

St. John's Church of England Academy



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Newsletter

9th January 2017

Issue 103

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy New year to you all. It was lovely to welcome the children back who were full of Christmas cheer. They have quickly settled down to hard work although we have a lot of fun planned for the term including our annual Book Character dressing up day and St. John's has Talent in March. You may already have received a Curriculum Newsletter informing you of what your child will be learning this term; if not it will be on its way.



Our Choir made us very proud entertaining The Lawns and Rosemary Court where residents enjoyed joining in the fun.



Our Christingle service at St. John's was magical and it was lovely that so many parents and grandparents could join us.



Many, many thanks to those members of the PTFA for helping at the Christmas lunch and organising wonderful party food for all the children - no mean feat!



We had a very busy, exciting end to the term with all of the children from Nursery to Year 6 giving fantastic Christmas performances to proud parents. Well done children, you were all amazing.

Parent were very generous purchasing raffle tickets; the proceeds will be distributed to worthy causes decided by the children. If your child has a charity they think should benefit please let us know so it can be considered.

Operation Encompass

Supporting children through key adults

A new project, called Operation Encompass is being introduced, aimed at supporting children affected in any way by domestic abuse. The project is a joint initiative involving Darlington Borough Council, Durham Police and schools across Darlington. The safety and wellbeing of children and young people is our greatest priority. Our school is one of many in Darlington that will be taking part in a new project aimed at providing extra support to children and young people who are affected by domestic abuse within their home and family life. Witnessing domestic abuse is really distressing for a child or young person, often with them seeing and/or hearing the abuse, seeing a parent's injuries and distress afterwards, or they can be physically hurt themselves.

Starting from January 2017, following any serious domestic abuse incident being reported into Durham Police, specialist staff will identify which school the child attends, make contact with the school and communicate relevant and necessary information. This will ensure that the school is made aware at the earliest possible opportunity of any incidents to enable the trained staff within the school's known as 'key adult' to provide support depending on the needs and wishes of the child or Young person.

If you would like to speak to someone about the project or require further information, please contact Mrs Baker our home school support worker. You can find out more information at www.operationencompass.org/

Maths

We are once again inviting you to come along to one of our Maths open morning sessions on either Tuesday 31st January, 1st or 2nd February where you can get a flavour of the maths curriculum. More details to follow.



Mrs Honeyman had a wonderful end of term and wanted to thank all the parents and children for the lovely cards and kind words. She said it made her feel very humble and special. She is busy making a special memory box to put in many of her wonderful memories from St. John's.



Message from the Office

Your child will be bringing home the new Spring/ Summer menu on Monday. Please fill in the menu choice form and return it to school by Monday

16th January.

May we also bring to your attention that due to the manufacturers increasing the cost of uniform, we have also had to increase the prices. Please note we do not make any profit on the sale of uniform.



On Friday 13th January the PTFA will be having a sale. There will be a variety of stalls, including good as new uniform, gifts, toys and so much more!

If you have any unwanted gifts, toys or anything else we could sell, please bring them into school as soon as possible and help make our first ever January Sale a great success! There will be a raffle (1st prize £50), tickets available from the school office (mornings only) or can be purchased on the day. Tickets cost £1 a strip.

Doors open in the hall at 2.30pm. Children will be allowed to accompany parents if required. We look forward to seeing you on Friday!

Dates for Diaries

11.1.17	Year 5 & 6 Basketball Tournament 12 - 3pm
13.1.17	Year 5 Table Tennis Tournament 10am-2pm
7.2.17	Year 3 visit to Library 'Spirits of the Sea' play - 9.45am
10.2.17	Year 3 Tennis Festival 9.30am-12 noon (16 pupils)
13.2.17	Year 5 & 6 Girls' Football Festival - 12.30-3pm
14.2.17	Year 4 Girls' Football Festival 10am-2.30pm
16.2.17	Year 5 & 6 Boys' Football Festival 12.30-3pm
16.2.17	Valentine Disco
17.2.17	Break up for half term (1 week)
27.2.17	Return to school
31.2.17	Maths Open Morning (also 1st or 2nd February)
27.2.17	Book Fair starts 3.20-3.45pm. Ends Thursday.
28.2.17	Year 4 Run for Fun Festival 9.30am-12.30pm
3.3.17	Dress up as your favourite book character
3.3.17	Visit from the Bishop to the Talent event
9.3.17	Open Afternoon for EYFS & KS1
9.3.17	Open Evening for all classes
10.3.17	Open Afternoon for KS2
16.3.17	Swimming Gala at the Dolphin Centre - 9.30am-12.30pm
28.3.17	Dance Festival
7.4.17	Year 5 Netball Festival at Polam Hall - 10am-2.30pm
7.4.17	Break up
24.4.17	Children return to school