

St. John's Church of England Academy



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Chair of Governors: Mrs V Cadd



Newsletter

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Issue 100

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

What a Spotacular Day!

Last Friday the children came to school wearing something spotty or bright to raise money for Children in Need and to promote our Brighter Biker scheme which encourages bike riders to wear something visible on dark evenings. The staff were so impressed by how much work had gone into making their own costumes, those spots must have taken ages to colour in! Our Goldentime Bakers made some very tasty biscuits selling them to Years 5 & 6 and raised £12.50. Maizey and Harry brought in an egg filled with money they had saved from their pocket money, an amazing £8.63 was in it!

The grand total for the day was an absolutely fantastic sum of £ 226.15. Thank you everyone for donating so generously. Six children from Year 5 led a collective worship and spoke about the good work the Children in Need money helps to fund. They also asked the children if £50 of the money raised could be donated to our local Salvation Army for buying Christmas presents for those less fortunate children in Darlington. Our children have a strong moral purpose and regularly put others before themselves, needless to say the decision was unanimous.



Children
in Need



Collective Worship leaders



Goldentime Bakers



Jesus said, 'Love one another - by doing this everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

Years 1, 2 and 3 put Jesus' words into action when they brought in lots of wonderful gifts for the Shoe Box appeal. They managed to fill twenty boxes with some left over! We will pass on the left over items to the Salvation Army to help with their Christmas Appeal. Thank you so much for your generosity and support.



Parent/Carers Views

Many thanks for completing the annual survey this term; your views about the school are very important to us. The Governors and staff constantly strive to make St. John's the best place for your child. We were very grateful for the lovely comments lots of you wrote and the results were overwhelmingly positive! 162 questionnaires were given out to parent/carers in Years 1 to 6. 112 were returned (69%). From those that were returned...

- 99% agreed that their child was happy in school**
- 99% agreed their child feels safe and well cared for in school**
- 100% agreed that their child is taught well**
- 98% agreed that the school keeps them well informed**
- 99% agreed that school helps them to support their child's learning**
- 97% agreed their child receives appropriate homework for their age**
- *97% agreed there is a good standard of behaviour at school**
- *97% agreed that the school deals effectively with bullying**
- 100% agreed school encourages excellent attendance**
- 98% agreed the school responds well to any concerns raised**
- 100% agreed that they would recommend the school to another parent**
- *(Two parents declined to respond to this question*



Your main suggestions for improvement which Governors agreed to pursue were:

- ◆ A texting service to help with communications e.g. clubs being cancelled
- ◆ An online service to make payments easier

They also agreed to look into how we could support with after school provision on site. A full summary of the report may be viewed on our website under **Parents & Carers**. If you have five minutes spare you could complete the Ofsted questionnaire—there is a direct link on our website.

An Evening of Performance Art

Congratulations to the Poetry Club on their very successful 'Performance Arts Evening' on Tuesday. Our resident poet, Mr Boyd led the entertainment with children confidently performing their poems and dance to a proud audience of family, friends and staff. Everyone was very impressed by the talent, wit and confidence the children displayed. Many thanks to Miss Hannant and Mrs Tooth for providing refreshments. Well done to you all.

St. John's Church CHRISTMAS FAYRE

This **Saturday 26th November** our choir will be singing Christmas Carols at the Church Fayre. The choir need to be at the church for 11.15am. It would be lovely to see you all at the church to support our choir and help raise funds for the church.

Please note that the last Bible Club will be on Wednesday 30th November and there will be no afterschool clubs on the last week of term.

Dates for Diaries

26.11.16	St. John's Church Fair 11am - 2pm - all welcome
26.11.16	Rugby Challenge at the Northern Echo Stadium
6.12.16	Year 2 visit to St. John's Church for the 'Christmas Journey'
13.12.16	Christmas Lunch
13.12.16	Christmas Performance Y5 & Y6 at 9.10am
14.12.16	Christmas Performances - EYFS at 10.30am - Y3 & Y4 at 9.10am - Y1 & Y2 at 2.45pm
15.12.16	Christmas Party for Y1 & Y2 morning
15.12.16	Christingle Service - 2pm everyone welcome at St. John's Church
16.12.16	EYFS Christmas Party - morning
16.12.16	KS2 Christmas Party - afternoon
16.12.16	Break up for Christmas
3.1.17	Return to school
13.1.17	PTFA January Sale - details to follow.



CROSSBAR CHALLENGE

Good luck to our children who are taking part in Mowden Park's crossbar challenge this

Saturday 26th November at the Northern Echo Stadium. During the half time match break, teams of school children will be attempting to get as many shots over the crossbar as possible. Good luck St. John's!