

St. John's Church of England Academy

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Headteacher: Miss C Large B.Ed (Hons)

Chair of Governors: Mrs V Cadd

Newsletter

4th September 2015
Issue 78

Be the best that you can be: 'Whatever you do work at it with all your heart as if working for the Lord and not for people'.
Colossians 3.23



Welcome back to a new school year! I hope everyone had a lovely break despite the weather! It was lovely to welcome the children back, they have settled into school routines very quickly and look so smart in their new uniforms. A special welcome to the Reception children and Olivia (Y3). We have new staff to welcome to St. Johns too. Mrs Sue Davison is our new School Business Manager and Miss Goldsmith is a trainee teacher working alongside Mrs Brown in Year 6. Please feel free to say hello and make them feel welcome.

We are excited to welcome 2 year olds into our beautiful new classroom, alongside Mrs Joanne Raine, who will be the manager. We have had an open invitation for prospective new children this week but if you think you may have eligible children she would be delighted to show you around.



PARENT-TEACHER communication

You will be receiving a Curriculum Newsletter from your child's class teacher outlining what your child will be learning this term. Your child's class teacher will be happy to discuss any questions you may have or offer help/advice with homework. The best time to catch staff is after school as they are busy preparing for lessons in the morning.

Celebrate

Staff and Governors had an end of year meeting to review all the evidence gathered over the year such as: external inspector reviews, end of key stage results, analysis of pupil and parent questionnaires. We are delighted that our school is still one of the top performing schools and still fulfils the Ofsted 'Outstanding' criteria! Our continuing success is thanks to a fantastic team of staff and governors who are fully committed to 'going the extra mile' to ensure that we provide the very best for all our wonderful children who are well behaved, polite and keen to learn. As parents/carers you too play a huge part in supporting us and encouraging children to do their best - thank you. I will shortly be presenting to you the analysis of the parent questionnaires you filled in last term - thank you for all the kind words. As a whole school community we have so much to be proud of but we promise to strive to get even better. My door is always open, if you have any queries or problems don't hesitate to call in - we are here to help. We look forward to working with you throughout the year.



Well done to all those children who did some special homework tasks like reading or keeping holiday diaries. Many thanks to parents for their hard work too - we know it's not easy! I hope all the children did some reading over the holidays, it is so important.



Analysis of Parental and Pupil Questionnaires confirmed that our after school club provision is a real strength of the school. Letters will be coming out next week with all clubs apart from Y5/6 Boys' football starting week beginning 14th September.



The Road Safety Officer has informed school that it may be awhile before a new Crossing Patrol Officer is placed on the Geneva Road/Fenby Avenue corner. Despite advertising this post and others, she has not received any applicants. If you are interested in being a Crossing Patrol Officer please contact Mrs Caley on 01325 406695 or email denise.caley@darlington.gov.uk

Dates for Diaries

15.9.15	Dr Bike
17.9.15	Bike ability - Y5 for 6 weeks
23.9.15	Eden Camp - Y3 and Y4
24.9.15	Harvest Festival - St. John's Church 2pm (weather permitting)
14.10.15	Tag Rugby Festival Y5/6
8.10.15	Open Evening
22.10.15	Cross Country Festival KS2
23.10.15	Half Term break
3.11.15	Children return to school
3.11.15	Victorian bike lessons! Y5 & Y6
13.11.15	Children in Need - Brighter Biker Day
20.11.15	Sports Hall Athletics at the Dolphin Centre Y5/6
25.11.15	Gymnastics Festival
26.11.15	School Photographer
1.12.15	Gymnastics Final
18.12.15	Break up for Christmas Holidays
5.1.16	Children return to school



Credit Union Banking

The savings club starts again on Tuesday 8th September. If you would like to save with us, just send in the money (along with the paying in book) with your child or bring it to the office on a Tuesday morning. It couldn't be easier!