



St George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter – Friday 19th October 2018

We have quickly arrived at the end of our first half term. School will close today and re – open for children on **Monday 29th October 2018 (first bell at 8:45am with school starting at 8:55am)**. Attached to this email/newsletter, you will find a parental version of our School Improvement Targets for this school year. We produce a lengthy document each year, having spent the summer months analysing the school data to see what we need to do to further improve the school. The sheet you have is a breakdown of the main targets that we have set for this year. Also attached is a list of the key dates for the next half term. Your child will come home with their most recent attendance data (September 2018 – Friday 12th October). The colour of the paper this sheet is printed on denotes whether or not your child has met the school's attendance target. Below you can see our most recent class attendance updates:

Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%	Class	*%
YR:EB	92.42%	Y1TL	96.72%	Y3EG	94.94%	Y5JY	96.36%
YR:NL	99.05%	Y1/2OB	97.87%	Y3/4CS	96.16%	Y5/6NC	95.62%
		Y2JW	96.32%	Y4HJ	95.48%	Y6AJM	96.97%
Whole school attendance: 96.17%							

*%s are up to and including Friday 12th October.

Christian Values – I was recently asked about the wonderful artwork on display in our school hall (see below). I am sure you have been in our school hall many times and marvelled at it. Like most things we do in school, there is a reason why this display is up for all to see. This artwork was developed from designs put together by our children and it represents the Christian Values of our school. We did lots of work with our children at the time, developing their ideas of what they believed to be the Christian Values that would best 'represent' the distinctiveness of our school and which Bible stories linked in with each Value. Each day, we look for specific examples of how our children 'live out' these Christian Values and children are regularly rewarded for this.



Each half term, we have a particular focus on one of the Values in Whole School Worship and children will undertake work on this in class, with displays also linking in. Each class also has a 'focus' Value which becomes the 'bedrock' of the work they undertake throughout the year:

Nursery/Reception: **Friendship**

Year 1: **Compassion**

Year 2: **Forgiveness**

Year 3: **Hope**

Year 4: **Trust**

Year 5: **Justice**

Year 6: **Endurance**

The whole school Christian Value we will be focusing on when we return to school after half term will be: **Compassion**. We look forward to hearing children's ideas of how we can show this in our daily interactions with each other.

'As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.'

Colossians Ch3 v12

'Never settle for less than your best'

Open afternoons/evenings – Should you know anyone with children starting school in September 2019 who will soon be submitting choices for which school they would like to attend, then please let them know that we do not have a formal open afternoon or evening. **We welcome people to come and look around our school at any time** and so should you know anyone who would like to look around our school then please ask them to ring (01942 883773) or email (enquiries@admin.saintgeorgescentral.wigan.sch.uk) and we will make an appointment with me to come and have a look round at a convenient time.



Reading at home – Many thanks to you for supporting your children with their learning by remembering to listen to them read at home at least three times a week and sign in their planner. You are making a huge positive difference in doing this as this will not only support your child with their learning and achievement levels in schools but it will help them later in life when they come to face many tasks where reading skills are needed. In planners, teachers should be seeing at least three signatures, with page numbers and short comments per week.

Day of Action – It was great to see so many of children involved in the 'Day of Action' on Shakerley estate on Friday 5th October. As well as our children, members of the Fire Service, Police and local community workers were on hand. Our children carried out a litter pick in the area. We are very proud at our school of the links we have with our local community and so it was great to see our children getting involved with this.



Open afternoon with HT Forum – Tuesday 10th October saw school open its doors fully for this year's first open afternoon with Headteacher forum. We welcomed parents/carers of children in nursery, reception and KS1 into school to spend part of the afternoon in classes and then part of the afternoon having some refreshments in the school hall where I was available to answer any questions about school and life at St. George's Central. Our open afternoon with Headteacher forum for **KS2 parents/carers only** is planned for **Tuesday 20th November, 1:30pm start**. I hope to see you then.

Secondary School applications reminder – 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 **Wednesday 31st October**. The children have recently visited our local high school for a taster session and there have been lots of open evenings for you to attend. You will be notified in March next year of the name of the Secondary School that your child will be going to.



20 years celebration – 2018/19 will see our school celebrate the amalgamation of St. George's School and Tyldesley Central School to become St. George's Central CE Primary School and Nursery as we know it now. I do know how much each school was well respected in this community its own right and I do find myself regularly correcting people (usually at important meetings) who do not give our school its full name and title!



I know how many people will have their own special memories of their time at either school and so it's only right that our school name represents both former schools. Therefore, if my research is correct, the time of amalgamation was between November 1998 and April 1999 and so we have a host of activities and events planned in school during this time period, which will include: sharing assemblies, a time capsule, an exhibition of work, photographs, artefacts, a film, an open day and a whole school art project which we are aiming to start in November and unveil (fingers crossed) on St. George's Day in 2019. If you or anyone you know could contribute to any aspect of this project, maybe sharing special memories for the film, then please do not hesitate to contact us in school.



Remembrance Sunday parade – Upon our return to school after half term, letters will be sent out asking for children to take part in the annual Remembrance Sunday parade on Sunday 11th November. Look out for the letter sent out upon our return to school. The Tyldesley Branch of the British Legion will be in school as part of our whole school worship on Thursday 8th November when our children will be not only listening to our visitors, but also sharing some of the work with them that they have recently undertaken on the theme of '100 years ago', as 2018 marks 100 years since the end of the First World War.

