

St George's Central CE Primary School



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Newsletter – Friday 17th February 2017



If I have not seen you around school this month – Happy New Year! It seems strange saying this now, but because of our 'late' return to school and the timing of our February half term, I decided to wait until today to send out a newsletter. During our first week at school we received some good news as Mr Young and his family celebrated the birth of their second son, Henry James Young. Congratulations to Mr Young and his wife as they settle into life with their new son. We have further good news as we say congratulations also to Miss Heys, who will be leaving us on Friday 3rd March as she has successfully secured a position as a teaching and learning leader at Aspire North West. A final message of 'Good luck' to Miss Bennett who tomorrow will become Mrs O'Brien as she is getting married to her partner, Mark – we hope they have a lovely wedding day and wish them well for their future together.

Date changes for Parents' evening – Please see the table below with the amended dates for Parents' Evening. During the last week before Easter, all children will be undertaking Spring Term assessments in school and so we have rearranged our parents' evenings so that teachers are able to provide you feedback based on these assessments. We have provided a separate evening for Y6 parents/carers so that specific feedback about your child's progress towards their end of year tests can be given. Letters regarding these evenings will be sent to you before Easter and we will send your confirmed times to you, upon our return to school in April:



Date	Event for Parents' Evenings
Monday 27 th March	Parents' Evening letters sent home
Friday 31 st March	Parents' Evening letters returned to school
Friday 21 st April	Confirmed Parents' Evening times sent home today
Tuesday 25 th April	Parents' Evening for Y6 parents/carers only (3:30pm – 6:30pm) (5 mins with teacher for Maths and 5 mins with teacher for English)
Wednesday 26 th April	Parents' Evening for Nursery – Year 5 parents/carers (3:30pm – 6:30pm) (10 minutes with class teacher)
Thursday 27 th April	Parents' Evening for Nursery – Year 5 parents/carers (3:30pm – 6:30pm) (10 minutes with class teacher)



ADVANCED NOTICE: School closure – I have received a letter informing us that our school will be used for voting on **Thursday 4th May 2017** for the Combined Authority Mayoral Elections. I know how frustrating this can be for children, parents/carers and staff, however, in our current building, we have to ensure the safety of our children and unfortunately, this means that we have to close all of the school.

NEW DATES: Open afternoon with HT forum – Our re-arranged open afternoon with headteacher forum for **Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 parents/carers** will be on **Tuesday 14th March, 1:30pm start** and for **Key Stage 2 parents/carers** this will be on **Tuesday 21st March, 1:30pm start**. At 2:30pm, on each of the afternoons, we will all come together in the hall for an opportunity to ask me questions about school life, and I can provide you with any updates from school. I hope to see you on one of these afternoons.



'Never settle for less than your best'



Sacrament of Confirmation – Letters were recently sent out to children in Year 5 and Year 6 giving details about being confirmed. Confirmation preparation for children in Y5 and Y6 at St. George’s Central will take place on Sunday mornings at St. George’s Church during the first half of the 10:15am Sung Eucharist service. At the end of each session, the children will join the congregation for the second half of the service. The classes will be run by confirmation teacher (and former teacher at Tyldesley Central) Mr James Fearick. Classes will begin on Sunday 26th February up to, and including, Sunday 23rd April. The sacrament of Confirmation will be administered by the Bishop of Bolton on Sunday 23rd April at 6:30pm in St. Stephen’s Church in Astley. For any details about this, please see Mrs Mutch in the school office.

Chinese New Year – This was celebrated in school on Tuesday 31st January as the year of the Rooster commenced. Each class undertook a variety of activities throughout the day, with Mr Simmons leading a ‘sharing’ assembly in the hall at 2:30pm, where each class was able to showcase the great work they had completed during the day.



Young Voices – Wednesday 1st February saw our school choir follow in the footsteps of One Direction, Westlife and Take That as they performed at the Manchester Arena in the Young Voices concert! This concert brings schools from across the North West together to perform a variety of songs over the course of an evening. Over the last few months, Miss Gray has been working hard with the children as they learned the songs and accompanying actions. An enjoyable (but late) night was had by all.

