

St. John's Church of England Academy



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Newsletter

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**BOOK
WEEK**

Today marked the beginning of our annual 'Book Week' with a visit from a theatre company who performed 'The Selfish Giant' by Oscar Wilde. It was especially fabulous because some of our children got to be actors in the performance. We are going to have a go at being theatre critics and write a review of the performance – watch this space!

All classes in school will be enjoying 'The Day the Crayons Quit' as our story for Book Week. It is a great book for all ages and I'm sure will lead to some fabulous follow up work. There will be lots of competitions to enter and the children are invited to dress up as their favourite character on **Friday 8th March**. Please don't go to any great expense. We can't wait to see your amazing creations.

'The Book People' will be running our book fair for the first time this year. We have chosen them because they have a wide range of books at very fair prices – please come and have a look. The fair will be open every day after school from Tuesday to the following Monday.



At the Valentine's Disco, the children had a fun time socialising, dancing and playing games. Many thanks to the parents who decorated the hall, served the hotdogs and tidied up. We truly appreciate your help.

Important Online Safety Information

As many of you will be aware, there has recently been a lot of publicity in the media regarding the online game known as Momo. The school has received advice and information from DBC Early Help Team, which can be viewed on our school website.

Please click on '**Safeguarding**,' then '**E-Safety**,' to access this. You can also access information at www.nationalonline.safety.com



There are still people parking in the yellow lines outside of school. Please do not put our children at risk for the sake of a 5 minute walk.



Year 6 recently attended St. Aidan's Bench Ball Festival. The children had a fantastic time competing against three other schools and came away with the winners trophy! Well done everyone.



Durham Tigers took the children to watch a Newcastle Thunder Rugby League game. The children really enjoyed it and went onto the pitch to flag bare for Newcastle Thunder.



Y6 boys' football team took part in a 6-a-side football festival at Eastbourne Sports Complex (19 teams). They won all four of their group games and then played Mowden in the quarter finals, Firthmoor in the semi finals, and the final against Corporation Road winning 4-0. The team performed incredibly well throughout the day, continually showing great teamwork and fantastic sportsmanship: they did themselves and St John's proud deserving their gold medals.

SPORT NEWS



Darlington Storm won 54-32 against East Durham Lions. St John's had 6 children in the team. Olivia Y6 made her debut for the A team playing really well and scoring a basket. Bailey Y6 was the top scorer with 8 baskets.



Head of Steam

Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic afternoon at the 'Head of Steam' railway museum. Our challenge was to build a weight bearing bridge.

Like all good engineers, teams began their task with some research on the shapes and materials of successful bridges by looking around the museum and then got to work. Some followed a design brief while others created designs of their own and all were successful (some more than others!) but we had a brilliant time.



VOLUNTEER

all that's missing is U!

Are you a parent, carer or grandparent with an hour or two to spare each week?

We are looking for volunteers to be a part of our Better Reading Partnership to come in to school and read with our children. If you are interested please call into the main office and speak to Mrs Baker.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Our attendance target is 96.4% and attendance to date is 96.79%.

	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Week 5	99%	95%	97%	97%	99%	97%	98%
Week 6	97%	97%	96%	98%	98%	98%	98%

Bench Painting

Y5 spent an enjoyable afternoon in the Crown Street library this week. We were allowed to choose a book to borrow. This was met with great enthusiasm – and then great frustration because there were so many to choose from! We all took a traditional tale, put a slant on it and then designed a book cover for our story (The Three Pilfering Pigs and The Enormous (and very burnt) Gingerbread Man to name a couple.

However, the best part of all was getting the opportunity to be artists and contribute to the story benches which will be used in the town's library.



DATES FOR DIARIES

1.3.19	Darlington Primary Schools Mayor's Song Contest - 6pm Dolphin Centre
5.3.19	Book Fair 3.20pm until Friday —parents welcome
5.3.19	Year 1 & 2 visit to Beamish - full day
5.3.19	Year 5 & 6 Swimming Gala at the Dolphin Centre 9.30 –12.30pm
7.3.19	Year 2 visit Peter Barron at the Library
8.3.19	Book Character Day - dress up as your favourite book character
12.3.19	Dance Festival
19.3.19	Year 3 & 4 visit to the Jorvik Centre - full day
25.3.19	BIG PEDAL - 2 weeks. Come to school on your bike or scooter.
27.3.19	Bike-it breakfast
28.3.19	Change 4 life at Eastbourne Complex
3.4.19	Open Evening & Afternoon for Y1, Y2 & Y3
4.4.19	Open Afternoon for Y4, Y5 & Y6
5.4.19	Bling Your Bike Day and Year 5 Bike Ride
5.4.19	Break up for Easter Holidays
23.4.19	Tuesday. Return to school