



Newsletter – Friday 1st October 2021

During our first month back at school it has been good to see some positive changes with regards to our approach to events in school as we further 'nudge' our way towards a level of normality that existed pre-COVID in March 2020. Apart from the 'Welcome Sessions' for our Reception and Nursery children in June this year, it was during March 2020 that we last really invited you as parents/carers, as a group, into our school building to experience some of the things we have to offer (over 500 days ago!). It was therefore pleasing to see so many of you at our face-to-face 'Meet the teacher' meetings during our first week in back in school and it was great to welcome some of our Reception parents/carers and Rector Martin into school for our 'Welcome to our school Worship'.

During this last month, we have also started to welcome other visitors back into our school to enhance your children's learning. Danny from Curious Critters returned to work with our Year 5 and Year 6 children and children in Year 3 and Year 4 received a 'visit' from an Ancient Greek (I am sure I have seen him somewhere before?!). We are looking forward to welcoming you and other visitors into school throughout this year.



****Congratulations to Mrs O'Brien and her husband Mark on the birth of Ellis, on Monday this week. Mother, son (and dad) are all happy and well! I am sure you will join me in wishing them all the best as they start their life as a family of three****

Class attendance updates:

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:KB	97.89%	Y1NT	97.92%	Y3LK	96.64%	Y5HJ	93.27%
YR:TK	97.78%	Y1/2TL	97.98%	Y3/4CS	97.51%	Y5/6NC	97.76%
		Y2JY	94.06%	Y4CB	96.43%	Y6AM	94.94%
Whole school attendance: 96.56%							

**%s are up to and including Friday 24th September*

Please remember to ring school from 8am onwards if you know that your child will be absent from school.



School photographs – We will receive our first visit of the year from the school photographer on **Monday 4th 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. On Monday:

- *photographs will be taken of children individually **and** with school based siblings;
- *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 Monday morning are invited to come into school at 9:00am to have their photograph taken;

*any Lancaster Avenue Nursery children who do not usually attend Nursery on a Monday afternoon are invited to come into 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. Where siblings are involved, we will ensure both an individual and a family picture are taken so that you can make a choice on your final purchase.

'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



Opening doors at school – Many thanks to everyone in Reception – Year 6 who have been arriving at school for when our doors open on the first bell at **8:45am**. Our second bell rings at **8:55am** 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. Please see below for a reminder of when all our doors open and close in all areas of our school:

Year groups	Date starting back at school/nursery	Arriving		Leaving
		Doors open	Doors closed	Doors open
Reception – Year 6	Monday 6 th September	8:45am (bell)	8:55am (bell)	3:15pm
Lancaster Avenue Nursery	Monday 6 th September	9:00am	As children arrive	3:00pm
Darlington Street Nursery	Monday 13 th September	8:50am	9:05am	3:00pm

We ask that children please stick to the paths and keep off any the grass and any of our school equipment before and after school.



Breakfast Club (7:30am – 8:45am) – Please remember to book your place at Breakfast Club by emailing:

breakfastclub@saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk



Bookings can be made on a week by week basis. Please ensure we receive your email by 3:30pm each Friday for the following week. Our Breakfast club numbers have sharply increased and we are no longer in a position to have children simply turn up on the morning for a place. To avoid disappointment, please email the address above to secure your child's place. See below for our daily prices:

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

Harvest celebrations in school and church – Our Harvest celebrations started in school last Friday. In the morning, Reverend Cath, led a service with our Reception and KS1 children. Later in the day, Rector Martin led the service with our KS2 children. Each class contributed to the services, which involved readings, a world map of where food came from and research about The Trussell Trust. It was also great to see so many of our children and families in St. George's Church as part of the Sunday Harvest Service last week. Many thanks for your harvest gifts that your kindly donated. We will be in contact with Atherton and Leigh Foodbank to come and collect the donations so that they can be distributed within the community. A great example of a fantastic team effort from children, staff parents/carers and the community!



2021/22 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 to achieving each key priority this year, click the link to view our 2021/22

School Impact Plan Summary document:

<https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/MISC/SIP%20Summary%20202122.pdf>

****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 will soon have all the laptops ready to re-issue so please let us know in school****

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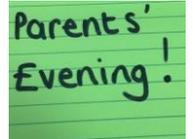
Reception starters 2022 – The link on the Wigan Council website for 2022 Reception places opened yesterday. If your child was born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018, you can now submit an application for your child to start our Reception class in September 2022. The closing date for admissions is **Saturday 15th January 2022**. 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 2022, please let them know that, like every year, I am continuing to show people around school safely 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.

