

# Atherton St George's C.E. Primary School & Little Dragons' Nursery



## Newsletter, 22nd March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

On Tuesday, the children did a 'school swap' with Y3/4 from St George's going to St Mark's and the Y5/6 children from St Mark's coming to St George's. All the children took part in an immersion day taking part in a series of workshops to build up a poem based on Spring or The Raven. The children have produced some wonderful writing from the event and we hope to have more of these events moving forward.

On Thursday we held 'Odd Sock Day' to raise awareness of Down Syndrome. Many children and staff took part and we are still calculating the final amount raised. It was lovely to see the children explaining to visitors about the purpose of their odd socks and the children certainly have an understanding of the congenital disorder.

We have seen the first day of Spring this week and the weather has improved slightly, even if it has been a little wet. New Life week has been celebrated this week with a range of activities from still life drawings of daffodils, poetry and tree planting. Mr Young (the school Site Manager) organised a Tree Planting Day with a number of volunteers from the local area. The event was a huge success and the Mayor of Wigan, Sue Greensmith was also in attendance along with our local councillors. We had 15 volunteers in total, supported by the Church, Governors, local organisations and residents. All Y3/4 children put on their wellies and planted 105 trees in total around the school field. These saplings will grow over the coming years and the field will be full of colour. Each tree is also linked to a myth or a legend which the children can incorporate into their learning. We have also started to gain interest in our new gardening club which we are hoping to set up in summer. At present we have a well-established club called 'Little Gem's' over at St Mark's which we are hoping to replicate at St George's with a poly tunnel. The children will be given the opportunity to attend the weekly club once we have the resources in place. We would welcome any volunteers who would like to support this, please register your interest at the school office. Today the children have been asked to bring in a shrub, plant or seeds. All the children will be planting throughout the day with Mrs Aldred who is keen to support the development of the school grounds.

This week we have said goodbye to Mrs Sinclair who worked centrally across the schools in the administration team, we will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Lenehan, our school counsellor, on Tuesday. She is leaving us to pursue a new career at Manchester Airport. I am sure you will join me in wishing them both well for the future.

After Easter we will be welcoming a new member to the Reception class team. Mrs Harper, current reception teacher at St Mark's, will be joining us to replace Miss Marsh. Mrs Harper is an experienced Reception class teacher and a welcome addition to the school.

Have a lovely weekend, maybe you can do some planting of your own.

Mrs Boardman  
Head of School

Headteacher Mrs L Boardman

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