



# Newsletter

02  
18th September 2020



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



Christian Values are at the centre of everything we do at St. John's. Each half term we focus on a different Christian Value. This is done explicitly through Collective Worship time and also throughout our Curriculum. Children have regular opportunities to reflect on each value to deepen their understanding. Our Christian Value this half term is 'Hope'. St John's Gospel says, 'The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it' 1:5. Throughout His life, Jesus gave hope to others and the resurrection of Jesus shows that evil can never ultimately triumph over love.

At St John's we share in the joy that comes from the belief that there is always hope and all is never lost. Hope is an attitude of mind that we develop through faith in God and each other. At St John's this helps us to keep going even when things get tough and we face new challenges. This is certainly the case during this difficult time we are all facing!



Many thanks to Morrison's who very kindly gave staff a hamper full of break time treats; a gift to say thank you for supporting children and parents throughout lockdown and a welcome back to school. A big thank you to all our parents who are key workers in shops - you do an amazing job!

## DEMOCRACY in ACTION

It was International Democracy Week on Tuesday. The children have been asked to consider putting themselves forward for the important role of School Councillor to represent their class views and attend meetings in the aim of making St John's even better! Classes will be holding secret ballots next week to choose their representatives.



Year 5 had a fantastic time being astronomers and learning about the relative sizes of and the distances between the planets this week - using toilet rolls! With 1 sheet = 10 million km (as the scale) they discovered that even on that scale we couldn't get the Sun and Pluto together on our school field. Reeghan described the distances as 'immense'. They are certainly difficult to imagine.

## [Darlington's 2020-21 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment](#)

Darlington Borough Council has a statutory duty to 'secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 or up to 18 for disabled young people'. It is important that families can access good quality, affordable and accessible childcare in the borough should they wish to use it.

Part of the local authority's duty involves conducting an annual assessment (Childcare Sufficiency Assessment) of the local early years education and childcare market. As you can imagine, the pandemic has created great uncertainties for families linked to security of employment and changes in employment patterns and family routines. We would therefore like to give as many parents/carers as possible the opportunity to comment on the local childcare market and their requirements from this market. With this in mind, please could you ensure that your parents/carers are made aware of the link below where they can find the latest parental childcare survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/20SPV3Q>

The survey will be open from the 10<sup>th</sup> September to the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The CSA will be available to view on-line from mid-January 2021.

Many thanks for your help with this matter. If you have any queries about the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, you can contact Nicola Davies, Early Years Projects Officer at [nicola.davies@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.davies@darlington.gov.uk) or phone 07824 457747.

*Let's celebrate!* We are so sad that we can't invite parents to our weekly Friday Celebration Worship where we celebrate those children who have achieved over and above. So we have decided to include this as a feature of our weekly Newsletter.



# SUPER LEARNER



Week ending: 18th September 2020

<b>Rec</b>	Amelia Rose Smith, for trying hard to always use her listening ears.
	Elijah Davies, for trying hard to always use his listening ears.
<b>Year 1</b>	Collins Uzodinma– For reading lots of Rising Stars books during lockdown 70
	Joshua Johnston– For reading lots of Rising Stars books during lockdown 57
<b>Year 2</b>	Joey Johnson— For showing fantastic enthusiasm for his home learning during lockdown.
	Noah Henderson—For a fantastic effort with all of his learning since returning to school.
<b>Year 3</b>	Samuel Cox, for always trying his hardest and producing some super independent work.
	Olivia Mae Williams, for being an excellent learning role model.
<b>Year 4</b>	Joshua Cooper, for fantastic enthusiasm and contributions in every lesson.
	Sophie Johnston, for fantastic enthusiasm and contributions in every lesson.
<b>Year 5</b>	Reeghan Oxley, for a conscientious approach to all aspects of learning. Superb!
	Aiden Nicholson, for consistently joining his writing all week. Keep it up Aiden!

DATES FOR DIARIES	
<b>Friday 23.10.20</b>	Half term holiday
<b>Monday 2.11.20</b>	Return to school
<b>Friday 18.12.20</b>	Break up for Christmas Celebrations
<b>Tuesday 5.1.21</b>	Return to school
<b>Friday 12.2.21</b>	Half term holiday
<b>Monday 22.2.21</b>	Return to school

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Week 3	95.9%	98.6%	96.3%	99.3%	97.7%	99.7%	92%



Whole school attendance is 97.11% well done!