Please remember that your child needs a water bottle in school every day. We do have water dispensers where they can refill their bottles but for hygiene reasons we would prefer the use of individual bottles rather than cups.

'Never settle for less than your best'



'Prime Parent Partnerships' Workshop – We will be having a workshop for **parents/carers of our Nursery children on Monday 12th November**. This will be a very informal session and is aimed at families of children from both our school nursery and our Lancaster Avenue Nursery. This session will take place **in school at 9:15am** and at Lancaster Avenue at 3:15pm. You are welcome to attend either session. Come along and join in activities to support your child's development in the 'Prime' areas of learning and take home some resources for you to use at home. This session will be run twice on the day and so a letter will sent out soon asking you to select which session you would like to attend. We look forward to seeing you.



Children in Need – This will take place on Friday 16th November and this year, in order to raise money, we are saying that for a £1 donation, children can come dressed to school in non-uniform.

Information about Christmas performances

Date	Event
Monday 10 th December	Nursery Christmas performance: 1:30pm start (followed by 'stay and play' session in nursery) Reception Christmas production: 2:15pm start Year 1/Year 2 Christmas production: 6pm start
Tuesday 11 th December	Nursery Christmas performance: 9:30am start (followed by 'stay and play' session in nursery) Reception Christmas production: 10:15am start Year 1/Year 2 Christmas production: 2pm start

Nursery – Children will come into the school hall and perform some Christmas songs on stage to nursery families only. All visitors who have come to watch will then have the opportunity to go into nursery to spend time with their child for a short stay and play session. This will be repeated the following day. However, as nursery may get rather busy, we would ask that you only attend one of the stay and play sessions. This year we will be joined by our pre-school children and families from our Lancaster Avenue Nursery.

Reception – Children will take to the stage to perform their Christmas production, in the school hall, to their families only.

KS1 – All children in Year 1 and Year 2 will perform together, on stage as in previous years.

*Tickets for all performances will go on sale from **Monday 27th November from Mrs Kearns' external door at 9am and 3pm.***

Because of the number of children in each area of school and space in our hall, you will initially be able to purchase a maximum of:



4 tickets per family in total for Nursery Christmas performance

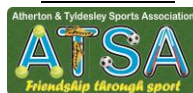
4 tickets per family in total for Reception Christmas production

2 tickets per family in total Y1/2 Christmas production



*You will be able to purchase further tickets at **9am on Monday 3rd December from our school office**, should there be any remaining.*

ATSA Events



Boxing taster session – On Monday 1st October, 4 children from Year 6 took part in a Boxing taster session at Astley VIP Boxing gym. The children experienced a variety of fitness activities linked to boxing alongside children from other Atherton and Tyldesley schools.

KS2 Swimming gala – Eight children from St. George's Central School recently took part in a swimming gala against children from eleven other primary schools. The four boys and four girls took part in both individual and team races at the Pelican Centre. Well done to Jenna Binks, Tegan Davies, Ben Green, Tommy Hampson, Oliver Marsden, Ella Meskell, Noah Molyneux and Mia Riches who made up the St. George's Central team that finished **4th overall**.



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Shakely Mosaic Day – Friday 12th October saw over 40 children from our school go to Shakerley Community Centre to put together a mosaic that will be displayed on the Community Centre once it is completed. Funds secured by ATSA earlier in the year meant that the children were able to join with children from other schools alongside artist, Stephen Charnock, to piece together the designs. The designs the children were working with had been submitted as part of the Shakerley Easter Fun Day. It was great to see so many children from the Easter Fun Day return to the Community Centre to finalise their designs. Stephen has now taken away the children's work to finish the work which we are hoping will be installed at the Community Centre soon.



Wigan Sports Awards – The evening of Friday 12th October saw our school celebrate success at the annual 'Believe Wigan Sports Awards'. Our school was entered into the 'The Martin Lynn School Commitment to PE and Sport' category. It was never going to be easy, being up against 8 other excellent schools from across Wigan. Thanks must go to the hard work of Mr Cooke as our PE leader and all our fantastic staff and school governors who give up their time to ensure that the children at our school not only have opportunities within their PE lessons and beyond the school day, but also ensure they support our children through helping them take part in the wide variety of events that are on offer within our community. Of course, this could not be done without the support of all our families and our children and so thank you for supporting us through ensuring your children have the correct kit, returning letters on time and generally ensuring that they are prepared to take part in their lessons and competitions. Hard work pays off and we now have the opportunity to progress further as we now qualify for the Greater Manchester Sports Awards in November – I will let you know how we get on with this.

Y5/6 Hockey festival – Monday 15th October saw the Y5/6 hockey team take part in a festival against eight other schools. The team did really well and narrowly miss out on qualifying for the final. Well done to Mrs Feeney and her team: Leon Beca, Jenna Binks, Bradley Graham, Tommy Hampson, Ella Meskell, Jack Reeder and Gutter Tumarevichute.



KS2 Cross Country – Earlier this week, some children from St. George's Central took part in a Cross Country race, against children from eleven other schools, at Atherton Community 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 **2nd overall!** Well done to all members of the team who contributed to this.

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

KS2 Kurling *VX festival* *Y5/6 Basketball festival* *Smite! taster session* *Climbing Wall taster session*

The next newsletter will be emailed out on Friday 23rd November. Paper copies will be made available in the letter holders in the school entrance area for you to pick up should you wish. After school clubs start during the first week back when we return the school. Have a great half term with your family.

Mr M Grogan – Headteacher

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