

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.



Firetastic time!

Year 1 and 2 thoroughly enjoyed their visit from Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service. The fire fighters worked



with the children in their classrooms learning all about fire safety and what to do in an emergency as part of their PSHE curriculum. The fire fighters were very happy when Miss Large informed them how sensible the whole school were during our fire drill earlier this term. The children had great fun out on the playground looking closely at the fire engine and having a go at the water hose! The fire service offer a free home safety check to members of the public. For more information go to <http://www.ddfire.gov.uk/free-safe-and-wellbeing-visit> to arrange a visit.



We are always so overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of our families. Reverend Sue informed us that we raised a magnificent £270.30 for

The Children's Society from the Christingle donations. The proceeds from the raffle at our Christmas concerts raised £260; this will be sent to charities of the children's choice. If you have any charities which are close to your heart please help your child to put together a short speech which they can present on Tuesday next week.

FOOD HYGIENE RATING



Well done to our kitchen staff who once again have been awarded 5 stars for food hygiene as well as producing tasty meals everyday.



Welcome to St. John's family

Mr Nesfield left us last term due to personal family circumstances. It is lovely to welcome our new caretaker Mr Reese to St John's. Please stop and say hello if you see him in the grounds. A special welcome to Aiden and his family in Year 5 who have just joined us.



What a Diorama!



Reading is a key area for school improvement this year and Mrs McAdam has done a fantastic job leading the revamp of the KS1 reading area which looks wonderful. It is now a much more inviting area for the children. We have new books which are organised into bands to support progress and the whole reading area has been brought to life with dioramas of favourite books that the children made for homework.

The task was to choose a favourite book and then to bring it to life by creating a diorama (a scene from the book, inside a small box). It was lovely to hear the children talking passionately about their favourite books and deciding which to choose. Many children chose one of the free books they had received for their excellent attendance. Our St. John's children and parents went the extra mile as we

had flashing 'Kitchen Disco' dioramas, glittery 'Aliens in Underpants' and lots of other fabulous 3D book scenes. Miss Large was so impressed; she declared that every child who made one should receive a golden coin for working so hard.

The Key Stage One team would also like to thank the children and parents, for the enthusiasm which they have put into their new Reading Journals this term. After sharing key recommended books at home, we love reading the likes, dislikes, patterns and puzzles that the children come up with; their love of books definitely shines through.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Please note leave of absence will only be granted for 'exceptional' circumstances which tend to be one off situations. Leave of Absence will not be considered for long periods (over 5 days). Good attendance is extremely important to maximise children's life chances and we value your cooperation.

Attendance Winners for Spring Term 1

Week 1	Rec, Y1 & Y6	99%
Week 2	Y4	99%

Our current attendance is 95.6% and our target is 96%.

Rather than having a Valentine's Disco this year which is not as popular as it was, the PTFA will be organising another event later in the spring term in collaboration with the School Council.



Thank you to all those who have returned the new school menu choices. If you haven't returned your child's meal choices, please could you do so as soon as possible, as the kitchen staff need to know before we break up for the half term holiday.

Also may we remind those who have not already signed up to Parentpay that it is important that you do. If school needs to send out urgent messages this is the best and fastest way for you to receive messages.

Be a Super Saver!

The Credit Union visit school every Tuesday morning. If you would like your child to save for holidays, birthdays or a special treat then please call into the office for a form. You can save any amount, every penny counts! For those pupils who already have an account keep on saving!



Dates for Diaries

6.2.18	Internet Safety Day
7.2.18	Year 3 Tennis Festival
9.2.18	Break up for half term
19.2.18	Children return to school
21.2.18	Y5/6 Boys' Football Cup - Eastbourne Complex 10am - 3pm
22.2.18	Y5/6 Girls' Football Cup - Eastbourne Complex 10am - 3pm
22.2.18	Major Shirley, from the Salvation Army, leading Collective Worship
23.2.18	Visiting theatre group performing Wind in the Willows
26.2.18	Book Fair 3.20 - 4pm (last day Thursday)
28.2.18	Y5 & Y6 visit to the Life Centre in Newcastle
1.3.18	Parent Open Afternoon for Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 - start 1pm
1.3.18	Parent Open Evening for all classes - start 3.20pm
2.3.18	Book Character Dress Up day
2.3.18	Open Afternoon for Year 5 & Year 6
7.3.18	Year 5/6 Swimming Gala 9am - 12.30pm
8.2.18	Author Anthony Wootten visiting KS2
9.3.18	Year 3 & Year 4 visit to the Oriental Museum - full day out
19.3.18	Dance Festival