



## Newsletter – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Click the link to view a [digital version of this newsletter](#)



Here we are at the end of a very busy first half term at St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery. Thank you for your support during this time. Please find attached to the 'newsletter email' the Autumn Term (2<sup>nd</sup> half) dates letter. You will have already received a list of the 'key dates' for the school year. Our aim is to provide you with as much notice as possible with these main events



that will take place across school and so that is the reason we email these dates to you in July. However, over the course of the school year, other opportunities for your children arise and so there are additional events added. We therefore provide you with a half-termly updated list of events. Paper copies of the Autumn Term (2<sup>nd</sup> half) dates letter will be in the entrance area at school and there will always be a link on the opening page of the school website.

### Class attendance updates:

Class	%	Class	%	Class	%	Class	%
YR:KB	93.2%	Y1NT	96.6%	Y3ES	94.3%	Y5HJ	94.9%
YR:TK	97.7%	Y1/2TL	95.2%	Y3/4EH	93.5%	Y5/6GC	97.8%
		Y2CS	96.6%	Y4NC	95.1%	Y6AM	92.9%
Whole school attendance: 95.1%							

*\*%s are up to and including Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023*



**Reception starters 2024** – The link on the Wigan Council website for 2023 Reception places opened today: [Primary School Admissions](#). If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, you can now submit an application for your child to start our Reception class in September 2024. The closing date for admissions is **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**. 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 2024, please let them know that, like every year, I will show people around school 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.

**Harvest celebrations in school and church** – Our Harvest celebrations started in school on the day the last newsletter was sent out. Rector Martin, led both the Reception and KS1 service in the morning and the KS2 service in the afternoon. Reception and KS1 children focused on the theme of being grateful for the food we have to eat. Our KS2 children considered how Jesus showed concern for the hungry at the Feeding of the 5000. Each class contributed to the services, with Year 5 taking the opportunity to demonstrate their life skills knowledge of Makaton. It was lovely to see so many of you join Reverend Cath at St. George's Church as part of the Harvest Service on 15<sup>th</sup> October. Many thanks for your harvest gifts that you 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.



**'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



**Black History Month** – In October, we have been celebrating the incredible influences that black people and people from other cultures have had on our global society. The focus for Black History Month this year is 'celebrating our sisters'. Each class researched different influential, black people who have impacted our society, with a range of work being produced, including biographies, poetry, artwork, drama pieces and much more. Our celebrations will continue after half term with an African/Caribbean Dance day. This will round off what has been a memorable month, of Black History, focusing on 'celebrating our sisters'.

**Fire Station visits** – Children in Y5/6GC and Y6AM attended Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service's Community Fire Training Facility in Bury to undertake some free fire safety training. The training provided the children with a state-of-the-art interactive experience highlighting the dangers of fire and providing safety advice on how to react in the event of a fire.



**Poet Visit and Green Room projects** – We celebrated National Poetry Day, by welcoming poet Louise Fazackerley to St. George's Central. This year, the theme for National Poetry Day was 'Refuge'. We were lucky enough to hear Louise perform many of her poems based on this theme. Children across school took part in a whole host of poetic experiences to help them develop their poetic writing techniques as well as their speaking, listening and performing skills. This year, poetry performances continue to be the focus of the work classes undertake in our 'Green Room' recording studio. Click the link below to watch the recent 'film' created: [Autumn Term \(1st half\) Poetry Performances](#)

**Parent/carer workshops** – It was great to see so many of you at our recent workshops. Thanks to Miss Beswick and Miss Killian for leading the Early Reading/Phonics Workshop for Reception parents/carers. Thanks to Mr Cooke and all the various staff members who were involved in our new Maths Workshops. We believe that schools and families working in partnership will always bring about success for your children.



**Class Worship** – It was great to welcome many of you into school for Y6AM Class Worship last Friday. The date for the Class Worship for each class is already in place for this year. Should you wish to attend the Class Worship of your child's class, please just come to the main entrance once you have dropped your children at their classroom door and we will welcome you into school for the 9:05am start time.

Each Class Worship lasts for about 20 – 30 minutes and there is always an opportunity for you to have a quick chat with your child at the end. See below for the dates of the remaining Class Workshops this year:

Class Worship date	Class	Class Worship date	Class
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2023	Y5/6GC	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Y2CS
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Y5HJ	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Y1/2TL
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Y4NC	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Y1NT
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2024	Y3/4EH	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Reception
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Y3ES	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Darlington Street Nursery

There is also the Year 6 Leavers' Worship in school on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

**'Stay and Plays' and open afternoons** – It has been great to welcome you all into our school this week to spend some time learning alongside your children. Thank you to everyone who visited. Our next planned 'Stay and Plays' and open afternoons will be in January and February 2024. Please check the [2023/2024 Key Dates letter](#) for the exact dates.



