

St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter – Friday 23rd January 2026

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



I hope you and your families have had a great start to 2026. As usual there has been lots going on in school, including the addition of two new school governors. Mrs Karen Baylis was appointed as Foundation Governor and Mr Andrew Mills came forward to fulfil the Parent Governor vacancy. Both Mrs Baylis and Mr Mills have recently attended a Full Governing Body meeting and we welcome their support as we look to continually improve and develop St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery. Please see information below from Mrs Baylis and Mr Mills:



Mrs Baylis: I originate from Altrincham moving to Tyldesley 38 years ago. I am married to Alan and have two daughters: Lauren and Emily. I also have two grandchildren, Faye (5 years old) and Gabriel (4 years old). I retired from the University of Manchester six years ago and began volunteering at St Ann's Hospice, Makants Greyhound Rescue and Happy Timers Dementia Support group. As a regular attendee of St George's Church and an active member of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) I hope, in my role as Foundation School Governor, to contribute in strengthening and developing the Church/School bond.

Mr Mills: I originate from Gloucester, having moved to Tyldesley 13 years ago. I am married to Nicola and have a son, George, who attends St. George's Central. I work full time for the Civil Service. I applied to become a Parent Governor as I believe that education, especially from a young age is so important, to give children the best start in their learning journey and development. My aspirations in my role as Parent Governor are that I will be able to utilise my public and private sector experience to help support the Governing Body.



Please remember, to ensure everyone is 'safe' on our school site:

**We ask that you and your children stick to the paths,
keep off any of our school equipment, avoid riding bikes and scooters on school grounds
and do not play any 'ball games' on the playground before and after school:
Please support us by always taking full responsibility for your children when on our school site.**

Please also remember that:

Jewellery (including earrings) other than a wrist watch is not permitted. No smart watches are to be worn.

Class attendance updates:

| Class | *% | Class | *% | Class | *% | Class | *% |
|---------------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| YR:CR | 94.7% | Y1KB | 94.7% | Y3GC | 94.9% | Y5BH | 93.8% |
| YR:NT | 95.2% | Y1/2PD | 96.7% | Y3/4LB | 97.0% | Y5/6RO | 96.3% |
| | | Y2TL | 96.5% | Y4CB | 94.6% | Y6AM | 95.3% |
| Whole school attendance: 95.5% | | | | | | | |

*%'s are up to and including Friday 16th January 2026

Please ensure you ring school at the start of each day that your child is absent so we can account for all our children.

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

Click the link to view our [Graduated approach to attendance](#)

'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

Nursery places for September 2026



It is never too early to have your child's name down 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 2026 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'.



Reception starters 2026

If you have a church card to support your child's application into our school for September 2026, please ensure you hand this in at the school office by **Friday 27th February 2026**.



'Water Protectors' Artist Workshop – Children in Y5 and Y6 took part in an art and environment workshop with artist, historian and climate guru, Anna Smith. The creative session explored the vital role of water in our everyday lives and the collection, preservation and distribution of water.

Year 6 Drama Workshops with Royal Exchange Theatre Group – Children in Year 6 took part in a drama workshop with Julia, a local theatre maker. The session was aimed at inspiring children to be expressive. Further sessions are available at Shakerley Community Centre should your child wish to sign up.



Darts Taster Sessions – At the start of the term, children in Year 3 – Year 6 took part in a Darts Taster Session with GM Darts Coaching coaches, James and Arran. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about how to play darts. They learned about how to position themselves when playing darts, and how to throw the darts to get the best score. They also experienced head-to-head games against their friends, and games against the coaches. For more information, email James: contact@gmdartscoaching.co.uk

Year 5 and Year 6 Shakespeare Workshop – As part of learning in English and History, Year 5 and Year 6 children received a visit from 'As Creatives'. The children took part in some structured drama activities to re-tell the stories of Shakespeare's plays.



Open afternoons and 'Stay and Play' sessions – Thank you to everyone who came to our 'Open Afternoons' earlier this week. Our next round of 'Stay and Play' sessions across Early Years classes, will take place **during the week commencing Monday 9th February**. Staff across Early Years will make you aware of the sessions available during that week and so please see Miss Cowley at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery or your child's teacher at our school site, to sign up to a session.

To celebrate the start of **Children's Mental Health Week**, there will be a 'Dress to Express' Day on **Monday 2nd February** where children will be welcomed into school wearing an outfit to express their uniqueness. Children may choose to dress in a colour to express how they are feeling or an outfit to represent their favourite things. This year's theme is 'This is My Place', celebrating the importance of belonging in our communities. Throughout the week, we will explore activities that help children feel safe, valued, and connected—whether at home, with friends, or in school.



Friday 6th February will see us come together as a school to mark '**Heart Month**'. On this day, children can come to school wearing something red with a £1 donation for the 'Healing Little Hearts' charity.

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****From Monday 9th February – Friday 13th February, the book fair will be in our school library both before and after school. Please access the library via the playground door each morning at 8:30am and after school from 3:20pm****



Friday 13th February will see us come together as a school to mark **International Childhood Cancer Day**. On this day, children can come to school wearing something orange with a £1 donation for The Azaylia Foundation. Over the day, children will be learning about the brave children, adolescents and families that are affected by cancer and how we can show support as a community.

School Swimming – Our children in Year 3 and Year 4 will start school swimming lessons at The Pelican Centre after February half term. For parents/carers of children in **Year 4CB**, it is worth noting that the children will be attending their first swimming session on the **first day back after February half term**. More information has been included on the letter that has been emailed to you today and sent home with all Year 3 and Year 4 children.



World Book Day – On Thursday 5th March, we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. This is an annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and the joy of reading. To celebrate this in school, children can come to school in non-uniform and bring in their favourite book to share. We will be receiving a visit from poet, Dommy B who will work with classes delivering some creative reading and writing workshops.



'Access to Success' Basketball Competition – Thursday 8th January saw our children take part in an 'Access to Success' Basketball Competition at Rowan Tree, competing against children from seven other schools. Well done to our team.



Football leagues – Our children are 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 have already played two games (winning one match and drawing one match) and they are due to play their next two games today. The girls will start their matches in February.

Darts Taster Session – Some Year 6 children took part in a Darts Taster Session, alongside children from twelve other schools. The session was led by GM Darts Coaching coaches, James and Arran.



ATSA Circus Skills Workshop – Friday 16th January saw some KS1 children join with children from eight other local schools for a Circus Skills Workshop at Tyldesley Library, led by Adrian Catch.

Y5/6 Dodgeball Competition – Monday 19th January saw the Y5/6 Dodgeball team take part in a competition against twelve other schools. The team played well, winning six out of their eight games. Well done to the children who made up the Y5/6 Dodgeball team.



Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session – Some Year 3 and Year 4 children took part in a Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session. The session was led by Toni Aspinall from Toni Marie Yoga.

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'Active Minds' Team Building Competition – Yesterday, our Sports Council members took part in a team-building event, completing a range of different tasks alongside children from other schools. Though many of the challenges were difficult, the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and learned valuable skills such as communication, problem solving, leadership and collaboration.

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

Kickstarterz Taster Session **KS1 Kurling Competition** **Y5/6 Lacrosse Taster Session**
Y3/4 Zumba Taster Session ***Y6 Orienteering Competition** **First Aid for Sport **

You will receive the Spring Term (2nd half) dates letter on Friday 13th February, the final day of this half term. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday 27th February. Have a great month.

Mr M Grogan, Headteacher

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