

Newsletter



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



Lent started on the 26th February (Ash Wednesday) which is the 40 days leading up to Easter when we remember Jesus' time in the desert and the challenges he faced there. Because Jesus didn't eat for 40 days, Christians like to remember this story by giving up something themselves during Lent. Instead of giving something up, we are asking the children to do something for someone else and take the challenge of carrying out 40 acts of kindness. We look forward to hearing all the good deeds the children are doing! As part of our mission we are asking for donations for King's Church Food bank in Darlington which will be gratefully received.



Thinking about the future

Mr Hepple invited our Y6 children to Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form for a tour of the college and to attend a performance given by his music students. We had a great morning and learnt a lot about being a student there: you don't have to pay; you can leave the premises at lunchtime; you can do 'A' levels in all sorts of subjects

even PE and the facilities are amazing. The visit was a great opportunity for the children to think about all the options that they will have when they leave school and some have already expressed an interest in studying for 'A' levels and maybe even going to university. The students gave an excellent performance and were great role models for our children.

Another chapter for St. John's

As from 1st March, we are proud to be part of SaGe Multi Academy Trust with Mrs Janine Gleeson as the Chief Executive Officer. We will be working very closely with St George's Academy in Middleton St George, another outstanding school. This follows our consultation with parents/carers and other stakeholders in the autumn. Nothing will appear to change for children or parents but we are looking forward to reaping the rewards from this exciting partnership.



Mayor's Song Contest

Fourteen children in Year 5 took part in the Mayor's Song Contest last Friday night at the Dolphin Centre. The children performed 'Helpless' from the musical 'Hamilton' in front of an audience of hundreds. We are so proud of the children who gave up their time and put 100% into the performance - they sang with such confidence and passion. We hope to perform the song again at our class assembly in a couple of weeks.



Mayor for the Day

Our Y6 children recently entered a town writing competition to become Junior Mayor or Mayoress for the day, open to all Y6 children across Darlington. The entries were superb and filled with wonderful suggestions about how the children would like to make a difference to their local community; they were passionate and very persuasive. We were absolutely delighted when Hannah won - what a fantastic day she had

Hannah's report

I had a brilliant time. The Mayor's (councillor Nick Wallis) driver came to my house to pick me up! A boy from another school was also chosen to be Mayor for the day and we were told we were the first Junior Mayor's for 10 years. We went to the CCTV centre and played around with the camera, visited Abbeyfield Care Home and played scrabble with residents, had a tour of the Police Station (including the cells!) and went backstage at the Hippodrome. There were lots of treats and we were made to feel very special.

You can see Hannah's winning letter on the website in the Y6 class page and full report of the day can be found on the Northern Echo website.

YOGA MIKE

This week the Early Years children enjoyed their first yoga session with 'YogaMike'. The children thoroughly enjoyed their session where they listened carefully, copied actions and had some calm time to focus on their breathing. We hope the children will show improvement in these areas over the next 6 weeks and also develop their physical skills.



Whole school attendance is 96.02% nearly meeting our target of 96.4%. Hospital appointments are difficult to arrange out of school time but please support us by arranging other appointments out of school hours. Well done to every class last week as they all achieved target and earned 5 minutes extra playtime.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Week 1	98%	99%	97%	98%	100%	99%	99%



Theatre Visit

Our annual Book Week got off to an excellent start on Friday with a performance of 'Robin Hood' by Image Musical Theatre Group.

We spent the morning watching sword fights, archery tournaments and some devious trickery and contributed with lots of singing,

booing and cheering. The children were enthralled and it was a lovely introduction to a classic text. We hope that it will inspire the children to read more of Robin Hood's Adventures in Sherwood Forest.

Don't forget Dress up as your favourite book character is this Friday 6th March - another day we all thoroughly enjoy - as usual there will be competitions all aimed at promoting the love of reading including Our big competition to dress a potato as a book character! We can't wait.



Well done to Annabelle and Amelia (Y4) for passing their First Aid qualification. An amazing achievement and such useful

knowledge to have.

Another well done to Archie (Y2) who has adopted a puppy who will grow up trained to help a blind person.

Archie, Annabelle and Amelia's good deeds will be displayed on our 'Making a difference' board.

Maybe you have done something for the community. If so let us know.

DATES FOR DIARIES

2.3.20	Book Week
2.3.20	Y5 Girls' Football Festival 9.30 - 2.30pm
4.3.20	EYFS Yoga 9.45 - 10.45am (6 weeks)
5.3.20	Y3 Library visit 9.30am
6.3.20	Book Character Dress Up Day
10.3.20	Darlington Dance Festival at the Hippodrome Theatre
12.3.20	Y6 'Safety Carousel' N. Aycliffe - full day
12.3.20	Y5 Boys' Football Festival 9.30 - 3.30pm
19.3.20	Y5 Class Assembly 9am - parents welcome
26.3.20	Parents Open Evening
26.3.20	Y3 'Maps and Mapping'
30.3.20	Bring in your Easter Egg creation for the competition
31.3.20	Y6 Head of Steam - Phorensics & mystery writing
1.4.20	Y5 'Maps and Mapping'
2.4.20	Y3/4 Chang4Life Festival 9.30 - 12noon
3.4.20	Y6 Football Festival pm. at St. Aidan's
3.4.20	Break up for Easter
20.4.20	Return to school