

St. John's Church of England Academy

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Newsletter

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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



GRAND OPENING

After weeks of converting the old courtyard into a spiritual area, the Prayer Garden was officially opened. Their idea for the 'quiet, peaceful area' for reflection came from the Pupil

Questionnaires and last year's School Council spent time designing the garden with our Architect. Our new School Council enjoyed planning the opening, inviting special people who had helped, suggesting prayer balloons and providing ice cream for the whole school! Unfortunately, Bishop Paul was poorly and unable to attend on the day, but we had a wonderful time. Special thanks were given to the P.F.A. and Nisa who donated along with our wonderful builder Keith Carter. We also thought about our friends in Sunnyside Middlesbrough who donated the cross. We have a beautiful extension to our school, which Rev. Sheilagh blessed. If you are in school please have a look!



How much do you know about Victorian Darlington?

After their recent 'Town Trail', Year 5 and Year 6 are quickly becoming experts on how the Victorians changed our town. Children learnt about the Quakers, the Pease and Backhouse families and all their investments in the town. They also learnt about the railways and how the growth of Darlington railway had such massive consequences for the people here. Our original school was built specially for the children of the railway workers. They enjoyed lunch in South Park while learning about how the richer Victorians spent their leisure time. Ask the children about some of the hidden gems we have in our lovely town.



We met the All Blacks!

To celebrate the Rugby World Cup, St. John's, along with many other schools in the area, were invited to Mowden Rugby Club to meet the New Zealand All Blacks. Ten children were chosen to train with Tony Woodcock, a member of the All Blacks 1st team. The children also met Tamara Taylor who is captain of the Ladies England Rugby Team. All the children had a wonderful time and were featured waving their flags on BBC and ITV local news.



Flu Prevention

Parents from Year 1 and 2 will have received a letter informing them about the National Health Service initiative for Flu prevention for younger children. After the half term holiday, the school nurse will be in school to administer the nasal vaccination. There will be no need for parents/carers to attend, as this is a simple and painless procedure where your child will be vaccinated via a nasal spray. Please return the permission form to school as soon as possible.

Across the miles

John the Bear will be off on his travels to Uganda with Rev. Sheilagh! Year 2 took photos from around school and made a special album to take with him so they can show what school life is like in England.



Autumn Disco Competition

Our annual Autumn disco is next **Thursday 22nd October**. This year the PTFA are holding a 'Design a Pumpkin' competition for you to do at home and bring in Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday marked clearly with your name and class (if you are wishing to put light in the pumpkin please use the battery operated tea lights). The committee will judge your entry Thursday at the disco and winners will be announced on Friday. Fancy dress is optional. Please do not go to any expense buying costumes for the disco.



Menu change

There will be a change to Thursdays, week 3 choice. Pasta Bolognese will be replacing Spring Lamb Casserole.

Dates for Diaries

22.10.15	Cross Country Festival KS2	
22.10.15	Autumn Disco after school - KS1 3.20 - 4.30pm KS2 4.45- 6pm	
23.10.15	Half Term break	
3.11.15	Children return to school (Tuesday)	
3.11.15	Victorian bike lessons! Y5 & Y6	
9.11.15	Year 2 trip to Bowes Museum	
11.11.15	Flu prevention - nasal vaccination for Year 1 & 2 (am)	
13.11.15	Children in Need - Brighter Biker Day	
16.11.15	Anti-bullying Week - 'Make a noise about bullying'	
17.11.15	E-safety Assembly 2pm	
20.11.15	Sports Hall Athletics at the Dolphin Centre Y5/6	
25.11.15	Road Safety Officer visit Early Years	
25.11.15	Gymnastics Festival	
26.11.15	School Photographer	
27.11.15	Year 1 trip to Bowes Museum	
28.11.15	St. John's Church Fair	
4.12.15	School Christmas Fair - details to follow	
1.12..15	Gymnastics Final	
18.12.15	Break up for Christmas Holidays	
5.1.16	Children return to school	