

St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery



Newsletter – Friday 25th September 2026

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

It looks like everyone has settled into school life with our youngest children starting in Nursery, Reception and others settling in new classes. It was pleasing to see so many of you at our 'Meet the teacher' meetings at the start of term and it was great to welcome our Reception parents/carers and Reverend Cath into school for our 'Welcome to our school Worship' last week. Thank you to everyone who came along to St. George's Church last week for the Harvest Service. Harvest Celebrations continued in school today with Reverend Cath. Thanks, as always, for your fantastic support with donations. We will ensure these are distributed within the community over the coming month.



Mrs Culshaw – 50 years of service!



There was recently a surprise visit to school from Wigan Council officials who came to visit Mrs Culshaw to celebrate her **50 years of service**. We are extremely grateful that 44 of those years have been spent at St. George's/St. George's Central. Mrs Culshaw was presented with gifts with our School Council on hand to share in this special moment. It was before we broke for Summer that Mrs Culshaw informed me that she will be retiring at Christmas 2026. Over the years at our school, Mrs



Culshaw has served school dinners to generations of families within the Tyldesley community. When she leaves in December, she will be sorely missed. We still have a few months left to experience the amazing cooking of Mrs Culshaw and her team.



Happy Lunchtimes – Towards the end of the last academic year, our staff undertook training to help to further improve our school offer for children at lunchtimes. The training was led by Steve Harris from Wellbeing Education and we were provided with a range of ideas to help re-structure our approach to lunchtimes. During June and July, we started to introduce some elements of the training, which the children seemed to enjoy. On the first day of this school year, as part of Whole School Worship, I fully introduced the children to the new approaches for lunchtimes at SGC. It is great to see the range of inclusive activities on offer, both indoor and outdoor at lunchtime. There is huge anticipation each Friday morning as the weekly lunchtime class winner is announced. I am looking forward to seeing what the 'top table' will look like during the final week of the half term. Our Behaviour and Relationships Policy has been updated considering this approach and this was recently emailed to you as part of a consultation. Click the link to view specific [SGC Happy Lunchtimes](#) information.



2026 – 2027 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 towards achieving each key priority this year, click the link to view our

[2026 - 2027 School Impact Plan Summary](#)

'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

Attendance – As well as the weekly Happy Lunchtime awards causing a stir, our weekly attendance award remains a source of great excitement amongst our competitive staff (and highly competitive children!). The children love the challenge, and staff have fully embraced the friendly rivalry, helping to make excellent attendance a priority. See below for the **weekly winners** as well as **current classes and whole school attendance**:

Week:	1 st	%	2 nd	%	3 rd	%
31/8/26	YR:KB	100%	Y4CB	98.9%	Y3GC	97.1%
	Y1TL	100%				
	Y1/2PD	100%				
	Y2BH	100%				
7/9/26	Y4CB	99.0%	YR:KB	98.9%	Y3GC	98.6%
14/9/26	Y3/4LB	98.1%	Y3GC	97.9%	Y4CB	97.7%

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:KB	95.5%	Y1TL	97.2%	Y3GC	98.0%	Y5RT	93.9%
YR:NT	95.3%	Y1/2PD	96.4%	Y3/4LB	97.3%	Y5/6RO	92.3%
		Y2BH	95.6%	Y4CB	98.5%	Y6AM	96.3%
Whole school attendance: 96.1%							

*%’s are up to and including Friday 18th September 2026

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

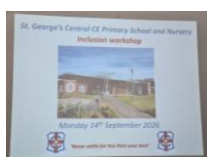
Click the link to view our [Graduated approach to attendance](#)

****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 have laptops ready to re-issue so please let us know in school****



‘Reel Education’ Fishing Sessions – For the past few weeks, children in Y3/4LB have been taking part in the Angling Trust’s primary school project ‘Reel Education’. This project aims to teach children about the importance and value of our rivers, lakes and seas and to help develop an awareness of the sport of fishing. Children in Y4CB are looking forward to starting their sessions next week.

Nursery/Reception swimming – Our first group of Nursery and Reception children have started their swimming sessions at The Pelican Centre. It is always wonderful to see the children having fun whilst learning important skills at the same time. Over the course of the school year, all Nursery and Reception children will attend a group of swimming sessions. We are sure the children will enjoy learning this essential life-skill.



