

# St George's Central CE Primary School



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## **Newsletter – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

School will be closed to children on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016 as we will be being used as a polling station for the Local Elections.

**ADVANCED WARNING** – School will also be closed to children on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016 as we will be being used as a polling station for the European Referendum.

**Staffing update** – I am pleased to announce that we have recently appointed Miss E Booth as our new Early Years leader/Reception teacher from September. Miss Booth is currently at Leigh St. John's Infant School and, because of her wedding over summer, will be joining us as Mrs Pearce. She will be popping into St. George's Central over the next few months and be present at both the Nursery and Reception intake evenings. During the last two weeks, interviews have taken place for our second Reception teacher position and also for our KS2 teacher role. I will be in a position to inform you who we have appointed on our next newsletter. Unfortunately, Mrs Grove has not yet fully recovered from her operation and so we will be continuing with the current staffing arrangements in Nursery and Reception until further notice.



**Team Rector** – Reverend Martin Cox visited our school as we returned from the Easter break. Reverend Cox will take over the position of Team Rector, which was vacated by Reverend Carmyllie last July. He will officially become Team Rector, with responsibilities for Stephen's and St. George's churches, on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July. Reverend Cox originates from North Staffordshire and is married to Heather, who works at Garrett Hall School. He has two adult children, both of whom are now married and have children of their own. He enjoys cooking, walking and swimming and is trustee of a charity that supports the work of the Anglican Church of Melanesia, on the north east coast of Australia. We welcome Reverend Cox to our community and look forward to working with him.

**Parent/carer workshops** – Miss Bennett has recently led a successful workshop for Y1 parents/carers about how to support their children at home with phonics activities and Mrs Heywood led a great workshop for Reception parents on how to support your child with the end of year expectations. Thank you to everyone who attended these sessions, we hope you found them beneficial.



**PE day for Year 5** – This week children in Year 5 spent an enjoyable morning at Manchester Metropolitan University experiencing a range of gymnastics and games activities, using some equipment that we do not have in school.

**Group photos** – Yesterday it was 'Say cheese' for us all, as we had our photograph taken for the large group photographs that are up on display in school and are also available for you to purchase. Once the 'proofs' are returned we will send copies home for you to look at and we will update our display in school. They make a great 'memento' of the school year.

**Social Media** – If you would like to know more information about the most appropriate social media websites for your children, then the following NSPCC website is helpful in showing you what age children should be to access different sites but it also shows you sample content from each one. Follow the link to find out more: <http://www.net-aware.org.uk/>



**Mosaic design** – We are currently working with a local artist to have a large mosaic design produced for the front of school. Before Easter, children from each class submitted ideas of things to be included on the design (different aspects of school life). The artist has recently selected children's work and he is coming into school to work with our children to put the design together during the last week of this half term.

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



**Nursery** – This half term, nursery children will be thinking about people, community and places (people in our homes, at school and in our local community). During the last week of the half term we will be visiting Smithills Hall Farm, to see their community, and the visit will also link with our final half term topic about other places we may travel to.

**Reception** – This half term our topic is ‘People Who Help Us’. We began by asking the children what they would like be when they grow up and got some wonderful answers including a pirate and a princess! We will look at people who help the children at home and their occupations, including the very important job of looking after them! We will then investigate the different jobs people do in school, visiting the school kitchen, office and interviewing different members of staff about their role. Towards the end of term we will look at different occupations in the community. Anyone who would be willing to come into Reception and talk about their job would be most welcome – please see Mrs Heywood to arrange this.



**Y1/2 topic work** – Last half term Y1 and Y2 learned about people who were famous when their grandparents were young. We loved learning about Neil Armstrong and The Beatles amongst others and how they impacted on their lives today. This term our topic question is ‘Why did the Titanic sink?’ We have already started this topic by watching a cartoon about the story of the Titanic and the children have already undertaken some home learning about this. We are looking forward to finding out more about the disaster, investigating icebergs and making our own Titanic models.

