

# St. John's Church of England Academy



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Chair of Governors: Mrs V Cadd

## Newsletter

5th February 2016  
Issue 87

**Guided by God, to be the best that you can be.**



### An 'Amazing' Performance

The children have been working extremely hard for the last few weeks and all their rehearsing clearly paid off. Our dancers delivered an outstanding professional performance of 'Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat' at the Darlington Annual Dance Festival. Each school danced in a matinee and evening performance at the Dolphin Centre. Everyone in school and especially Mrs Penteney, who choreographed and taught the children the routine, are so very proud of each and everyone of them. Well done and thank you all for being great ambassadors of our school!



**EUROVISION**  
SONG CONTEST

Fourteen children from Y5 entered the Mayor's Eurovision Song Contest. A singing competition with the aim to raise money for local charities. Our children were representing Great Britain and not only singing the very well known Bucks Fizz song 'Making your mind up', they performed a dance routine too. Hundreds of children from 25 schools competed. Well done to them all, it took a lot of courage to sing and dance in front of a large Civic Theatre audience. Many thanks to Mr Ramsay for taking them to the evening event and for working with the children to produce such an excellent performance. Well done to you all!

### School Council

**A New Mission Statement...Guided by God,  
to be the best that you can be.**

Governors thought it was time to review our new mission statement and set about creating a short statement which would embody the fact that we are a Christian school, aiming for excellence for all children with everyone working in partnership. Our school council got involved; they reviewed the governor's suggestions and then came up with their own! It was brought back to governors for their approval and governors thought it was absolutely perfect! Well done School Council.



**Sustainable Travel Ambassadors**



**About the STA's**  
 Our School Travel Ambassadors are a group of Y5 and Y6 pupil's who are working closely with Kevin from Local Motion and PC Summerhill to encourage our school community to travel safely and in ways that benefit their health. Here is a letter from them informing you of their recent 'Park and Stride' project.

Dear parents/carers

Recently, we have conducted a traffic survey along Fenby avenue. We wanted to know the kind of vehicles that use Fenby avenue and where they park. Over the course of our survey (four separate days), between 8 o'clock and 9 o'clock on a morning, we calculated an average of 182 vehicles using the road. Of course, many were parents dropping children off at school. On the survey days, 13 parents parked on double yellow lines and 7 parked on the zig-zag line outside the school - a place they are clearly not to park.

The consequences of illegal parking, along with the risk of being fined, are that drivers pose a risk to children's safety. We believe that we have the right to be safe on our journey to school. We are also concerned that there are currently 32 cars which use the car park across the road from school - spaces which will not be there for very much longer.

Houses are to be built in the car park and so our question is: where will parents park then?

As Sustainable Travel Ambassadors, we are requesting that you 'park and stride'. This means that you park 5 minutes away from school and walk the remaining distance. By doing this, not only be saving money, but also helping to keep all our children safe.

Everyone has rights and responsibilities. WE have the right to be safe around our school gates. YOU have the responsibility for making this happen.

From

The Sustainable Ambassadors

Elliot, Caitlain, Anna, Skye, Sienna, Katie, Lacey and Hope.



May we remind you that if your child/ren want to go to the Valentine disco, then your last chance to buy a ticket will be **Monday 8th February**. Thank you



**Change of date to dress up**

Due to a very busy week, we have had to put back our book character dressing up day to **Friday 11th March** and NOT the 4th March as originally stated.



A huge thank you to all of the parents and carers who attended our maths open sessions this week. From the feedback we have received, it is clear that all attendees found the sessions informative and useful for supporting their children at home. If you have any other questions about our maths curriculum or could not make the sessions this week then please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher and they will be more than happy to help. We look forward to holding more open sessions in the future.



Dates for Diaries	
8.2.16	Boys Five-a-Side football 4pm- 6pm Dolphin Centre
9.2.16	Safer Internet Day
11.2.16	Run for Fun Festival
11.2.16	Valentine Disco 3.20 - 4.30pm & 4.45pm - 6pm
12.2.16	Break up for 1 week
22.2.16	Children return to school
22.2.16	Theatre Company in school performing the 'Sword and the Stone' - no money need
23.2.16	Jay's Animals visit Year1 & 2
23.2.16	Dentist visit to Early Years
24.2.16	Y4 Girls Football Festival 10 - 3pm
29.2.16	Y3 Tennis Festival 12 - 3pm
1.3.16	Dodgeball Festival at Billingham Y5 12 - 4pm

3.3.16	Parent Open Afternoon/Evening
4.3.16	Parent Open Afternoon for KS2 (not Y6)
4.3.16	Y6 visit the Safety Carousel 9 - 2pm
5.3.16	Crossbar Challenge at Mowden Rugby Arena
7.3.16	Book Fair in school. Monday to Thursday. 3.20 - 4pm
7.3.16	Police Dogs visit Nursery
8.3.16	Y5/6 Swimming Gala at the Dolphin Centre - am
11.3.16	Book character dressing up day
10.3.16	Y5/6 Swimming Gala at the Dolphin Centre - am
14.3.16	Y3 Tennis Festival at the Dolphin Centre - 12 - 3pm
24.3.16	Break up for Easter Holidays
11.4.16	Return to school