Parent/carer workshops – It was great to see so many of you at our recent workshops. Thanks to Mrs O’Brien for leading our whole school ‘Inclusion workshop’; Mrs Leech, for leading the Reading and Phonics Workshop for KS1 parents/carers and Mrs Malley for leading the Reading Workshop for KS2 parents/carers last night. Please see below for other upcoming parent/carers workshops:

Date	Event
Monday 28 th September	Reception Reading and Phonics Workshop for Reception parents/carers – 9:00am – 9:30am & 3:30pm – 4:00pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Monday 5 th October	Maths Workshop for Year 5 and Year 6 parents/carers – 9:00am – 9:30am & 3:30pm – 4:00pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Tuesday 6 th October	Maths Workshop for Year 3 and Year 4 parents/carers – 9:00am – 9:30am & 3:30pm – 4:00pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Monday 12 th October	Maths Workshop for Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers – 9:00am – 9:30am & 3:30pm – 4:00pm. Select which session is best for you to attend
Tuesday 13 th October	Maths Workshop for Nursery and Reception parents/carers – 9:00am – 9:30am & 3:30pm – 4:00pm. Select which session is best for you to attend

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Year 5 Forest School sessions – Year 5 have been making the most of their time in the Forest School. They have built dens using natural materials, working as a team to create shelters that were both sturdy and creative. They have learned how to 'whittle' safely and explored how to build and manage fires. The children have also enjoyed getting creative with God's Eye weaving and making the most of being outdoors with their friends. They have shown great teamwork, creativity, and resilience throughout their sessions.

Wigan Council 'Dream Big Day' – On Thursday 17th September, children in Y6AM class had the opportunity to attend the 'Dream Big Day' event at The Edge in Wigan. The event brought together well-being, community action and social awareness in a powerful and engaging way to raise funds and awareness to end poverty. The children even enjoyed a fitness session with Mr Motivator!



Great Fire of London Workshop – On Thursday 17th September, children in Year 1 and Year 2 took part in an exciting and energetic Great Fire of London workshop. Through acting, games, singing and dancing, the children explored the key events and met important figures including Thomas Farriner, Samuel Pepys and King Charles II. They even played simple roles on stage, helping to bring history to life. The workshop was a fun, informative and memorable experience for everyone.

Boxing Taster Sessions – On Wednesday 23rd September, children in Y2 to Y6 took part in Boxing Taster Session with Boxing for Better coach, Dave Morris. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning how to take part in boxing in a fun and safe way. They learned about their footwork and stance whilst boxing, completed some partner pad work where they learnt more about shots and combinations, took part in boxing relays and even some fitness circuits. Click the link to view information about [Boxing for Better](#).



European Day of Languages – Today we celebrated European Day of Languages in school. Children had a workshop yesterday introducing the event and have spent today completing some activities relating to different European Countries. All KS2 children have also taken part in our European landmarks quiz. Congratulations to the winner from each class.

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. Last May, we consulted with you over updates to the statutory guidance for Relationships, Sex and Health Education. Click the link to see our updated curriculum document regarding **all areas** that we cover as part of the [PSHE Curriculum](#).



School photographs – We will receive our first visit of the year from the school photographer on **Tuesday 29th September**. On this day, he will visit our Darlington Street School site for the morning and our Lancaster Avenue Nursery site for the afternoon. Please note:

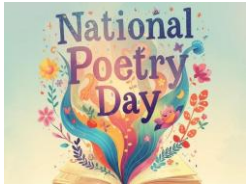
- *photographs will be taken of children either individually or with school-based siblings;
- *only children who attend St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery will be photographed;
- *any Darlington Street Nursery children who do not usually attend Nursery on a Tuesday morning are invited to school at 9:00am to have their photograph taken;
- *any Lancaster Avenue Nursery children who do not usually attend Nursery on a Tuesday afternoon are invited to nursery at 1:00pm to have their photograph taken.



All children will have their photo taken, and a sample will be sent home for you to decide whether to purchase any photographs.

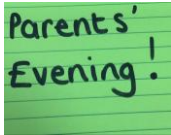
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National Poetry Day – Next Thursday is National Poetry Day: an annual mass celebration that encourages all to enjoy, discover and share poetry. This year, the theme is ‘Wonder’. To celebrate this in school we will be receiving a visit from poet John Greenwood who will work with classes across school delivering some creative reading and writing workshops. The children will come together at the end of the day in a celebration assembly where they perform a variety of poems. Over the course of each half term, your children will be learning a poem so that they can perform it to others. This year, as we have continued to develop our curriculum, we have changed some of the poems so that they link more closely to other topic areas that your children will be learning about. Click the link to view our [Curriculum Overviews](#) where in your child’s year group you will see these poems in the English section.

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. **Y6AM Class Worship** will start things off on **Friday 9th October**. There will also be regular musical performances by our musicians and our school choir throughout the year. The first one of these is on **Wednesday 21st October**, 9:05am start in the school hall. Click the link to view the [2026 - 2027 SGC Music Booklet](#) which provides details of all our music events this year. Please note: no letters will be issued for any of our Class Worships or Musical Performances and there is no need for you to provide us with prior notice of your attendance. Simply turn up on the day and enjoy!



