

St. John's Church of England Academy



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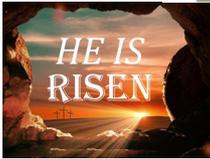
Chair of Governors: Mrs V Cadd

Newsletter

20th April 2018
Issue 128



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



Welcome back to our new term, I hope you enjoyed the Easter break, despite the weather!



Easter Egg-stravaganza!

Our annual hard-boiled egg decorating competition is always popular with our children and parents; **154**

children entered! So much thought and creativity goes into the designs - we had everything from 'The Hungry Caterpillar' to 'Prince Harry and Megan's upcoming wedding! Every child received a prize for their fantastic designs but Sophie Cornwall, from Vision for Education, had the very difficult task of judging and kindly sponsored 1st and 2nd prizes in every class. Special prizes were awarded to Oliver (Y4), Oliver (Rec) and Millie-Mae (Y4) for their wonderful designs based on our Christian ethos. See the Northern Echo (30.4.18) for more details.

Thank you so much to Year 5 children for leading our Easter Service at St John's Church. They performed the events of Holy Week which was very poignant and their singing was wonderful. Thank you to all our families who joined us for this very special act of worship and Rev. Sue



Competition winners

Justice

Major Shirley from the Salvation Army led worship and introduced our Christian value for this half term: justice. Justice means giving all people particularly the poor and oppressed what is right and fair for them to have: life, health, freedom and dignity. It is concerned with what is right and looking out for those who suffer most and are least able to protect themselves. Jesus spent much of his time looking out for those who were marginalised and treated unfairly e.g. The Good Samaritan, the outcast leper, the unfairly treated women, children and non-Jews.



★ Star Struck at The Centre of Life

★ At the end of last term, Years 5 and 6 took a trip to The Centre of Life in Newcastle. This was a wonderful way to end our topic on Space. The children
★ visited the planetarium for a presentation about what we can see at night with the
★ naked eye. Next time you are out and there are lots of stars visible, ask your child
★ to show you The Great Bear, The North Star, Orion and Betelgeuse. The children
★ also had the opportunity to look around the other exhibitions and take a ride on
★ the 4D motion rollercoaster.





We have a very busy, exciting term ahead of us starting with The national Big Pedal event starts Monday for two weeks. Every day the children or parents come to school on their bikes, they receive a point. Last year we managed to come first out of all the schools in the local authority and won a Stunt Show which the children loved. We will be holding a free Bike-it

Breakfast on Wednesday 25th April for families who come to school on a bicycle or scooter for those who have pre-booked. We will also be holding our very popular 'Bling Your Bike' competition on 4th May. Decorate your bike or scooter and you may win a prize! Please encourage the children to wear a safety helmet.



Penalty shootout

Tomorrow, Saturday 21st April, is the RA Club's annual 'Penalty Shootout'. 12 of our children will be competing in the event. It would be lovely to see you there supporting this family afternoon. Starts 2pm and finishes at 4pm.



Durham Tigers New Home

The under 11's have moved from Shildon and are now based at St. John's school field. The Tigers is a rugby league club, coached by Mr Quinn and assisted by Mr Doswell. It is aimed at Year 4, 5 & 6 boys and girls. **Come along on Saturday 21st April, meeting on the school field at 10am to 11am.** See Mr Quinn for more details.



Health & Safety Notice

At the end of last term, many schools received threatening hoax calls - St John's did not receive one. Although the police were very good calling at all of the schools in Darlington and advising us to carry on as normal and not to cause panic but to be vigilant. We want to reassure you that we would never put children or staff in danger at any time. We will always follow the advice of police who have the most up to date knowledge.

Please may I remind you that children are not allowed to play on the climbing frame at home time.



If your child is in Y4, 5 or 6 and is interested in Basketball, Mr Quinn is transporting children in the minibus to Darlington Storm Basketball session at Longfield Academy starting this Sunday. They will be leaving St John's at 1.30pm and returning for 3.30pm. For more details please see Mr Quinn.

Positive Parenting

**24th April 2018 for 5 weeks.
9am - 11am**

In the Community Room at St, John's CE Academy

This is a free course for practical parenting tips including reflecting on parenting styles, positive communication, managing challenging behaviour and promoting self esteem. Please register at the school office.



Well done to all 73 children who managed to achieve 100% attendance last term.. These children along with those who achieved 98% will receive

an attendance prize on Monday. Well done to Year 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 for reaching the attendance target of 96.4% last term. Our current attendance is 96.1% and we are working hard to achieve our target.



CLASS	%	POSITION
Reception	95.6%	7th
Year 1	96.7%	3rd
Year 2	96.4%	5th
Year 3	96.2%	6th
Year 4	98.1%	1st
Year 5	96.5%	4th
Year 6	96.9%	2nd



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.

DATES FOR DIARIES	
23.4.18	Big Pedal starts for 2 weeks
25.4.18	Big Breakfast. Come to school on your bike/scooter. 8.15 - 8.45am (Available to families that have booked)
26.4.18	Change4Life Festival at Eastbourne Complex - Year 3 & 4
27.4.18	Y5 & Y6 Puzzle day at Firthmoor Primary School - 1pm
30.4.18	Boys' football league against Northwood - 3.20pm
4.5.18	'Bling Your Bike'. Decorate your bike/scooter. You could be a winner!
7.5.18	May Day - school closed for 1 day
14.5.18	Year 6 SAT's Week - no absences
21.5.18	RE - 'Big Frieze' week
21.5.18	Collective Worship with Cloud Singh - 9.30am
24.5.18 Thursday	Break up for 1 week
4.6.18	Return back to school