**Bikeability sessions** – During this week, some Year 6 children have taken part in 'Bikeability' sessions. The children learned how to cycle safely on the road including signalling, positioning and how to complete safety checks on their bikes. ***A reminder for all that when bikes and scooters are brought onto our school site they are pushed and not ridden so as to reduce the risk of accidents.***

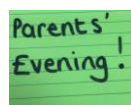
***'Never settle for less than your best'***

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

**Musical Performance in school** – It was good to welcome many of you into school on Wednesday this week for the first musical performance of the school year. Thanks to Miss Gray, who brought the children together for this performance. Our musical performances take place each half term and involve our choir being joined by our musicians from across school. The dates for these half- termly performances are already in place for this year. Should you wish to attend any of the performances, please just come to the main entrance once you have dropped your children at their classroom door and we will welcome you into school for the 9:05am start time. Each performance lasts for about 20 – 30 minutes and there is always an opportunity for you to have a quick chat with your child at the end of their performance. See below for the dates of the remaining musical performances this year:



Musical performance dates
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2024



**Autumn Term parents' evening** – Earlier this week, you should have received a paper copy of your confirmed parents' evening time slot as we look forward to welcoming you into school for 'face-to-face' meetings after the half term. Please see the table below with our 'updated plan' for the Autumn Term parents' evening:

Date	Event
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Paper copies of confirmed parents' evening time slots will be sent home (please check bags)
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Lancaster Avenue Nursery</b> Parents' Meetings throughout the week
	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): <b>Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: KB, Reception: TK, Y1NT, Y1/2TL, Y2CS</b>
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): <b>Y3ES, Y3/4EH, Y4NC, Y5HJ, Y5/6GC, Y6AM</b>
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): <b>Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: KB, Reception: TK, Y1NT, Y1/2TL, Y2CS</b>
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (3:30pm – 7:00pm): <b>Y3ES, Y3/4EH, Y4NC, Y5HJ, Y5/6GC, Y6AM</b>

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 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.

**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 **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023**. The main information page and admissions booklet can be accessed by clicking on the following link: [Secondary School Admissions](#) You will be notified in March 2024 of the name of the Secondary School that your child will be going to.



**Class based Worship themes** – During the second half term, children will be focusing on the following:  
**School Value: Endurance**  
**Reflective question:** When have you needed to show endurance?



**Remembrance Sunday** – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November will see our children take part in the annual Remembrance Sunday parade in Tyldesley. When we return to school after half term, a letter will be sent out inviting children to join us as we walk with the community from the market square to the Cenotaph. The service is always well attended by the community and by children from St. George's Central. Look out for the letter during the first week back in school inviting your children to take part.

***'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**



**Children in Need** – On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November we will be taking part in a SPOTacular Children in Need Day to learn about the power of positive relationships and their impact in helping to support children and young people throughout their school years. Children can come dressed in non-uniform with a £1 donation and wear something with spots! Classes will spend time over the day taking part in SPOTacular activities. Additionally that week, classes will also take part in a 'Pudsey Bear Burpees' team point challenge. Click the link below to see more information about the fundraising event and activities you may like to take part in at home: [Children in Need](#)



**Boxing Taster Session** – On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, four children from Year 5/6 were joined by children from four other local schools for a Boxing Taster Session at our school. 'Boxing for Better' coach, Dave, led the session and the children experienced a variety of fitness activities linked to boxing.

**KS2 Poetry Performance** – On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October, National Poetry Day, we held our first ATSA 'Poetry Performance' evening 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 three local schools came together to perform some poems they had been learning in school, on stage to an audience. The children also had the opportunity to buy signed copies of Louise's work. The ATSA KS1 Poetry Performance event will be on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March, which is World Poetry Day.



**'Kickstarterz' Taster Session** – On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October, three of our Reception children took 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. Our children were joined by Reception children from four other schools.

**Yoga Taster Session** – Some Year 5 and Year 6 children took part in a Yoga Taster Session. The session was led by Toni Aspinall from Toni Marie Yoga. Yoga Taster Sessions for other year groups are planned for later in the year.



**KS2 Cross Country** – Yesterday afternoon, some children from St. George's Central took part in Cross Country races, against children from seventeen other schools, at Atherton High 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 **3<sup>rd</sup> overall!** Well done to **all** members of the team!

**ATSA All Sports Holiday Provision** – Next week, activities have been organised for children in **Y2 – Y6** for **£4 a day**:

Days	Provision	Venue	Time
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2023	Boomers and Swingers Fun Golf and Foot Golf	Boomers and Swingers	9:00am – 3:00pm
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Wigan Athletic FC Community Trust	Hindsford	9:00am – 3:00pm
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Sphairistrike Tennis	Astley and Tyldesley Tennis	9:00am – 3:00pm
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Abigail Bibby School of Dancing	Sacred Heart	9:00am – 3:30pm

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

\*\*KS2 Kurling Festival\*\*      \*\*'Active Minds' Event (Road Safety Quiz)\*\*  
 \*\*KS2 Basketball Festival\*\*      \*\*'Access to Success' (Yoga and Dance Taster Session)\*\*

As well as being on the school website, there are paper copies of all newsletters available in the letter holders in the entrance area in school and at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery. Our school will close today at 3:20pm and our Lancaster Avenue Nursery will close today at 3:00pm. Both sites will re – open for children on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October**. Don't forget that it is parents' evening the first week back when we return to school. Have a great half term with your family.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

***'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**