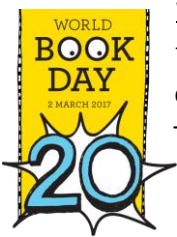


Bikeability – Upon our return to school, some children in Y6 will be undertaking the Bikeability Level 1 and Level 2 course. Part of this course will involve some skills and safety checks that will take place on our school playground; however, the main element will involve the children developing some awareness of



cycling within our community, testing their skills on the roads. Mrs Feeny has organised this for the school and the children involved are aware of what they need to bring in. We welcome all children to cycle to school and leave their bikes in the shelter on the playground, we just ask whilst on the school site, children get off and push them, so as to ensure the safety of all others.

Parents/carers workshops – Over the last few weeks we have held several workshops for parents/carers in a variety of different areas. Our next workshop will be led by Mrs Pearce on **Tuesday 28th February**, 9:00am – 10:00am or 3:30pm – 4:30pm and will focus on the Early Learning Goals in Reception. Mrs Pearce has recently sent out a letter about this for you to select which session is best for you to attend. As a result of the parent questionnaire in December, we will also be holding a workshop for all **parents/carers** focusing on Anti-Bullying. This will be on **Monday 13th March**, 9:00am – 10:00am or 3:30pm – 4:30pm Mrs Kearns will send out a letter about this nearer the time. We hope to see you at one of the sessions



World Book day – Just a reminder that this is on **Thursday 2nd March**. As last year, we would like the children to bring their favourite books to school to share and also **dress up as a character from a book**. Each class has planned lots of different reading activities to take place throughout the day. On this day, each child will be given a £1.00 book voucher. This voucher can be used to receive £1.00 off a book worth £2.99 or more, or alternatively it may be exchanged for one of the specially produced £1.00 books (these will be listed on the reverse of your voucher). From after school on Thursday 2nd March, you will have the opportunity to purchase books as we will have the large metal book cases from Scholastic available in the school library. See the timetable below for the days/times books will be on sale:



Thursday 2nd March	3:20pm – 4:00pm
Friday 3rd March	8:30am – 8:55am and 3:20pm – 4:00pm
Monday 6th March	8:30am – 8:55am and 3:20pm – 4:00pm
Tuesday 7th March	8:30am – 8:55am and 3:20pm – 4:00pm
Wednesday 8th March	8:30am – 8:55am and 3:20pm – 4:00pm



Please feel free to come into school via the library door that opens onto the playground on any of these days, at the times stated.

Non – uniform day – On Friday 11th March, we will be having a non – uniform day in school for children and staff. We are asking for a contribution of an Easter egg for this that can be handed in to your child’s teacher on the day.



‘Never settle for less than your best’



Easter Egg Hunt – We will be continuing with our Easter competition this year at St. George’s Central. Each class will have a 100 square grid. For 50p, your child can choose one of the numbered squares. On Friday 31st March there will be a draw – should your child’s number be drawn out then they will win an Easter egg! We are anticipating that there will be at least 10 eggs per class! The grids will be in class from **Monday 13th March** and to give everyone in the class a chance, we are asking that during this week each child chooses only one number from their grid. From **Monday 20th March**, your child will be able to have as many goes as they like until the grid is full! This money can be brought into school in one of the yellow envelopes on a daily basis.

Y2 SATS meeting for parents/carers – A letter is being sent home after half term about a meeting for Y2 parents/carers. This has been scheduled to take place at **3:30pm** and will be repeated at **5:30pm** on **Tuesday 14th March** (you will be asked to select which time you can attend). The purpose of the meeting is to provide you with information about the national tests the children will be doing in May. For all children whose parents/carers are attending the **3:30pm** meeting, there will be a separate crèche provided.



British Science Week – As part of British Science Week, on Wednesday 15th March, Mrs Malley has arranged for all children in school to receive a visit from ‘Curious Critters’. As well as the ‘fun’ of having snakes around their necks, the children will learn lots about habitats, life cycles and food chains which compliments work that many year groups undertake in Science. We would appreciate a £1 donation per child to support this.

Shoebox service – Thursday 16th March will see some children from St. George’s Central take part in the annual Rotary Club ‘Shoebox’ service at St. George’s Church. Each class will be given 2 shoeboxes to fill and we would be very grateful for your kind donations (small toys, pencils, colouring books and children’s toiletries). The boxes will soon arrive in school and letters will soon be sent out inviting children to take part in this service.



