

St. John's Church of England Academy



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Newsletter

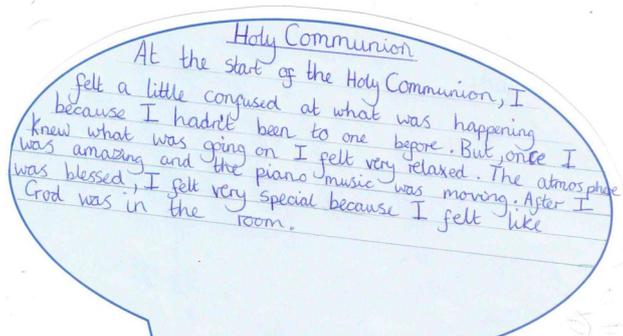
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Guided by God, to be the best that we can be.



Holy Communion

Recently Years 4, 5 and 6 had their first experience of Holy Communion. The staff and children found it to be a very spiritual celebration. Here is an example of how they felt.



Year 6 pupil wrote how they felt about Holy Communion
At the start of the Holy Communion, I felt a little confused at what was happening because I hadn't been to one before. But once I knew what was going on I felt very relaxed. The atmosphere was amazing and the piano music was moving. After I was blessed, I felt very special because I felt like God was in the room.



Agape means love. Rev. Sheilagh and members of the church have been teaching Foundation and KS1 the story of how Jesus shared bread and wine with his disciples at the Last Supper. The children shared this experience by eating bread and drinking blackcurrant juice. The lesson ended with one of the children's favourite hymns 'Our God' and a prayer which Mrs Cadd showed the children how to say using sign language.

Wheelie' Good Start!

Last Wednesday we offered a special breakfast to all those children and parents who came to school on their bike or scooter. The morning was a fantastic success, with over sixty people having a good healthy breakfast. Thank you to Kevin and Charlotte from Wheel Education for organising the event and getting our first week of the 'Big Pedal' off to a great start.



Stepping back in time



Years 1 and 2 enjoyed a fabulous day at Beamish last week. As part of their topic work on journeys, they have been learning about many different modes of transport. The children really enjoyed taking a ride on the double decker tram and a steam engine. They have been learning about our local area and why George Stephenson was famous. Everyone really enjoyed seeing a working replica of his locomotion engine and took a trip on a similar steam engine. Year 2 also saw the old church and compared this place of worship to others they have visited.





We were so very proud of our Dance Team who put on an amazing 'Street Dance' performance at the Dolphin Centre on Tuesday night as part of the Darlington Dance Festival. They performed with such passion, energy and professionalism. Many thanks to Mrs Penteney who choreographed the production and worked with the children this term.



Bling Your Bike

To celebrate the end of The Big Pedal, children decorated

their bikes or scooters and brought them into school today to be judged. They were all very creative and full of bling! After a very hard decision the judges chose a winner and runner up from each class to receive a prize. Thank you everyone who entered the competition. Hope to see your designs next year!



Kevin and Charlotte from Wheel Education, have been working with the Year 4 children training them in how to ride their bikes safely.

The children have practised many skills and activities teaching them about their co-ordination and posture during cycling. They have steered round an obstacle course to improve their visual awareness and balance - great fun! It is lovely to see many of our children now wearing safety helmets when cycling, it is so important for their safety.

A special mention to Harry, who rode his bike without stabilisers, for the first time. Well done Harry!



May we remind you, once again, that the car park is not to be used for dropping off or picking up your child.

This is a serious safety matter. We understand the difficulty in parking at the moment due to the building work opposite school, however this will be coming to an end soon. We have be assured that there will be parking for our parents to use as well as shoppers.

For the safety of the children and all members of our community, please do not park on the double yellow lines in front of school or in Rosemary Court. There are many safe places to park a little further down the road from school. PC Summerhill be making spot checks on parking over the next few weeks.

Thank you to all those who bought a book from our Scholastic Book Fair. We made £88.83 commission and we will be purchasing more books for our Library.



MATHLETICS

We have purchased Mathletics, a fun online structured learning maths program for all children from Year 2 to 6.

Every child has their own account which they can access at home. Please encourage them use it. If you have any problems please speak to your class teacher.

Dates for Diaries

3.4.17	Sign Language Assembly at 9am - parents welcome
3.4.17	Decorate an Easter Egg Competition- judging on the 4th April
4.4.17	Major Colin from The Salvation Army leading our morning Worship
4.4.17	Year 4 Class Assembly at 2.45pm - parents welcome
5.4.17	Year 1 Class Assembly at 2.45pm - parents welcome
6.4.17	Easter Service 2pm at St. John's Church- all welcome
6.4.17	Boys' & Girls' Football Teams playing at Rydal Academy after school.
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
26.4.17	Year 3 Class Assembly at 9am - parents welcome
26.4.17	Year 4 swimming lesson 2.30pm (every Wednesday during this half term)

Competition Time!

In celebration of Easter, we are inviting the children to enter our very popular 'Decorate an Egg Competition'.

Don't forget to boil your egg first! Entries from **Monday 3rd April** and the judging will be on Tuesday (4th) afternoon. We can't wait to see their creations! There are prizes to be won too.