

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.

CELEBRATE STORIES.
LOVE READING.



Book Character

We have had a fantastic 'Book Week' in school which culminated in Dressing-Up Day on Friday. Every year, you

amaze us with your wonderful creativity and imaginative costumes and we really appreciate your hard work – it makes the day a great success. The children have been involved in lots of competitions focused on promoting a love of books and reading including: being a theatre critic; reviewing books



Mastermind



and book quizzes. The finalists took part in our 'Mastermind' Final where they bravely sat in the big, black chair in front of the whole school – well done everyone! A special well done to Toby Riley (Y4) and Heidi (Y2) our joint winners who each received a book from the book fair as a prize.

Our value for the half term is courage. As part of our Collective Worship and class reflection we are looking at courage and courageous people. Being courageous doesn't mean that you are not scared. Many courageous people have been scared but stood up for what was right anyway. Christians believe that when things seem difficult they can rely on God to strengthen their courage.

'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.'
Deuteronomy 31:6

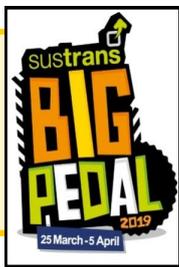


We were all so very proud of our choir who performed at the Mayor's Choir Competition. The children have worked very hard on both their singing and their performance but it was all worth it when the judges described their performance as "dramatic and believable" and said that they really "told the story of the song". We had a fantastic evening watching them and know they have had an experience they will always remember.



As part of their topic work on transport and journeys, Years 1 and 2 visited Beamish museum. They all enjoyed a ride on the open top tram and the old bus. They visited the old town, garage, bank, masonic hall, wagon way, church, school and pit village. Year 2 even went down the mine! They had a fabulous day and learned lots about how transport has changed over the years.





The national Big Pedal event starts **Monday 25th March** for two weeks. Every day children and parents who come to school on their bikes receive a point. For a few years, including last year, we were the winning school in Darlington. We will be offering a free Bike-it Breakfast on Wednesday 27th March for families who come to school on a bicycle, scooter or walk and have pre-booked.

Please encourage the children to wear a safety helmet if using a bike.



As the only school in Darlington (so far!) to achieve Platinum Sports Mark Award, our children know the importance of keeping fit and leading to an active and healthy life. Mr Quinn is challenging all the children to take part in a 30 day challenge, gaining points for every physical activity completed. Children are invited to ask family and friends to sponsor them with the money raised going towards buying a defibrillator for school. The challenge will start on Monday 25th March. Please watch out for future information coming soon.

FAMILY

SAFETY & WELLBEING

4 week course 1 - 3pm in the Community Room

Improve your first aid skills and create a safe environment

Contact the office for further details.



School Uniform Reminder

Please note that children should wear plain, black shoes for school.



Netball Festival

Eight girls attended a Netball Festival at Longfield School on 1st March. The team played friendly matches in the morning and came up against some good opposition. They showed great determination and kept battling which paid off when they got their first win. On the afternoon the team took part in a mini league, playing two



matches resulting in one loss and one draw. The girls had a great day, improving their netball skills and enjoying some competitive games against other schools.



St John's took part in a swimming gala at the Dolphin Centre. The team competed against other schools taking in a variety of races: freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and relay. Everyone had an enjoyable morning cheering each other on and encouraging each other to do well. St Johns were very proud of them. *Reported by Sonny Y5*

Bring in your old (good condition) football boots and swap them for some that fit! (see Mr Quinn)



DATES FOR DIARIES

19.3.19	Year 3 & 4 visit to the Jorvik Centre - full day
21.3.19	Y1 Class Assembly 9am - parents welcome
22.3.16	Y6 Class Assembly 9am - parents welcome
25.3.19	BIG PEDAL - 2 weeks. Cycle, scooter or walk
26.3.16	Y3 Class Assembly 9am - parents welcome
29.3.19	Y2 Class Assembly 9am - parents welcome
27.3.19	Bike-it breakfast - 8.15 to 8.40am (pre-book)
28.3.16	Reception Class Assembly 2.55pm - parents welcome
28.3.19	Change 4 Life at Eastbourne Complex
1.4.19	Bring in your Easter Egg creations! - Judged on Tuesday
3.4.19	Open Evening & Afternoon for Y1, Y2 & Y3
4.4.19	Open Afternoon for Y4, Y5 & Y6
5.4.19	Y5 Class Assembly 9am - parents welcome
5.4.19	Break up for Easter Holidays
23.4.19	Tuesday. Return to school



Mowden Kicking

Congratulations to the children from St John's Academy who have made it through to the final of our Half Time Kicking Competition. Good luck to St John's in the final #MowdenFamily



Early Reminder - Easter Egg Competition

Decorate a hard boiled egg and bring it to school on **Monday 1st or Tuesday 2nd April**. There will be a first and second prize chosen in each class with judging on Tuesday. **Please ensure your child's name and class is clearly written on their decorated egg.**