Headteacher: Mr M Grogan

St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter – Friday 20th November 2026

Click the link to view a **digital version of this newsletter**

Thank you to everyone who attended our parents' evening at the start of this half term. These opportunities to work together and discuss your child's progress are invaluable and help us to provide the very best support for their future. Over the past two years, we have adopted a slightly different approach to our February parents' evening. While this has had some positive aspects, it has not been as effective as we had hoped. As a result, from February 2027 we will be returning to our previous model, with **all parents/carers** being offered an appointment to discuss their child's progress and development with their class teacher. This will take place during week commencing Monday 22nd February 2027. As well as sharing news and achievements from last month, this newsletter includes important information about our Christmas events, so please take a few moments to check the dates and times for the weeks ahead.



We are delighted to share the news that Miss Cowley has recently welcomed her second child, Oscar, into the world. This is fantastic news and we send congratulations to Miss Cowley and her family at this special time.

Attendance

See below for the **weekly winners** as well as **current classes and whole school attendance**:

Week:	1st	%	2nd	%	3rd	%
19/10/26	YR:KB	98.9%	YR:NT	98.6%	Y2BH	96.7%
			Y3GC	98.6%		
2/11/26	Y6AM	99.0%	Y1TL	98.8%	Y3/4LB	96.3%
9/11/26	YR:KB	98.9%	Y1TL	98.5%	Y5RT	97.9%

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:KB	95.4%	Y1TL	97.8%	Y3GC	96.7%	Y5RT	95.3%
YR:NT	95.3%	Y1/2PD	97.5%	Y3/4LB	95.2%	Y5/6RO	90.7%
		Y2BH	96.7%	Y4CB	96.7%	Y6AM	96.0%
Whole school attendance: 95.7%							

**%'s are up to and including Friday 13th November 2026*

If you are ever 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**

Arbor – As part of our ongoing commitment to improving communication and streamlining school processes, we will be starting to use the Arbor Parent Portal for various aspects of school life. This online system will include:

- The payment of snack
- Registering your child for an extra-curricular club
- Booking parents' evening appointments
- Paying for trips, visits and residential events
- School events and workshops
- Other parental consent and registration processes

If you have not yet accessed your Arbor account or if you require any support, please contact Mrs Smith who will be happy to help.

*****Please remember, paper copies of our latest newsletter, our latest extra-curricular clubs letter and all dates letters are always in the 'letter holders' in our entrance area for you to come in and take as you wish*****

'Never settle for less than your best'

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Remembrance Sunday – It was wonderful to see so many children, families and staff take part in this year's Remembrance Sunday parade. Events such as these provide an important opportunity to reflect on the courage, sacrifice and dedication shown by members of the armed forces, both past and present. As a school, we are proud to support this occasion and thank everyone who represented our community so respectfully. On Remembrance Day itself, the two-minute silence was impeccably observed across the school, demonstrating the respect shown by all children and staff.

'Beetle Drive' fundraiser – Wednesday 11th November saw us host our first ever 'Beetle Drive'. This involved rolling a dice, with each dice roll corresponding to a part of the beetle, the first to complete their beetle drawing was the winner! We had lots of winners and enjoyed a few games of bingo and some pasties, with the event raising money which will go towards the children's Christmas parties in school. Thank you to all who supported it through their attendance or through generous prize donations, including a voucher for Prepz4You meal prep which was kindly donated by one of our parents.





Children in Need Day – On Friday 13th November, our children took part in a Pudsey Bear Fun Run to raise money for Children in Need! The children had lots of fun completing laps of the playground, taking part in exciting activities along the way. Everyone showed fantastic teamwork and enthusiasm, with St John's being crowned our winning team! Well done to everyone who took part!

Year 1 'sleepover' – On Friday 13th November, some of our Year 1 children returned to school for an exciting sleepover in the school hall. The evening was full of fun, with dancing, party games and a cosy film night complete with tasty snacks. After a good night's sleep, the children enjoyed a delicious breakfast before heading home for a well-earned rest. A fantastic time was had by all, with lots of wonderful memories made!