London residential trip – A short meeting will be held next Wednesday for the parents/carers of children in Year 6 regarding the planned trip to London in June 2022. The trip will be a great experience for these children as they near the end of their time at our school.



National Poetry Day – Next Thursday is National Poetry Day: an annual mass celebration that encourages all to enjoy, discover and share poetry. This year, the theme is Choice. Your children will take part in a whole host of poetic experiences on the day which will not only help them to develop their poetic writing skills, but it will also support their writing in other areas as many techniques used when writing poems (metaphors, similes, personification etc.) can be subtly used in other forms of writing. Please look out for any poetry based activities sent via Seesaw for you to undertake at home.

Autumn Term parents' evening – We are looking forward to welcoming you into school for 'face to face' Autumn Term parents' evenings. We have amended our arrangements from previous years so as to reduce the amount of people in our school building/hall on each evening. In a change to what we had originally planned, we will be sending home paper copies of the parents' evening letter on Monday 11th October, as opposed to sending information in an email. Please see the table below, with our 'plan' for how we will manage the Autumn Term parents' evening:



Date	Event
Monday 11 th October	Paper copies of parents' evening letters will be send home (please check bags)
Mon 11 th – Thurs 14 th	Select an 'evening' and a 'time slot' that would be most convenient for you
Friday 15 th October	Return your child's completed form to the class teacher by today
Tuesday 19 th October	Our teachers will meet in school to arrange time slots to coordinate time for siblings
Wednesday 20 th October	Paper copies of confirmed parents' evening time slots will be sent home (please check bags)
Monday 1 st November	Lancaster Avenue Nursery Parents' Afternoon in nursery (1:30pm – 4:00pm) Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: KB, Reception: TK, Y1NT, Y1/2TL, Y2JY
Tuesday 2 nd November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): Y3LK, Y3/4CS, Y4CB, Y5HJ, Y5/6NC, Y6AM
Wednesday 3 rd November	Lancaster Avenue Nursery Parents' Afternoon in nursery (1:30pm – 4:00pm) Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: KB, Reception: TK, Y1NT, Y1/2TL, Y2JY
Thursday 4 th November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): Y3LK, Y3/4CS, Y4CB, Y5HJ, Y5/6NC, 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 with 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.



Race for Life – It was great to hear about Ellie and Sienna who recently undertook the Race for Life raising over £150 for Cancer Research. We love to hear news about how our children go 'above and beyond' both in school, at home and within the community. Well done girls!

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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 PSHE curriculum: <https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/pshe.html>



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 15th 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**



20th October, 9:15am start in the school hall. You are all very welcome to attend these events in school.

The approach we will using with this (and all the others, until further notice) will be:

- we will send a letter out to the parents/carers of the children involved in the Class Worship/music performance one week prior.**
- only two people per child will be able to attend the event in school and this needs to be indicated on the reply slip.**
- the completed reply slip returned to school by the given date so we can organise chairs/other classes in the hall etc.**

Click the link to see our key dates letter which includes the dates of all Class Worship and Musical performance events this year:

<https://www.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk/Documents/home/Key%20dates%202021-2022.pdf>

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 **Sunday 31st October 2021**. The main information page and admissions booklet can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Schools/School-Admissions/Secondary-schools.aspx>

You will be notified in March 2022 of the name of the Secondary School that your child will be going to.



VX Taster Session – Ten children from Year 5 and Year 6 recently took part in VX Taster Sessions at Fred Longworth High School. VX is an inclusive sport where competitors use a lacrosse style stick to aim soft balls at their opponents. Points are scored for hitting your opponent with the ball or for catching a ball that is aimed in your direction. The children will return on Monday 8th November to take part in the VX Competition.

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

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| **Y5/6 Hockey Competition** | **Boxing Taster Session** | **Kickstarterz Taster Session** |
| **Yoga Taster Session** | **Futsal Competition** | **Cross Country Competition** |

The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday 22nd October (paper copies will be available in the letter holders in the entrance area to school and at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery). Have a great month.

Mr M Grogan, Headteacher

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