



Newsletter – Friday 18th October 2019

We have arrived at the end of a busy (and rainy) first half term at St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery. Our school will close today at 3:15pm and re – open for children on **Monday 28th October (first bell at 8:45am with school starting at 8:55am)**. Our Lancaster Avenue Nursery will also close today at 3:00pm and re – open for children on **Monday 28th October at 9:00am**. Please find attached to this email/newsletter, a breakdown of the main targets from our School Improvement Plan for this year. Also attached is a list of the key dates for the 2nd half of the Autumn term.

It was lovely to see so many of you meeting with teachers earlier this week at our parents' evenings in school. Not only does your attendance at parents' evening provide you with an insight into the start your child has made in school this year, it also allows you to ask any questions and clarify things with teachers so that everyone is clear about what is expected for the year ahead. It also shows your child that we are working together in partnership to ensure that they have the very best start in life at our school this year.

Last week we received some good news as Mrs Ramsdale and her husband celebrated the birth of their son, Arthur. Congratulations to Mrs Ramsdale and her husband as they settle into life with their new son.

Class attendance updates:

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:NT	96.67%	Y1TL	95.33%	Y3EG	98.16%	Y5JY	95.23%
YR:TK	94.74%	Y1/2OB	96.61%	Y3/4CS	93.52%	Y5/6NC	96.42%
		Y2JW	91.56%	Y4HJ	97.09%	Y6AJM	96.17%
Whole school attendance: 95.59%							

**%s are up to and including Friday 11th October*



Worship themes – During the second half term, children will be focusing on the following themes:

School Value: Compassion

Class Worship Focus: Don't forget to let love in?

Reflective question: What is God like?



Open afternoons/evenings – Should you know anyone with children starting school in September 2020 who will soon be submitting choices for which school they would like to attend, then please let them know that we do not have a formal open afternoon or evening. **We welcome people to come and look around our school at any time** and so 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.

Open afternoon with HT Forum – Tuesday 1st October saw school open its doors fully for this year's first open afternoon with Headteacher forum. We welcomed parents/carers of children in nursery, reception and KS1 into school to spend part of the afternoon in classes and then part of the afternoon having some refreshments in the school hall where I was available to answer any questions about school and life at St. George's Central. Our open afternoon with Headteacher forum for **KS2 parents/carers only** is planned for **Thursday 21st November, 1:30pm start**. I hope to see you then.



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Bikeability – Some children from Year 6 recently took part in some Bikeability session on our school site and within the local community. Children learned how to cycle safely on the road including signalling, positioning and completing safety checks on their bikes. Well done to all the children who successfully passed the Level 1 standard (with some even passing Level 2!).

Class Worship – Each year, the Macmillan Coffee Morning that lots of organisations host, usually clashes with our Harvest Festival – this was the case this year. We have been thinking about how we can still support this charity through having a ‘coffee morning’ approach and so last week we tried something different. After the children in Y6AJM had shared their learning as part of their Whole School Worship, we offered refreshments to the parents/carers who attended and asked for a small donation to Macmillan. This was well received and so from now on, we will offer refreshments after **every** Class Worship. **Should anyone wish to bake any cakes to support us with this then please let the school office know**, see the dates below for Class Workshops that will be taking place before the next newsletter:



Date	Class
Friday 8 th November 2019	Y5/6NC Class Worship with Celebration (9:05am start)
Friday 22 nd November 2019	Y5JY Class Worship with Celebration (9:05am start)



Black History Month Celebrations – Children in Y1 – Y6 have been busy celebrating October’s Black History Month. To launch this, the children took part in an African drumming workshop last Wednesday led by Mr Robert Maseko and Mrs Winnie Kibula. The day started with a Whole



School Worship and involved lots of music and dancing. Returning to the hall at the end of the day, each year group performed to each other and enjoyed finding more out about African history and culture. Children have also been learning about inspirational figures in their classes to foster an understanding of black history. They have today presented their learning to each other in a celebratory Black History Month Worship.



Eco-Schools Conference – Some members of our School Eco-Council attended the Wigan Borough Eco-Schools conference at Central Park Academy in Wigan last week. The day began with the children meeting the Mayor of Wigan, Councillor Stephen Dawber. The children spoke with representatives from local and national companies to find out how we can make changes in school and in our personal lives to have a positive impact on our environment. They then attended an air pollution workshop, where they made pledges to tackle the air pollution near school. After a spot of lunch, the children received a message from Hacker the dog from CBBC who told them to keep up the good work.

Choir Performances – Many thanks to our school choir who performed for all our children and visitors earlier this week. Our next school choir performance in school will be at 9:05am on Wednesday 11th December. As well as regular performances in school, we take part in lots of community events with our choir. We have been contacted about being involved with the switch on of the Christmas lights in Tyldesley. Further information about this will follow from Miss Gray.



Secondary School applications – 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 31st October**. The children have recently visited our local high school for a taster session and there have been open evenings for you to attend. You will be notified in March next year of the name of the Secondary School that your child will be going to.

Remembrance Sunday parade – Upon our return to school after half term, letters will be sent out asking for children to take part in the annual Remembrance Sunday parade on Sunday 10th November. Look out for the letter sent out upon our return to school. The Tyldesley Branch of the British Legion will be in school as part of our Whole School Worship on Thursday 7th November.