Anti-Bullying week – Our children took part in Anti-Bullying Week, exploring this year's theme 'Breaking the Silence'. We encouraged children to speak up if they see or experience someone being hurt or treated unkindly and reminded them of the importance of telling a trusted adult. We also revisited our **STOP rule – Several Times On Purpose** to help children understand the difference between unkind behaviour and bullying, and how we can all play a part in making our school a kind and safe place for everyone.

Y4CB visit to 'The Monastery' (Manchester) for a 'Poetry Together' Celebration – On Tuesday 17th November, Y4CB went on a visit to The Monastery, in Manchester for the 'Poetry Together Celebration.' At the event, the children really enjoyed taking part in the workshops, where they worked with two different poets, learning all about different types of poetry. We invited some of our grandparents along, as the event hoped to bring younger and older generations together through the joy of poetry. The children left feeling inspired to begin writing their own poetry and share it with their family and friends.





Autumn Term assessments – During the week commencing Monday 30th November, children in Year 1 – Year 6 will be undertaking end of term assessments in Maths, Reading and SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar). Should you have any questions about these assessments, then please see your child's teacher.

School nurses will be returning to school on Friday 27th November to 'catch up' with any children who missed the Nasal Flu Vaccination when they originally came last month*

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Tyldesley Christmas lights – During the evening of Saturday 28th November, our school choir will be helping to spread Christmas cheer at the Tyldesley Lights switch-on event on Tyldesley market square, singing some popular Christmas songs and carols. Our children are due to perform at 5:00pm. Please come and support our school choir if you can. Children in the choir will receive a letter shortly with further details about this event.

Don't forget that Friday 4th December will be the final day of extra-curricular clubs until January 2027*

Reception starters 2027 – The link on the Wigan Council website for 2027 Reception places is now open: Primary School Admissions. The closing date for admissions is **Friday 15th January 2027**. There is no formal open event at St. George's Central, instead I 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.





'Active Minds' Road Safety Quiz – Thursday 5th November saw two Year 6 children from St. George's Central make up a quiz team for the ATSA 'Active Minds' Road Safety Quiz. The children had spent the last month brushing up on their road safety knowledge and did very well against children from ten other schools.

Kurling Competition – Thursday 5th November saw our KS2 Kurling team take part in a competition against seven other schools. Well done to the children who represented our children at this event.





Flag American Football league – Throughout November, children in Year 5 and 6 have been taking part in the ATSA Flag American Football League. They have five opportunities to score a touchdown in the other teams 'End Zone' without losing any tags. So far, the children have played three games, winning one of them.

'Access to Success' Dodgeball Competition – Thursday 12th November saw our children take part in an ATSA 'Access to Success' Dodgeball Competition at Rowan Tree Primary, competing against children from six other schools. Well done to our team.





Table Tennis Taster Session – On Monday 16th November, children from St. George's Central joined with children from twelve other schools to take part in a Table Tennis Taster Session at Fred Longworth High School.

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

KS2 'Strictly Schools' Dance Competition **Y5/6 Zumba Taster Session** **Y5 Stage School Workshop**
Y6 Comedy Showcase Performance **Y5/6 Bamboo Tamboo Taster Session**

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Information about Christmas at St. George's Central (1/2)

On Friday 4th December, all children can come to school wearing a Christmas jumper/non-uniform.

Christmas Performances

Area of School	*Ticket information* All tickets available from Monday 30th November 2026
Lancaster Avenue Nursery	Please see Miss Lister to sign up to attend one of the Christmas 'Stay and Plays'.
Darlington Street Nursery	Please see Mrs Sherwood to sign up to attend one of the Christmas 'Stay and Plays'.
Reception	**3 tickets per child/family available across both performances:** numbered tickets will be available from Mrs Royle **in Rec: NT classroom** from **8:40am** *(please head to the external Reception classroom door at the rear of school to see Mrs Royle)*
Key Stage 1	**2 tickets per child/family available across all 3 performances:** numbered tickets will be available from Miss Derighetti **in the library** from **8:40am** *(please head to the external library door on the playground at the rear of school to see Miss Derighetti)*