Autumn Term parents’ evening – We are looking forward to welcoming you into school for our Autumn Term parents’ evenings. At our Darlington Street site, we will be sending home the parents’ evening letter on Monday 12th October. Over the next few weeks, we will contact all ‘pre-school’ families at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery site to arrange a meeting time. See the table below, with our Autumn Term parents’ evenings ‘plan’:

Date	Event
Monday 12 th October	Paper copies of parents’ evening letters will be sent home (please check bags)
Mon 12 th – Thurs 15 th	Select an ‘evening’ and a ‘time slot’ that would be most convenient for you
Friday 16 th October	Return your child’s completed form to the class teacher by today
Tuesday 20 th October	Our teachers will meet in school to arrange time slots to coordinate times for siblings
Wednesday 21 st October	Paper copies of confirmed parents’ evening time slots will be sent home
Monday 2 nd November	Lancaster Avenue Nursery Parents’ Meetings throughout the week
	Parents’ Evening in the school hall for the following classes (2:00pm – 5:00pm): Y3GC, Y3/4 LB, Y4CB, Y5RT, Y5/6RO, Y6AM
Tuesday 3 rd November	Parents’ Evening in the school hall for the following classes (2:00pm – 5:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: KB, Reception: NT, Y1TL, Y1/2PD, Y2BH
Wednesday 4 th November	Parents’ Evening in the school hall for the following classes (2:00pm – 5:00pm): Y3GC, Y3/4 LB, Y4CB, Y5RT, Y5/6RO, Y6AM
Thursday 5 th November	Parents’ Evening in the school hall for the following classes (2:00pm – 5:00pm): Darlington Street Nursery, Reception: KB, Reception: NT, Y1TL, Y1/2PD, Y2BH

****Please note, our appointment times at school are now from 2:00pm – 5:00pm.**

If your appointment is during the school day, you are able to take your child/ren home once you are ready to leave**

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.



Year 1 ‘sleepover’ meetings – A meeting will take place on **Wednesday 14th October** for parents/carers of Year 1 children regarding the sleepover in school. The meeting will take place at **3:30pm** and will then be repeated at **6:00pm**. The meeting is for **all Year 1 parents/carers** as we would like you all to hear the information about the sleepover before fully committing to your child attending. There will be a crèche available for any children that attend. Letters regarding the sleepover will be sent home the day after the meeting.

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Bikeability sessions – Towards the end of this half term, some Year 6 children will be taking part in 'Bikeability' sessions. The children will be learning 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 (including E-Bikes and E-Scooters) are brought onto our school site they are pushed and not ridden to reduce the risk of accidents.***



*****Please remember that dogs, cats and any other animals are not permitted on our school site, on leads, in buggies or carried*****



Stay and play and open afternoons – Parents/carers of children in our **Nurseries and Reception** will be welcomed into school during week commencing **Monday 19th October** for the first of our 'Stay and Play' sessions. Please see either Miss Cowley, Miss Lister, Mrs Sherwood, Miss Beswick or Miss Taylor to sign up for the sessions, which will take place on various days and times during that week. Parent/carers of children in Year 1 – Year 6 will have an opportunity to spend some time in school as part of our open afternoons:

Date	Event
Monday 19 th October	Open afternoon for Y5RT, Y5/6RO and Y6AM (2:00pm – 3:00pm)
Tuesday 20 th October	Open afternoon for Y1TL, Y1/2PD and Y2BH (2:00pm – 3:00pm)
Wednesday 21 st October	Open afternoon for Y3GC, Y3/4LB and Y4CB (2:00pm – 3:00pm)

There is no need to sign up for any of the open afternoons, simply wait at the school office for the 2:00pm start.

Reception starters 2027 – The link on the Wigan Council website for 2027 Reception places is now open:

[Primary School Admissions](#). If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, you can now apply for your child to start our Reception class in September 2027. The closing date for admissions is **Friday 15th January 2027**. 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. Should you know anyone with children starting school in September 2027, 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.



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 **Saturday 31st October 2026**. 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 2027 of the name of the Secondary School that your child will be going to.



ATSA Sports and Arts Council – Some members of the ATSA Sports and Arts Council recently came together at St. George's Central. Each school within ATSA selects four Sports and Arts Council members and so this was an ideal opportunity for the children to come together to discuss ideas to further improve ATSA.



Boxing Taster Session – On Wednesday 23rd September, three children from Year 5/6 were joined by children from seven other local schools for a Boxing Taster Session at our school. 'Boxing for Better' coach, Lewis, led the session and the children experienced a variety of fitness activities linked to boxing.

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Flag American Football Taster Session – Thursday 24th September, saw some of our children take part in a Flag American Football Taster Session. The session was led by coaches from Leigh Miners American Football Club. This year, as well as a Flag American Football Competition in June, a Flag American Football League has been introduced. This will start on Monday 9th November with matches being played at Atherton High School.



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

****KS2 Astley Youth Band Taster Session** **KS2 Poetry Performance** **Reception Kickstarters Taster Session****
****Y5/6 Badminton Taster Session** **Y5/6 Mindfulness and Movement Taster Session** **Y5/6 Chair Drumming Taster Session****
****Y3/4 Futsal Competition** **Y6 Advanced Writing Workshop** **Access to Success Yoga and Dance****
****Y5/6 Basketball Competition** **Y5/6 Comedy Workshops** **KS2 Cross Country Competition****

As well as being on the school website, there are paper copies of this newsletter available in the letter holders in the entrance area in school and at our Lancaster Avenue Nursery. The next newsletter will be sent out on Friday 23rd October. Have a great month.

Mr M Grogan, Headteacher

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