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'Prime Parent Partnerships' Workshop – We will be having a workshop for parents/carers of our Nursery children on **Thursday 14th November**. This will be a very informal session and is aimed at families of children from both our school nursery and our Lancaster Avenue Nursery. This session will take place **in school at 9:00am** and at Lancaster Avenue at **3:00pm**. You are welcome to attend either



session. Come along and join in activities to support your child's development in the 'Prime' areas of learning and take home some resources for you to use at home. A letter will sent out soon asking you to select which session you would like to attend. We look forward to seeing you.



Children in Need – This will take place on Friday 15th November and this year, in order to raise money, we are saying that for a £1 donation, children can come dressed to school in non-uniform.

Information about Christmas performances

Date	Event
Monday 9 th December	Nursery Christmas performance: 1:30pm start (followed by 'stay and play' session in nursery) Reception Christmas production: 2:30pm start Year 1/Year 2 Christmas production: 6pm start
Tuesday 10 th December	*Nursery Christmas performance: 9:30am start (followed by 'stay and play' session in nursery) *Reception Christmas production: 10:30am start *Year 1/Year 2 Christmas production: 2pm start

***These performances will be filmed and there will be an opportunity for you to purchase copies of the recording.**

Please let staff in school know if you do not wish your child to appear on film.

Nursery – Children will come into the school hall and perform some Christmas songs on stage to nursery families only. All visitors who have come to watch will then have the opportunity to go into nursery to spend time with their child for a short stay and play session. This will be repeated the following day. However, as nursery may get rather busy, we would ask that you only attend one of the stay and play sessions. We are still finalising plans for our Lancaster Avenue performances – Ms Naughton will update you when we have confirmed arrangements.

Reception – Children will take to the stage to perform their Christmas production, in the school hall, to their families only.

KS1 – All children in Year 1 and Year 2 will perform together, on stage as in previous years.

*Tickets for all performances will go on sale from **Monday 25th November from Mrs Kearns' external door at 9:00am and 3:00pm.** Because of the number of children in each area of school and space in our hall, you will initially be able to purchase a maximum of:*



4 tickets per family in total for Nursery Christmas performance

4 tickets per family in total for Reception Christmas production

2 tickets per family in total Y1/2 Christmas production



*You will be able to purchase further tickets at **9:00am on Monday 2nd December from our school office, should there be any remaining.***

ATSA Events



Boxing Taster Session – On Monday 30th September, 4 children from Year 6 took part in a Boxing Taster Session at Astley VIP Boxing gym. The children experienced a variety of fitness activities linked to boxing alongside children from other Atherton and Tyldesley schools.

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Y5/6 Hockey Competition – Monday 7^h October saw the Y5/6 hockey team take part in a competition against eight other schools. The team successfully managed to qualify, from their group, for the final where they met Holy Family. In a great final I am pleased to inform you that the team successfully **won 1 – 0** to become the **2019/20 Y5/6 Hockey champions!** Well done to Mr Cooke and his team: Lee Barry, Jenna Binks, Marley Crawford, Bradley Graham, Ben Green, Clayton Johnson, Ella Meskell, Ryhan Ogungbola and Cameron Taylor.



KS2 Swimming Gala – Eight children from St. George's Central School recently took part in a swimming gala against children from eight other primary schools. The four boys and four girls took part in both individual and team races at the Pelican Centre. Well done to Jenna Binks, Oliver Derbyshire, Ben Green, Oliver Marsden, Ella Meskell, Eva Molyneaux, Noah Molyneaux and Mia Riches who made up the St. George's Central team that finished **2nd overall**.

Kickstarterz Taster Session – Earlier this week, three Reception children took part in lots of fun style fitness activities at a 'Kickstarterz' session with Reception children from other local schools. This was a great opportunity for some of our children to take part in their first ever ATSA event. There are currently some 'Kickstarterz' sessions taking place in our community each weekend aimed at Nursery and Reception children. For further information, search for Kickstarterz on Facebook.



KS2 Cross Country – Last night, some children from St. George's Central took part in a Cross Country race, against children from fifteen other schools, at Atherton Community School. The children had been training hard at dinnertimes and so it was great to see all their hard work pay off as the children finished **2nd overall!** Well done to all members of the team who contributed to this.

ATSA All Sports Holiday Provision – Don't forget that next week, sporting activities have been organised for children in **Y2 – Y6 for £3 a day (with lunch included)!** I hope to see some of our children taking part in these sessions during the October half term:

Days	Provision	Venue	Time
Monday 21 st October 2019	Jenny Meadows Athletics Masterclass	Hindsford	10:00am – 3:00pm
Tuesday 22 nd October 2019	Miriam Bowyer Dance	St. George's Central	9:00am – 3:00pm
Wednesday 23 rd October 2019	First Aid and Fun Swim	The Pelican Centre, Tyldesley	9:30am – 3:30pm
Thursday 24 th October 2019	Dave Morris Boxing and Bootcamp	St. George's Central	9:00am – 3:00pm
Friday 25 th October 2019	Wigan Athletic FC Community Trust	St. George's Central	9:00am – 3:30pm

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

- *KS2 Kurling Competition*
- *School Games Cross Country*
- *VX Competition*
- *Y5/6 Basketball Competition*
- *Smite! Taster Session*

Please remember that your child needs a water bottle in school every day. We do have water dispensers where they can refill their bottles but for hygiene reasons we would prefer the use of individual bottles rather than cups.

The next newsletter will be emailed out on Friday 22nd November. Paper copies will be made available in the letter holders in the school entrance area for you to pick up should you wish. There will be no after school clubs during the first week back when we return to school. Have a great half term with your family.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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