

St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery



Newsletter – Friday 24th October 2025

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



We have come to the end of a very busy first half term, thank you for your support during this time. Please find attached to the 'newsletter email' the Autumn Term (2nd 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 (2nd half) dates letter will be available in the entrance area at school and there will always be a link on the opening page of the school website.



Mr Iain Hodcroft – Last week I contacted you all with the sad news that our much-loved governor, Mr Hodcroft, had sadly died suddenly. Mr Hodcroft was a regular visitor to school, speaking with classes or being part of whole school worship. He recently led whole school worship for the children about the bicentennial celebration of St. George's Church. I am sure, like me, you will remember Mr Hodcroft as a staunch supporter of St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery, St. George's Church and the Tyldesley community. He will be sorely missed.

Class attendance updates:

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:CR	96.5%	Y1KB	95.8%	Y3GC	97.1%	Y5BH	96.4%
YR:NT	97.1%	Y1/2PD	95.8%	Y3/4LB	98.1%	Y5/6RO	97.9%
		Y2TL	97.4%	Y4CB	95.0%	Y6AM	94.7%
Whole school attendance: 96.5%							

*%s are up to and including Friday 17th October 2025



Reception starters 2026 – The link on the Wigan Council website for 2026 Reception places is now open: [Primary School Admissions](#). The closing date for admissions is **Thursday 15th January 2026**. There is no formal open event at St. George's Central, I will show people around school on an **individual basis**. Please contact the school office to 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. Reverend Cath led both the Early Years and KS1 service in the morning and the KS2 service in the afternoon. This year, our whole school Harvest theme was showing thanks and gratefulness for the food we eat. Each class contributed to the services with readings, poems, prayers and song. It was lovely to see so many of you join Reverend Cath at St. George's Church as part of the Service on Sunday 28th September. Many thanks for your harvest gifts that you kindly donated. Atherton and Leigh Foodbank have collected the donations so that they can be distributed within 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



European Day of Languages – This year's European Day of Languages took place on Friday 26th September. We celebrated this by doing themed activities and learning some basic words and phrases from a range of European languages. Our KS2 children were also challenged in our 'Flags of Europe' competition – well done to our winners!

Holocaust Exhibition – On Tuesday 30th September, some children from Year 6 attended an exhibition at Leigh Spinners Mill about Holocaust Memorial Day. The children worked with an artist to make some candles to represent 'Light in the Darkness' and created white roses to remember those who fought for peace during the Holocaust.



Black History Month – Throughout October, we have been celebrating Black History Month. This year, the theme was '*standing firm in power and pride*' and has focused on recognising strength, resilience and the lasting contributions of black people throughout history. The children have explored stories of determination and courage, learning about inspirational figures who stood strong in the face of adversity. They have expressed their reflections through poetry, artwork and writing, celebrating identity, heritage and the importance of taking pride in who we are.

KS1 Trip to Knowsley Safari Park – On Thursday 2nd October, children in Key Stage 1 enjoyed a trip to Knowsley Safari Park to support their learning in Science. Travelling through the park provided an opportunity to see a wide variety of animals from different groups. Children also took part in an interactive Animal Detectives Workshop before finishing the day with an entertaining and educational sea lion show.



Poet Visit – We celebrated National Poetry Day by welcoming poet Tom Stocks to St. George's Central. This year, the theme for National Poetry Day was 'Play'. We were lucky enough to hear Tom perform many of his poems. 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.

Parent/carer workshops – It was great to see so many of you at our recent workshops. Thanks to Miss Taylor and Mrs Rankin for leading the Early Reading/Phonics Workshop for Reception parents/carers. Thanks also to Mrs Malley for leading our KS2 Reading Workshop and Maths Workshops. We believe that schools and families working in partnership will always bring about success for your children. Should you have any questions about any of the workshops then do not hesitate to contact staff in school.

Class Worship – It was great to welcome many of you into school for Y6AM Class Worship. 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 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 7 th November 2025	Y5/6RO	Friday 6 th March 2026	Y2TL
Friday 14 th November 2025	Y5BH	Friday 1 st May 2026	Y1/2PD
Friday 16 th January 2026	Y4CB	Friday 8 th May 2026	Y1KB
Friday 30 th January 2026	Y3/4LB	Friday 22 nd May 2026	Reception
Friday 13 th February 2026	Y3GC	Friday 26 th June 2026	Darlington Street Nursery

There is also the Year 6 Leavers' Worship in school on Friday 17th July 2026.



