matches, winning four of the six games to finish in 3rd in the league. Our girls' team has also completed their matches winning four of the five games and finishing as runners up in the league. Well done to both teams.



<u>'Kickstarterz' Taster Session</u> – On Monday 17th March, three of our children were joined by Reception children from five other schools to take part in a fun, fitness 'Kickstarterz' Taster Session. This was a great opportunity for some of our children to take part in their first ever 'after school' ATSA event.



<u>Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session</u> – Some of our Year 1 and Year 2 children recently took part in a Yoga Taster Session. The session was led by Toni Aspinall from Toni Marie Yoga.

Residential Sports Weekend – A meeting took place for parents/carers of our four Year 6 children who will be taking part in the ATSA residential Sports Weekend at Low Bank Ground, in the Lake District, at the end of June. The children will be competing against children from four other schools in archery, kayaking, orienteering and running. We will be hoping for a good performance from our children in what will be one of their final ATSA events representing St. George's Central.



<u>KS1 Poetry Performance</u> – On Thursday 20th March, World Poetry Day, the ATSA KS1 'Poetry Performance' evening took place 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 seven local schools came together to perform some poems they had been learning in school, on stage to an audience.

<u>KS1 Dance Competition</u> – Wednesday 26th March saw our KS1 Dance team take part in a competition against seven other schools. The children danced well to '*Fireball*'. Well done to the children who took part in this event.



<u>Y6 Orienteering Competition</u> – Two children from St. George's Central School took part in an orienteering competition against children from eight other primary schools. The children took part in a variety of orienteering challenges around our school site. Well done to our children who took part.

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

Golf Taster Session **'Access to Success' Multi-Skills**
KS2 Mini Water Polo Competition **'Active Minds' Spelling Competition**

The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday 2nd May (paper copies will be available in the letter holders in the entrance area in school and at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery). Our school site and Lancaster Avenue Nursery site will close today and re-open to children on **Tuesday 22nd April 2025.** Please find attached to the newsletter email the Summer Term (1st half) dates letter. Have a great Easter with your family.

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Mr M Grogan, Headteacher

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