Date	Performance dates/times
Monday 7th December	**Darlington Street Nursery** Christmas Singing Stay and Play: 9:00am start **Reception** Christmas performance: 2:30pm start **Year 1/Year 2** Christmas production: 6:00pm start
Tuesday 8th December	**Darlington Street Nursery** Christmas Singing Stay and Play: 9:00am start **Reception** Christmas performance: 9:30am start **Year 1/Year 2** Christmas production: 2:30pm start
Wednesday 9th December	**Year 1/Year 2** Christmas production: 9:30am start **Darlington Street Nursery** Christmas Singing Stay and Play: 2:00pm start **Lancaster Avenue Nursery** Christmas Celebration Stay and Play: 2:30pm start
Friday 11th December	**Lancaster Avenue Nursery** Christmas Celebration Stay and Play: 9:30am start

There will be no charge for any tickets

Please keep the tickets you receive and bring them with you, as the number on them is your seat number for the performance



Babies and other children – Please note that tickets for the **school-based** performances are for older siblings and adults **ONLY.** For those who need to bring children, babies or toddlers, a crèche will be provided. This also includes all children from St. George's Central who will have seen all dress rehearsals.

Photographs and digital recording – Please ensure that your devices are turned off or on silent during all performances. We will have already taken individual and group photographs of the children in their costumes which we will upload to Seesaw. From Seesaw, you can save and print images yourself, in your preferred style at your leisure. A selection of images will be uploaded to our School Facebook page and staff 'X' accounts.



Please note: both the Reception and Year 1/Year 2 performances on Tuesday 8th December will be filmed by school with final versions being uploaded to our school YouTube page before we break for Christmas. Final links will then be emailed to you and sent via Seesaw. Please let us know by Monday 30th November if you would prefer your child not to be filmed

Please bring cash (£1 for a strip of tickets) if you would like to enter the raffle at each school-based performance.



Pantomime trip – The afternoon of Tuesday 15th December will see our Year 1 – Year 6 children have the opportunity to attend a **FREE** trip to The Opera House in Manchester to watch Dick Whittington, starring Jason Manford. You will soon receive a letter from Mrs O'Brien, giving further details about this trip.

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Information about Christmas at St. George's Central (2/2)

Christmas 'class based' party days

Friday 11th December: Year 3 and Year 4 party day
Monday 14th December: Year 5 and Year 6 party day
Wednesday 16th December: Year 1 and Year 2 party day
Thursday 17th December: Reception and Nursery party day
It is non-uniform for children when it is their party day.



KS2 Carol Service – On Thursday 17th December, all KS2 children will be taking part in our Christmas Service, held at St George's Church at 10am. This year, the children will be re-telling the traditional Christmas story through narration, song rhyme and prayer. All parents/carers are welcome to the service for a 10am start, we hope to see you there.

Christmas disco details: Thursday 17th December 2026	
Y1 & Y2	**3:30pm – 4:30pm** ***Children to bring their disco clothes to school and remain in school at home time to get changed.*** The disco will be **£2 per child** *(cash brought to the school office beforehand).* There will be some light refreshments included and children will not need to bring any other money on the night.
Y3 – Y6	**5:00pm – 6:30pm** The disco will be **£2 per child** *(cash brought to the school office beforehand).* There will be some light refreshments included and children will not need to bring any other money on the night. **All children are to be collected by an adult at 6:30pm and so there is no need for children to bring a mobile phone with them to the school disco.**

Christmas dinner – Christmas dinner will be served to all children and staff in school on **Wednesday 16th December**. Should your child be on packed lunches and you would like them to have a Christmas dinner then please let the school office know by **Monday 30th November.** There is **no need for you to send any Christmas crackers into school** for Christmas dinner. School will provide everything for your child on the day.



The next newsletter and Spring Term (1st half) dates letter will be emailed out on **Friday 18th December**. On this day, we break up for Christmas. Have a great month with your family.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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