

Newsletter

17th March 2020
Issue 165



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



Amazing!

Time stood still as our amazing dancers took to the stage at the Hippodrome to perform in the annual Darlington Primary Dance Festival. Over the last few weeks, two children from Year 4 and the rest from Year 6 have been rehearsing an amazing routine to music about 'Time', including Dr Who, Rock around the Clock, Let's do the time walk and many more time related songs. St John's energetic performance wowed everyone in the Hippodrome and school. We are so proud of you all and many thanks to Mrs Penteney who works tirelessly to bring out the very best in our children.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We have had a fantastic 'Book Week' in school which culminated in Dressing-Up Day. 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 including; making a potato book character and book quizzes. The finalists from KS1 and KS2 took part in Mrs Brown's '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 Aaron Y6 who won Mastermind and received a £5 book token. All children have access to on-line reading resources: Y1 have Oxford Owl, Y2 to Y5 use Reading Eggs and Y6 Read Theory.



Winners of the 'Potato Book Character'



Winners and runners-up of the 'Best Book Character'



Mastermind Book Challenge



Due to the current situation regarding COVID-19, **we are postponing all class assemblies and our parent/teacher consultations.** Please be reassured we are doing everything we can to help prevent the spread of this virus. We have added to our website some very useful links to keep all children up to date with their learning. These links can be found on at the top of our home page with a button that will take you to their relevant Key Stage. A separate letter is attached to this newsletter.



The Great Train Journey

Reception had a fantastic time on their trip to Head of Steam. They travelled there on the train and compared this new train to the old trains they saw when they got there. They



had fun exploring the museum, listening to the story “The Train Ride” whilst sitting in an old carriage, making their own train tickets and pretending to be conductors. They all really enjoyed their afternoon.

Inspirational People

As part of their PSHE Year 1 held an assembly to demonstrate all they have learnt about injustice. Their chosen topic was about a black lady in the 50's who refused to give up her seat on the bus for a white person, her name was Rosa Parks. She as well as Martin Luther King were instrumental in changing the discrimination shown to black people in the USA and eventually around the world.

Year 1 re-enacted the whole story which led to the monumental event. Well done Year 1, you certainly taught us a lot about being kind, compassionate and standing up for what is right.



As part of their PSHE, Year 6 took part in a safety carousel organized by 'Safer Futures'. Throughout the day they took part in different workshops including Northern Grid advising

how to be safe near electricity pylons, not playing near or on electric sub stations and railway lines. NHS showed the children how to administer CPR, the Fire Service showed the dangers around the home which could cause fires and played a team buzzer game to reinforce the message. The Road Safety Team set a scene, using dummies, of a car/cycle accident and asked the children to work out what went wrong and how to prevent this from happening to them. RHLI showed Year 6 the dangers of playing near water and how to avoid danger and Durham Police enforced the importance of cyber safety. The children now have an excellent knowledge about keeping themselves safe—ask them some questions!



Whole school attendance is 96.15% narrowly missing 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%
Week 2	99%	99%	98%	99%	93%	94%	99%
Week 3	98%	98%	97%	97%	96%	97%	99%



DATES FOR DIARIES

26.3.20	Y3 'Maps and Mapping'
30.3.20	Bring in your Easter Egg creation for the competition
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