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

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'Times Table Rock Stars' Day – On Friday 17th October, we celebrated TT Rockstars Day. The children competed in their classes to answer a range of multiplication and division questions. The person with the highest score in each class was awarded a prize. Learning timetables through accessing TT Rockstars online is something that is essential for children, all year round, to support their learning in Maths.

Musical Performance in school – It was lovely 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. Click the link to view the [Music Booklet](#) Miss Gray has recently developed, which provides details of all our music events 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:

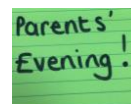


Musical performance dates
Wednesday 17 th December 2025
Wednesday 11 th February 2026
Wednesday 1 st April 2026
Wednesday 20 th May 2026



'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 2026. Please check the [2025 - 2026 Key Dates letter](#) for the exact dates.

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 these meetings after the half term. Please see the table below with our 'updated plan' for the Autumn Term parents' evening:



Date	Event
Wednesday 22 nd October	Paper copies of confirmed parents' evening time slots were sent home
Monday 3 rd November	Lancaster Avenue Nursery Parents' Meetings throughout the week
	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (4:00pm – 7:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: CR, Reception: NT, Y1KB, Y1/2PD, Y2TL
Tuesday 4 th November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (4:00pm – 7:00pm): Y3GC, Y4CB, Y5BH, Y5/6RO, Y6AM
Wednesday 5 th November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (4:00pm – 7:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: CR, Reception: NT, Y1KB, Y1/2PD, Y2TL, Y3/4LB
Thursday 6 th November	Parents' Evening in the school hall for the following classes (4:00pm – 7:00pm): Y3GC, Y3/4LB, Y4CB, Y5BH, Y5/6RO, Y6AM

For all appointments, please ensure that you arrive 5 minutes before your allocated time. 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 **Friday 31st October 2025**. 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 2026 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: Trust

Reflective question: Who would say they can trust you?

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Forest School sessions – Friday 7th November will see our **Year 4 children** start [Forest School sessions](#). Half of the year group will have a session in the morning, and the other half of the children during the afternoon. For our Year 4 children, these sessions will take place each Friday, up to and including Friday 12th December, and will be led by staff from the BeWell team from Wigan Council. Some additional clothing is required for these sessions and we do have resources in school to support your children with this.

Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 9th 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.



Children in Need – On Friday 14th November, we will be supporting Children in Need Day. Children can come to school wearing PE kits as they will be taking part in a Pudsey Bear Fun Run! We are asking for children to bring a £1 donation for this fundraising event. If they wish, children could wear a Children in Need or spotty themed hair accessory (e.g. Pudsey Bear ears) on this day. 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 2025](#).



Advanced Writing Workshop – Friday 26th September saw four children from Year 6 join with children from six other local schools for an Advanced Writing Workshop at Atherton Library. Author, Dan Worsley, led the session, sharing some stories, along with writing tips and hints about how to improve your own stories. Dan then challenged the children to create a piece of writing based on a character they met in the woods.

KS2 Poetry Performance – On Thursday 2nd October, National Poetry Day, we held our ATSA 'Poetry Performance' evening at The Snug in Atherton. The event was introduced by poet Tom Stocks, who told us a bit about his work and performed some of his poems. Children from six local schools came together to perform some poems they had been learning in school, on stage for an audience. The ATSA KS1 Poetry Performance event will be on Thursday 19th March, to celebrate World Poetry Day.



'Kickstarterz' Taster Session – On Monday 6th October, two 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 seven other schools.

Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session – Some Year 5 and Year 6 children took part in a Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session. The session was led by Toni Aspinall from Toni Marie Yoga.



Year 3/4 Futsal Competition – Friday 10th October saw the Y3/4 Futsal team take part in a Futsal Competition against ten other schools. Well done to our team who finished second in their group, narrowly missing out on qualifying for the final.

'Access to Success' Yoga and Dance – Last week, children from our school enjoyed an ATSA Yoga and Dance Taster Session at Rowan Tree Primary.



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Comedy Workshops – Earlier this week, our children were joined with children from four other schools to take part in the first of five Comedy Workshops. Charlotte from the 'Big Comedy Shop' will lead the sessions as the children prepare for the first ever ATSA Comedy Showcase Performance at The Snug on Monday 1st December. The children will come together each week to practice comedy games and sketches for the December event.

KS2 Cross Country – Yesterday morning, some children from St. George's Central took part in Cross Country races, against children from fourteen 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 **3rd overall!** Well done to **all** members of the team!



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

****Y6 Road Safety Quiz****

****KS2 Kurling Competition****

****KS2 Basketball Competition****

****'Access to Success' Dodgeball Competition****

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 3rd November**. 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.

Al. Grogan

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher



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