Red Nose Day – We are celebrating this on Friday 24th March with children and staff donating £1 so that they can ‘wear something red’ for the day.



Mothering Sunday – On Sunday 26th March children from St. George’s Central will be taking part in the 10:15am Sung Eucharist Service to celebrate Mothering Sunday. A letter will be sent out after half term, inviting children to take part in this service.



KS2 Easter Service – On the morning of Thursday 30th March, all KS2 children will be walking to St. George’s Church to take part in our very own Easter service. This will start at 10am and will involve the children singing Easter songs with the Easter story being narrated by the children. All members of the St. George’s Central community are invited to this. Should we be unable to walk to church then the performance will take place in school.

Atherton Start Well Family Centre – The former Children’s Centres in Tyldesley and Mosley Common now form part of the Atherton Start Well Family Centre. So, look closely if you see things posted online from the Atherton Start Well Family Centre as many of the things on offer take place at a variety of sites across Atherton, Tyldesley and Mosley Common. The Centre needs your support. Could you become involved in any of the 3 groups below:



Health Strategy Group: People are needed that live in the local area and who are interested in supporting health professionals to improve the health outcomes of children under 5 and their families.

Community Assets Group: This group looks at what services are available for children under 5 and their families to access in the community and works together with community groups, nurseries and schools to identify any gaps in services.

Under 5’s Working Group: This group focuses on getting children ready for school, with the support of early years workers, nurseries, childminders, schools, health, volunteers and parents.

Commitment would be a minimum of 2 hours per term and meeting times vary to suit the members of the group. For more information please contact Lesley Bashford on 07795520147 or 01942 486366 option 2.

‘Never settle for less than your best’



'Mini Whistlers' football referees course – 28 children from St. George's Central were joined by 73 pupils from other local schools to participate in the event which not only focused on the laws of the game of football, but also on respect. Feedback from all schools involved was very positive and all our children enjoyed being referees while learning valuable leadership skills.

Sportshall athletics – Friday 20th January saw the KS1 athletics team take part in different events against other local schools. Well done to Milly Briggs, Marley Crawford, Jack Duffy, Mia Farrimond, Oliver Houlihan, Mabel Iwelu, Princess Iwelu, Eva Molyneux, Ben Stanistreet, Cole Stoneley and Malakai West who made up the KS1 team.



Mixed football league – Our school football team has been taking part in football matches each Monday over the last half term at Fred Longworth and St. Mary's. There are a total of seven schools in the Tyldesley section of the league this year. The eventual winners of the league will play the winners of the Atherton section of the league in July. So far, our children have played four matches, winning all four!

KS1 Kurling festival – Friday 27th January saw our KS1 Kurling team take part in a festival against nine other schools. The team achieved a great score of 670 but they narrowly missed out on qualifying for the final. Well done to Mia Farrimond, Oliver Houlihan, Princess Iwelu and Cole Stoneley who made up the team.



Y3/4 Quicksticks (hockey) – Monday 6th February saw the Y3/4 hockey team take part in a festival against nine other schools. The team did really well in the rainy conditions and narrowly missed out on qualifying for the final. Well done to Mrs Feeney and her team: Leon Beca, Millie Fletcher, Tommy Hampson, Joshua Hutcheon, Tyler Hupton, Gutjera Tumarevichute and Emily Ward.

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

- **Mixed football league continues**
- **First Aid for Sport session**
- **Mini Water Polo Festival**
- **Y3/4 Futsal Festival**
- **KS1 Dance Festival**

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

Attendance update –

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:EP	95.82%	Y1CS	95.90%	Y3VG	96.69%	Y5NC	97.11%
YR:NT	96.53%	Y1/2EG	96.33%	Y3/4DF	97.04%	Y5/6JW	96.05%
		Y2OB	96.74%	Y4HJ	94.41%	Y6JY	97.01%

*%’s are from Monday 6th September up to and including Friday 13th February.

The next newsletter (with Spring term 2nd half dates) will be sent out on Friday 31st March, the last day of term! Have a great half term with your family.

Mr M Grogan - Headteacher

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