

# St. John's Church of England Academy



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## Newsletter

7th July 2017  
Issue 113

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



### Year 4 visit a Gurdwara

Year 4 visited Darlington's Gurdwara Sahib. A Gurdwara is the place where Sikhs come together for congregational worship.

Everyone covered their heads with scarves as a sign of respect and once inside removed socks and shoes. They listened to Bophrder who explained the Sikh religion. Manpreet, who attends the Gurdwara Sahib, explained the 5K's which are physical symbols worn by Sikhs who have been initiated into the Khalsa. They are:

Kesh (uncut hair), Kara (a steel bracelet), Kanga (a wooden comb), Kachera - (cotton underwear) and Kirpan (steel sword). Everyone had an amazing experience and would like to say a huge thank you to Manpreet, Pally and granddad for organising their visit and making it a very special experience.



### Christian Values in Action

Jessica (Rec) and Rosie (Y2) came up with a wonderful idea of making soft toys to sell to make money to buy a water pump for villagers in Uganda.

Harry (Y2) also had an idea of filling a Smartie tube with 20 pence's which will pay for a water pump. Well done to you all.

If you have any spare 20 pence's please send them in to help this worthy cause.



### SPORTS DAY

Everyone is welcome to join us on **Tuesday 11th July** with races starting at **1.30pm** weather permitting!

Please ensure that your child has their PE kit, including trainers, a hat and sun cream applied in the morning. They will be supplied with a bottle of water but you may send in an extra bottle of plain water with them. *For health and safety reasons, please do not allow small children to wander on to the track or allow them access to the Climbing Frame.* After the event all children will go back into school and be dismissed a class at a time so we can ensure that all children are returned safely to parents. Please do not take your child without seeing the class teacher. May we remind you that smoking is not allowed on the school grounds at any time.

The PTFA will have a selection of stalls for you to purchase refreshments or have a little fun with the hook-a-duck! There will also be a raffle and a chance to win some money! Please come along and enjoy the afternoon with us. The children love having their family there to support them.



Well done to all the children who have achieved 100% attendance for the summer term. Parents are welcome to join us in celebrating on:

**Monday 17th July at 9am (Reception, Y1 & Y2)**

**Wednesday 19th at 9am (Y3 & Y5)**

You will receive an individual invite from Mrs Baker today.

**Y4 and Y6** will receive certificates during their class assembly.

Please note that from September, governors have agreed that leave of absence over 5 days will not be authorised in any circumstance.

### Local Authority Appeal

Darlington Local Authority has a statutory duty regarding childcare sufficiency in the Borough. As part of this duty, they would like to gather feedback from parents/carers about the local early years and childcare market. Please support them by providing feedback.

### SURVEY LINK -

<http://eforms2.darlington.gov.uk:8080/public/servlet/ep.app?st=CORP&type=227649>

**WEBSITE PAGE -** <http://www.darlington.gov.uk/education-and-learning/early-years-and-childcare/childcare-audit/>

# Sports Report 2017

Reporter - Mr B Cook

On the 24<sup>th</sup> May, St John's Year 4 and 5 boys attended a Cricket Festival at the RA. The pupils competed in two teams. Each pupil participated in a range of different positions from batting, fielding, bowling and wicket keeping, all requiring different skills. The girls used the same skills practiced at their competition on 26<sup>th</sup> May at Feetham's Cricket Club, all the children played fantastic to win their group and get through to a play-off match.

On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> a mixed team of girls and boys from Year 5 competed at the RA club against teams in Darlington. St John's won overall. Fantastic achievement. Well done!



On the 17<sup>th</sup> May, pupils from Years 3 and 4 attended a Quad-kids event at Eastbourne Sports Complex where all the children enjoyed

competing in the 40 metres sprint, 400 metre race, howler throw and standing long jump. All the children competed well and as a school were placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall. Year 2 Quad-kids also attended Eastbourne Sports Complex on 18<sup>th</sup> May.



## Athletics

On the 7<sup>th</sup> June, St John's Athletics Team competed in the Town Sports at Eastbourne Sports Complex. The team competed in a wide range of events, and secured a place at the Tees-Valley finals. The pupils all showed wonderful spirit with many getting through their heats; the team won a record amount of medals resulting in four girls achieving places in the finals.

At the finals held on the 21<sup>st</sup> June, their success continued as the

girls won medals again! This is the first time in St John's history that anyone has achieved this feat, whilst also representing the Darlington District Team who finished second overall. Another brilliant achievement, well done!



## Gymnastics

On the 9<sup>th</sup> June, St John's attended a Gymnastics Festival at Hurworth School. All the children performed brilliantly, with Year 3/4 and



Year 5/6 teams winning and advancing to the finals.



## Hockey

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> June, St John's participated at the Tees Valley hockey finals at Egglecliffe School. St John's was one of two schools to be selected to represent



Darlington against five other district champions. The team showed off their great skills, ability and positive attitude throughout the whole competition.



The Change4Life Club, led by Mr D Cook, is a popular lunchtime club designed to get children more active and eating well. The children gave a confident presentation to parents and children about how they had become more confident, healthy and the long term benefits. They also told us about the importance of key values including respect and teamwork.

Special mention to Olivia S and Charlotte B (Y4) who became

Change4Life Champions because of their passion and commitment towards Change4Life Club; they have helped every week for two years! A huge well done to all the children that have taken part this year, they have shown that it is possible to be healthier while having more fun.

