



Newsletter – Friday 27th April 2018

Please find attached to this newsletter/email the confirmed term time dates for 2018/19. Things to note on these are that from September 2018 we will finish school at 3:15pm at Christmas and at the end of the year – there will no longer be a 2:15pm finish! It is also worth noting that school will be closed to children for our INSET day at the **start** of the Easter holiday on Friday 5th April 2019.



Voting day reminder – Don't forget that, although school will still be used as a Polling Station on **Thursday 3rd May 2018** for the Local Government Elections, our school will **REMAIN OPEN on this day!** Should you use our school for voting purposes on the day, then please use the gate on 'Peel Hall' side of school and walk down to the new extension where you will be able to cast your vote.

I-sing pop concert – For those of you that attended our I-Sing pop concert before Easter, I'm sure you will join me in saying what a fantastic event this was! It was great to see St. George's Church 'packed to the rafters' as the children sang and danced their hearts out (and some adults as well from the pictures I saw online!). Thanks for all your support with this, ensuring that your child/ren arrived in good time for the event, looking super smart! Thanks again to Miss Gray for organising this – we will look forward to the next time we invite I-Sing pop into school.



Shakerley Fun Day – It was great to see so many of you at the Shakerley Fun Day over Easter. I am sure that you and your children all had lots of fun on the many stalls in and around our Lancaster Avenue Nursery. With regards to the mosaic design at the community centre, I received lots of designs and so will soon be sending them to the artist so that he can start to put the final design together. Once this is ready, the artist will come to the community centre and all children involved will be invited to help piece together the mosaic so that it can be installed on the wall outside the community centre. I will keep you updated with our progress with this.

Hinning House assembly – Former St. George's Central governor, Mr Alan Murgatroyd, returned to school last week to present the Outdoor Education shield named in his honour to Y5 pupil Harry Jackson. Each year the award is given to a child who goes above and beyond in rising to challenges and helping their peers during the annual residential to Hinning House in the Lake District. The Y5 children who went away in February led an assembly where they shared their experience of their week away from home. I am sure the current Y4 children are already looking forward to their trip in February 2019.



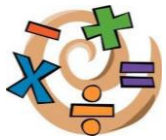
Jenny Meadows – This term, children in Y4HJ and Y5NC will have a PE session each week led by former Olympic athlete, Jenny Meadows. I am sure that you will agree that this is a fantastic opportunity for our children to learn some key skills from someone who has represented their country at the very highest level in athletics. Before Easter, Jenny led an assembly with our KS2 children and it was interesting how some of the messages we give to our children in school, were reinforced by her and her experiences in athletics: how she thought she wasn't good enough and she needed to gain confidence

from the adults in her life, how she wasn't successful straight away and made lots of mistakes, but learned from those mistakes to get better and how she continually wanted to learn how to get better (even when she won medals!). Jenny has also been leading our KS2 athletics club for this half term which is a fantastic opportunity for our children.

'Never settle for less than your best'



Official opening of School extension – Earlier this week, on St. George’s Day we held a short ‘opening ceremony’ for the small extension that we have had added to the Key Stage 2 side of school. Children, staff, governors and invited guests all came together in the afternoon as we firstly welcomed back some former pupils to school. Fred Longworth High School students, Cameron Clark and Ellen Senior, spoke to everyone about their time at our school. Great Britain Cycle Speedway star, Max Evans, and Manchester City and England footballer, Ella Toone, then spoke to the children about how they have represented our country in their chosen fields (both Max and Ella have kindly donated framed shirts that are now on display in our extension!). Canon Maurice Smith from Manchester Diocese and Mr James Winterbottom from Wigan Council then spoke to the children before all the visitors went to view the extension. In having this extension to school, we now have more room for interventions to take place for groups of children, we have a room specific for musical activities and we also have a classroom that the Y5 children in the Y5/6 mixed class can use each morning with Miss Gray, which means that our library will be more accessible for classes to use to support our new approach with reading.



Parents/carers workshops – Our next parent/carer workshop will focus on our Maths Calculations Policy and be led by Mrs Morris on **Tuesday 1st May at 9:00am, 3:30pm or 6:30pm**. Through attending this session you will see the methods we use to teach children how to add, subtract, multiply and divide (as it may be different from when you went to school). Mrs Morris has recently sent out a letter about this. Our next parent/carer workshops will be focusing on our new Nursery and Reception intake as staff lead a variety of INSPIRE sessions with our September starters. Please let us know if there is any subject or area of school life that you would like us to lead a workshop on in the future – we will do our best to accommodate any requests.

Y1 phonics test meeting for parents/carers – A letter has recently been sent home soon about a short meeting for Y1 parents/carers. This has been scheduled to take place at **3:30pm** and will be repeated at **6:00pm** on **Thursday 3rd May**. The purpose of the meeting is to provide you with information about the phonics test the children will be doing in June. For all children whose parents/carers are attending the **3:30pm** meeting, there will be a separate crèche provided.

During week beginning Monday 14th May, all Year 6 children will be undertaking KS2 National tests – a timetable for the week will be sent home to children in Year 6. These tests are externally marked with the final outcomes being returned to school in July so that results can be sent home in your child’s annual report. Please ensure children arrive at school in good time each day, well rested and ready to do their best.

During week beginning Monday 21st May, children in Y1, Y3, Y4 and Y5 will be undertaking end of year tests. Each class will have their own timetable for these. The tests are marked and moderated in school with the final outcomes sent home in your child’s annual report.

ATSA Events



Y3/4 Footgolf taster session – Four children from Y3/4 recently enjoyed a ‘Footgolf’ taster session at the Golf Range in Astley. The game has the same format and principles as golf but players kick a football, aiming to get it in the hole in the least number of ‘kicks’.

Before the next newsletter, children from St. George’s Central will be taking part in:

- **Y3/4 ‘Quicksticks’ Festival**
- **Y2 & Y3 Football Festival at MUFC**
- **Girls’ Football Festival**
- **KS2 Tag Rugby Festival**
- **Y5/6 Rounders Festival**

The next newsletter will be emailed out on Friday 25th May. Paper copies of the newsletter will be made available at the school office for you to pick up should you wish. Have a great month.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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