**Y3/4 topic work** – Following a very successful Greek food day at the end of our last topic we are now moving on to further develop our Geography skills as we start our new topic: ‘What makes the Earth angry?’ This work will involve looking at where natural disasters occur and why they happen. Each class will be focusing on a particular natural disaster (Y3VG – Volcanoes, Y3/4RL – Tornadoes/Hurricanes and Y4HJ – Tsunamis) and will produce a collection of artwork on that theme. This will culminate in an art exhibition, to which you will be invited, once we have confirmed the date.



**Y5/6 topic work** – This term children in Year 5 and 6 will be learning about World War 2. This will include discovering the reasons for the outbreak of war, countries involved and how the war was fought. Children will find out what it was like to live in Great Britain during this time and the effect it had on ordinary people. As part of this topic we will look at how artists such as Pablo Picasso and Henry Moore were influenced by the horrors of war. Our English work will also use the War as a stimulus for pieces of writing and our class novels will represent this period of time. Children will also be learning popular songs and dances of the era. We will celebrate the end of our topic with a VE day tea party to which parents and carers will be invited. Be prepared to join in with the singing and dancing!

**ATSA Events**



**Tyldesley section of the football league** – Since our last newsletter our football ‘A’ team has played one further match, which unfortunately they lost. There are still matches left for both our teams this season – I will let you know how they both get on.



**VX ‘taster’ session** – Some children from Y5 and Y6 recently took part in a taster session in a sport called VX. The children spent time learning the basics of the game from Ian Crosby from ‘Allinclusivesports’. The game involves children scooping up soft tennis balls with a lacrosse style stick and throwing the balls at their opponents. The main methods of scoring points are for hitting your opponent with a ball or catching a ball that was thrown at you. The children who took part were Nathan Beca, Jonathan Hopwood, Charlotte Kirton, Xiang Liu and Oliver Sincup. These same children will now take part in a VX competition on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May against other local schools – I will let you know how they get on.

**Sports Council** – Yesterday, our two ATSA Sport Council members were invited to The Pelican Centre to have a sneak preview of the refurbishments that have been made to the large space at the back. You may remember last June, that the council members submitted designs for this area and so this was a great opportunity to see the work completed before it is open to the public.



***‘Never settle for less than your best’***

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

**\*\*VX Festival\*\***

**\*\*Girls' Football festival\*\***

**\*\*Tag Rugby festival\*\***

**\*\*Y5/6 Rounders festival\*\***

**See more about all these ATSA stories above on the ATSA Facebook page.**

**WHOLE SCHOOL COMPETITION – ADVANCED NOTICE:**



**2016 Olympic event** – With the 2016 Olympics in Rio starting on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August, we will have a whole host of activities planned for around that time. To celebrate this in the community, I have planned a large ATSA event for July which will involve some of our children parading through the main street in Tyldesley. For this event I have asked each school taking part to design an Olympic torch for their school to use as part of the parade. Therefore, we are launching our very own competition to design the Olympic torch for St. George's Central, to be used as part of the parade! The child who produces

the winning design will carry the torch for our school throughout the streets at the actual event. All work as part of this competition should take place at home and children can have support from adults. All final designs need to be in school, for judging, by **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**

The image (top left) shows what the actual design the torch will be for the 2016 Olympics, but your child's design does not have to look like this. It should be personalised for St. George's Central – maybe include the badge etc. To give you some ideas, the image below shows the winning design from when I last held this competition in June 2012 at a previous school. Good luck!



**School Twitter accounts**

Mr Grogan **@MrGSGC**

Mrs Morris **@MrsMSGC**

Mr Young **@mrysgc**

Miss Gray **@missvgsgc**

Reception class **@SGCReception**

Miss Bennett **@MissOBSGC**

Mrs Davies **@MrsDSGC**

Reception/Y1 **@RecY1SGC**

The next newsletter will be emailed out to you on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May. Paper copies of the newsletter will be made available at the school office for you to pick up should you wish. Have a great month.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Grogan'.

Mr M Grogan - Headteacher

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