

## Newsletter

01  
11th September 2020



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



It is truly wonderful to welcome **all** the children back to school and see lots of happy smiling faces again. It is amazing how quickly the children have adapted to the safety measures around school. A special welcome to our new Reception Class, Emilia (Y6) and Filip (Y5). Usually, we would be welcoming parents into school to meet new teachers but that is not possible at the moment. You will receive a letter from your child's class teacher today, outlining what they will be learning this term along with key information. Normally we would say 'our door is always open' however that is not the case at present due to Covid-19, however don't hesitate to ring if you have any queries or problems.



Reception Class

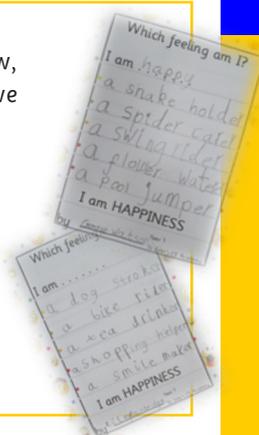


### We are super poets and now we know it!

We were delighted to receive an email from Aly Raw, Darlington Sports Partnership, about the poems we wrote about 'What is happiness?'

Aly wrote, 'Many thanks for entering our cultural Poetry competition. We loved reading all your poems and they made us smile! Please thank all the children in school who took part.'

We are thrilled that our Year 1 entries won **HIGHLY COMMENDED** in the KS1 section each of the 10 winners won a prize and certificate. Very well done



to you all! What a super start to the new year.



We will try our best to offer some after school provision although it will be limited to 'class bubbles' where as previously children from different year groups could mix. We will be starting two Multi Sports Clubs from next week Monday 14th September for Year 4 and Thursday 17th for Year 5. The clubs will run from 3.20pm with children to be collected at 4.20pm. These two groups were chosen first as they were the classes with the most children wishing to commit to coming to a club. We will be offering every year group from Y1 - Y6 an opportunity to come to a club this term where possible.

Storm Basketball Club hold free training sessions for girls on a Tuesday night 4.30-5.30pm. If you are in Year 3 and are interested please see Mr Quinn.



We have an exciting opportunity for a parent to join our fantastic team of Governors at St John's. Our Governors play a key role in the strategic leadership of the school and raising standards including appointing staff, overseeing the budget and monitoring the curriculum. You don't need any experience as training will be provided, just a passion to make a difference. There is more information on our website (select 'Our School' and then select 'Academy Trust').

You can also email our Chair of Governors Mrs Valerie Cadd:

[vcadd@stjohnsceaacademy.co.uk](mailto:vcadd@stjohnsceaacademy.co.uk) or ring the office to speak to Miss Large for an informal chat or more information. Applications need to be received by 25th September.

**GET INVOLVED!**



We would like to welcome Miss Megan Wright to St. John's.



Megan is our new Sport's Apprentice and will be working along side Mr Quinn teaching children physical exercise and getting fit!



School Uniform Exchange is a shop in Darlington where you can pick up free, good quality uniform, including warm coats for the winter. At school we have a good supply of donated uniform. But if you have uniform to donate the Exchange Shop would be very grateful to receive it.

### WARNING

There is a report going round the media and tabloid press that a video is circulating on Tik-Tok of a man committing suicide (he shoots himself with a gun). Apparently the video was taken from a live stream that was first uploaded to Facebook who took it down, but before they did many people had downloaded and shared it. It was then uploaded to Instagram and Tik-Tok and now the original video has also been edited a number of times by others and that is being shared now as well. For example users are editing the video into innocent looking videos.

As well as the suicide video Tik-Tok users are sharing warning videos about what to do if you come across the video. While these video's intensions are good it can encourage people, particular young people to do the opposite as curiosity takes over.

Here are some good links with regards to Tik-Tok.

- <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/tik-tok-app-safety-what-parents-need-to-know/> - The link contains information about the app and how to set security settings and parental controls.
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/social-media-concerns/> - Useful and practical information about social media concerns
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/> - App guides

### Do you have any unwanted school uniform items you could donate?



The School Uniform Exchange is a Darlington based initiative that recycles good quality school uniform.

Please follow Darlington Cares social media for more information...

Facebook.com/Darlingtoncares @Darlingtoncares

#### Drop off points:

- Crown Street Library - Monday - Saturday
- In a Spin Laundry Services, North Road - Monday - Friday 9-4pm
- Firthmoor Community Centre - Monday - Friday 9-1pm
- Mount Pleasant School - Tuesdays 11.30-1.30pm
- Corporation Road School - Wednesdays 12.30-2.30pm
- Cockerton Club - Monday - Friday 10.30-2.30pm
- BHP Law (West Auckland Rd) - Monday - Friday - 9-4pm
- Conmill Centre - Monday 17th and Friday 21st Aug 10-2pm
- Red Hall School - Thursdays 11.30-1.30pm
- Lovely Laundry (West Auckland Rd) - Monday-Friday 9-5pm, Saturday 9-1pm
- The Railway Athletic - Saturday and Sunday 2-11pm, Friday and Tuesday 6-11pm

#### We need donations of:

- Polo Shirts
- Shirts
- Jumpers
- Cardigans
- Blazers
- Trousers
- School Shorts
- Skirts
- Dresses
- Any school items really...

### PERSONAL DETAILS



It is essential that we keep children's contact details up to date for health and safety. Please inform us immediately if you change your telephone number, address or if your child has any change in their medical requirements. You can email Mrs Williams: swilliams@stjohnsceaacademy.co.uk



Many thanks to parent for your cooperation in keeping our children and community safe. It has really helped reduce congestion with that lots of Year 5 and Year 6 children now meeting parents outside of school or going home themselves. Thank you

Please remember:

- Only **one** adult should be dropping off children and picking them up.
- Drop off and pick up your child at their allocated time.



St John's recognises the importance of good attendance for effective learning and therefore giving our children the best possible chance in life. 96%+ is the benchmark for good attendance.

Normally, 'Leave of Absence' would only be granted in 'exceptional circumstances' in line with government policy.

**It is particularly important that parents consider requests for 'Leave of Absence' carefully as children have lost so much education this year. Requests for absence over 5 days or in September, which is a key time for the children settling in, will not be granted.**

A copy of our Attendance Policy is on our website under 'Parent/Carers' - 'Useful Information'.



Please can we ask that parents collecting children from Year 1, 2 or 4 at the end of the yard stand in their designated area from Monday. This is because staff are finding it very difficult to spot parents when they are all mixed up. Hopefully it will speed things up too. Thank you for your cooperation.



In order to reduce paper going home, a Newsletter will be posted on our website under 'NEWS' and on Facebook every Monday.

#### DATES FOR DIARIES

Friday 23.10.20	Half term holiday
Monday 2.11.20	Return to school
Friday 18.12.20	Break up for Christmas Celebrations
Tuesday 5.1.21	Return to school
Friday 12.2.21	Half term holiday
Monday 22.2.21	Return to school

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Week 1	X	96.5%	98%	100%	100%	100%	96%
Week 2		92%	96%	96%	98%	99%	95%