

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.



We were overwhelmed by the amount of food donated during our Harvest celebrations. Our Head Boy and Head Girl helped take the donations to the food bank and whilst there had a tour of the shop and café. They were shown how the food is sorted and dispatched. The organisers were astonished at the generosity of our school and we would like to pass on their thanks to all those who kindly donated.



Our Christian Value for this half term is 'Respect' which will link to our reflections on Remembrance Day and work on Anti Bullying Week (13th - 17th November). A group of Year 6 children (Aaron, Shakira, Harmony and Xanthi) led worship on Monday. They acted out the calling of Matthew, the Tax Inspector, and reminded us that Jesus modelled respect and tolerance in his dealings with people.



SPOOKY FUN!

The PTFA did a marvellous job organising our Autumn Disco and raised a

fantastic £382! The children had heaps of fun dancing and playing games. It was so difficult to judge the pumpkin competition, they were all so good! Every child who entered the competition received a small prize. We hope you had fun making them.



Collective Worship

Rev. Sheilagh spoke to the children and showed them pictures of her recent trip to Uganda. The children listened to how the villagers lived their daily lives. Rev. Sheilagh was overwhelmed by the

amount of questions the children asked about the differences in the way we live and the Ugandans. Our Head Boy and Girl presented Rev. Sheilagh with £57.50, which you kindly donated towards water pumps, which will go to a very remote village in Uganda where the only access is a thirty minute boat ride up a very hazardous swamp!



Welcome to St. John's family

It is lovely to welcome our new caretaker Brett Nesfield to St John's. Please stop and say hello if you see him in the grounds. A special welcome to Kaelyn and her family in Year 3 who have just joined us.



Maths

Lots of people said how much they enjoyed coming to our last maths morning and how it helped them to support their child. So once again we are inviting you to come along to one of our maths open morning sessions on either Tuesday 14th November, Wednesday 15th November or Thursday 16th November starting at 9am, for about half an hour. You will get a flavour of the mental maths curriculum and a chance to look at a new 'Maths Facts in a Flash' IT programme that the children can also access at home. Improving our children's mental speed and maths fluency is one of our 3 main improvement targets on our School Improvement Plan for this year.



Shoe Box Appeal

Thomas, from Year 1, has been thinking about Christmas and about those that are less fortunate. He has been busy filling a shoebox at home for the SHOEBOX APPEAL. At St John's, we are also keen to help, and would like to invite everyone to join the SHOEBOX APPEAL. If you would like to help, please fill a shoebox for either a boy, girl, adult male/ female or a pensioner, alternatively please bring a small something to go into a shared box, and bring it to school by 23rd November. Thomas and his mum will take the shoeboxes to the collection point for us. If anyone has any empty shoeboxes that would be useful for packing extra items, please send them in. For further information visit www.internationaltrust.org.uk

Our Christmas fair will be on **1st December at 2pm**. There will be prizes to be won and lots of stalls for you to start your Christmas shopping! To help us make it a great success we are asking for any good as new toys, unopened bottles and toiletries. Thank you. Money raised from the fair will be going towards new benches for the playground as requested by our school council.

Attendance MATTERS

Whole school attendance last term was only 95.8% which is well below our target of 96.4%. We had a lot of absence due to some nasty bugs going around and unauthorised holidays. All the children who achieved 98% or more received an attendance prize today. We really hope to increase our attendance by the end of December. Thank you to all those parents who work hard to make appointments outside of school or registration times - every session counts!

Class	Attendance	Position
Reception	97.38%	1st
Year 1	94.19%	6th
Year 2	96.15%	5th
Year 3	96.20%	4th
Year 4	96.38%	3rd
Year 5	97.14%	2nd
Year 6	93.14%	7th

CHILDREN IN NEED & BRIGHTER BIKER DAY

Friday 17th November, we are inviting the children to dress up in something bright that they would be easily seen in, on a dark morning, to promote safe cycling. Alternatively, children could wear spots as it is Children in Need Day; we will be grateful for any donations.



Please do not buy anything special to wear, anything that is brightly coloured or spotty will be fine.



School Photographer

The photographer will be in school Tuesday 22nd November. A letter has been sent out giving further details. Thank you.

Dates for Diaries

13.11.17	National Anti-Bullying Week - lots of activities, competitions and prizes
14.11.17	Maths Drop In - come and join your child for a lesson 9 - 9.30am
15.11.17	Maths Drop In - come and join your child for a lesson 9 - 9.30am
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 9 - 9.30am
17.11.17	Brighter Biker Day for Children in Need - wear 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. Doors open at 2pm
2.12.17	St John's Church Christmas Fair 10am - 2pm. All welcome
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	Children return to school