

St. John's Church of England Academy



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Chair of Governors: Mrs V Cadd



Newsletter

20th October 2017

Issue 118

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

Harvest Celebration



It was lovely to see many parents and friends at the Harvest Service at St. John's Church. All the children performed a play, song or poem celebrating 'Thankfulness' our Christian Value for this half term. Many thanks for the amazing amount of donations of food for the local Food Bank and the incredible amount of money we received for the water filters for villages in Uganda. Your generosity will benefit so many at home and abroad.



Attendance Winners for Autumn Term 1

Week 5	Reception & Year 3	99%
Week 6	Year 4	99%



Well done to John who were the winners of the house team points this half term.

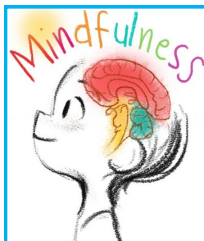


Poppies are available in school until Remembrance

weekend. We ask that your donation be a minimum of 50p. Thank you.

October Half Term

We have had a super half term with lots of learning and lots of fun. We had a very high attendance at Open Evening which is always a lovely opportunity to celebrate the children's progress and set new targets. The children and staff are definitely ready for a holiday! Have a lovely break and many thanks for all your support and generosity with Harvest donations. We look forward to welcoming the **children back on Wednesday 1st November.**



Year 3 have been taking part in a 6 week Mindfulness training programme, led by Mrs Baker. Mindfulness is a method of becoming more aware of the here and now and can help children develop emotional resilience, concentration and relaxation skills. The children have really enjoyed the sessions and on Wednesday, parents and carers had the opportunity to come in and see some of the mindful practices the children have been learning and join in if they wanted to! The children demonstrated their mindful eating, with Starbursts which as you can imagine was their favourite part of Mindfulness and then showed some mindful walking! They practiced a Thankfulness meditation which fitted in with our Christian value of thankfulness this term. The children all



then spoke individually about how mindfulness has helped them at school and home. Some of the quotes were "Mindfulness has helped me to concentrate more on learning my times tables in class and get in my bubble so I don't get distracted". "Mindfulness has helped me to stay calm in the playground because if I get angry I do my mindful counting and breathing to stay calm". "Mindfulness has helped me if I feel anxious or upset because I do my mindful breathing or meditation and I feel peaceful and calm". A huge well done to all the children for their fantastic participation and behaviour!



Our next family learning course is all

about encouraging your child to read and write. If you are parent/carer of a child in Early Years and would like to develop skills to help your child with their learning, please join us on Tuesday 7th November 9 - 11am for this 5 week course. It would be lovely to see you!



Y&Z Report Tag Rugby Festival

Two teams from year 5 and 6 attended the Tag Rugby Competition on Wednesday 11th October. Both teams played outstandingly well with a good team spirit and sportsmanship. Well done to the B team who won the competition and got through to the final at Mowden Rugby Stadium.

Reporters: *Tori Buckley and Freya Quinn*

Full report can be viewed on our website Sports page under Curriculum.

Getting the right balance!

Year 4 have been learning to ride their bikes with Kevin and Charlotte, from Wheel Education, as part of their PE and PHSE curriculum. This has been a 6 week programme where the children have learnt new skills and developed balance and coordination when riding their bikes as well as having a great fun.



Messages from the Office Uniform

We would like to apologise to those parents who have had a long wait for their child's uniform. The delay was due to a new ordering system our supplier is now using. They have assured us that the problems have now been rectified.



Parentpay

Parentpay is proving to be hugely successful for parents and carers. This tool allows the school to communicate promptly via texts and emails and ensures that if we require urgent messages to be sent to parents and carers they are informed immediately. In addition to this parents/carers are finding paying for school lunches electronically a much easier and convenient way of doing so. Shortly all dinner money payments will be required to be paid via Parentpay as we will no longer be taking cash payments for dinner money at the school office. Therefore it is imperative that if you have not already signed up to Parentpay that you do so in the near future. If you have any queries regarding this or require assistance in registering please do not hesitate to contact Mr Cooke our Business Manager.

Dates for Diaries

1.11.17	Children return to school (Wednesday)
1.11.17	Y3 Agape 2 - 3pm Parents welcome
2.11.17	Pedestrian Training starts for Y1 & Y2 for 6 weeks
3.11.17	Pedestrian Training starts for Y3 for 6 weeks
7.11.17	Y1 & Y2 visit Bowes Museum
9.11.17	Y5 & Y6 Sports Hall Athletics 9am - 1pm Hurworth
10.11.17	Boccia - Middlesbrough 9am - 3pm
13.11.17	Anti-Bullying Week
14.11.17	Maths Drop In - come and join your child for a lesson
15.11.17	Maths Drop In - come and join your child for a lesson
15.11.17	Eucharist for Y4, Y5 & Y6 at 2.30pm - Parents welcome
16.11.17	Maths Drop In - come and join your child for a lesson
17.11.17	Brighter Biker Day for Children in Need - come to school in something bright or spotty!
22.11.17	School Photographer
23.11.17	Fire Service come to visit Y1 & Y2
29.11.17	Y6 visit the Safety Carousel - Newton Aycliffe
1.12.17	PTFA Christmas Fair in the school hall (start time to be confirmed)
6.12.17	Golf Final at Seaton Carew Dome 12.30 - 3.30pm
20.12.17	Christmas Concerts (performance times to be confirmed)
21.12.17	Christingle at St John's Church. Start 2pm all are welcome.
22.12.17	School closes for Christmas Holiday
8.1.18	Tuesday. Children return to school