



## Newsletter

Issue 28  
25th June 2021



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

### ORIENTEERING

Year 4 and 5 were lucky to have the opportunity to go to Eastbourne sports complex this week and develop their orienteering skills. They met some fantastic coaches who compete professionally and were able to inspire the children with how they were able to reach a professional level. The children took part in some warm up activities which helped to develop their map reading skills. Shortly after, the children were sent off in pairs around the complex armed with their maps. They did a wonderful job and the staff at Eastbourne were blown away with their team work, determination and independent problem solving skills and even said that they were the best well behaved group they had taught! Well done everyone, you did yourselves proud and were fantastic ambassadors for St John's.



Archie in Year 3 has been exploring the Maidendale Nature Reserve, but was disappointed to see how much litter there was. With the help of his mum, he decided to volunteer to do some litter picking! He worked really hard and collected lots of litter. Well done Archie for doing your bit for the environment!



Year 2 also enjoyed Orienteering in their PE lesson. Using maps of school, they were able to locate each marker and log it onto their sheet. They had so much fun and were able to find and complete every square. Well done year 2!



### Parental Survey

Every year our governors seek your views on how our school is performing - what is going well and areas we need to improve. Your child will be bringing home a survey next week which we would be very grateful if you could complete and return as soon as possible. Many thanks for your cooperation.





## Born to be wild!

Year 6 continued their work on the wildlife area this week. Before the weekend, they planted some wildflower seeds in pots and left them in the greenhouse for the weekend. As predicted, they germinated and were ready for planting on Tuesday. Wildflowers are essential for pollinating insects and areas of English wildflowers have reduced hugely in the last century so every little helps. Here you can see Year 6 creating a sign to mark the wildflower garden.



We have been lucky enough to be selected as one of 500 schools to win £1000 of football

equipment in the Monster Kickabout prize draw! Monster Kickabout is an initiative designed by Sports Direct and Nike, aimed at getting as many children as possible playing the beautiful game having spent the last year on the sidelines due to COVID. Our prize included a full class set of Nike balls, training equipment and an electric ball pump! We're looking forward to participating in lots of football skill development games and creative activities as part of Monster Kickabout week!



# SUPER LEARNERS

Week ending: **25th June 2021**



<b>Rec</b>	Charlotte Williams—for working independently with growing confidence. Well done!
	Sienna Croft—for writing “Tricky Words” independently.
<b>Year 1</b>	Freddie McLaine– being a super Year 1 reader, writer and counter.
	Josie Potter– for making good choices at school and at home.
<b>Year 2</b>	Carson Doyle—for always displaying a fantastic attitude to learning.
	Louie Todd—for making great progress with his arithmetic skills.
<b>Year 3</b>	Jackson Hasselby—for amazing resilience, independence and confidence which has meant that he has achieved a score to be really proud of in his reading assessment!
	Olivia Ann Williams—for being such a fantastic ambassador for St John's during her pedestrian training. Her lovely manners and excellent attitude were noted by all of the instructors!
<b>Year 4</b>	Stuart Britton— for his outstanding determination this week when learning some tricky grammar.
	Logan Wheelhouse— for his brilliant commitment to improving his handwriting, it is looking brilliant!
<b>Year 5</b>	Kai Briscoe— for a super set of results this assessment week—your hard work has paid off Kai!
	Keira Neesam—for a superb result in her Maths assessment and her fantastic participation in class discussions—well done Keira!
<b>Year 6</b>	Toby Riley—Achieving fantastic results in his assessments. You have worked so hard to ensure you achieved your best.
	Kaelyn McGee—Fantastic progress in her assessments. You deserve to be very proud of yourself.

This half term our Christian Value is ‘compassion’ and Year 5 have been demonstrating this. In PSHE, they have been learning about Dementia and how it affects the brain. They have also learnt how to help someone with Dementia and how to support families who have relatives with Dementia. For all their hard work and efforts, they have been awarded badges by the Alzheimer's Society and are now recognised as Dementia Friends.

## Christian Values in Action



<b>EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Y1</b>	<b>Y2</b>	<b>Y3</b>	<b>Y4</b>	<b>Y5</b>	<b>Y6</b>
<b>Week 3</b>	96.5%	95.9%	96.6%	95%	97.7%	97.2%	91.1%

Unfortunately, the children have missed so much school during the pandemic which has had an impact on many of the children. It is essential that unless children are poorly or needing to self-isolate, that they are in school every day and on time. Requests for leave of absence will not be granted unless there are ‘exceptional’ circumstances - holidays are not exceptional circumstances. Thank you for your cooperation.

# Get active outdoors!



**Helping to maintain good health requires smart lifestyle choices, will power, and hard work.**

A healthy diet and regular exercise have been medically proven to help us live healthier lives, reducing the risk of heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, breast and colon cancer as well as boost low mood and help improve sleep quality and concentration levels.

There are many ways to move more – take the stairs rather than the lift, walk rather than drive or catch the bus. Lovely parks and open spaces; great walking and cycle routes and a new indoor bowling alley are in easy reach, so why not get those trainers on, embrace the healthy you and move more to reap the health benefits?

Children benefit from moving more too. Playing, walking, running, jumping, dancing, riding bikes and scooters\* all help to improve behaviour, attention levels, self-confidence, social skills, health and fitness, mood, sleep and maintain a healthy weight and strengthen muscles and bones.

## Free children's summer activities!

Free sports and games for children aged 8-12 years are coming to a field near you!

Whether it's a game of rounders, a kick about or trying some team challenges free summer fun activities are on offer during the summer holiday (Mon 19 July – Friday 27 August).

Check out the timetable below to find the nearest location to you. All activities are free and will run at the same time each week for the full school summer holidays. There's no need to book, just turn up and join in but please make sure you wear suitable clothing and footwear and bring a bottle of water.

	10am-noon	1-3pm
Monday	Lingfield Green	Skerne Park football pitches
Tuesday	Firthmoor – opposite community centre	Red Hall – grassed area near community centre
Wednesday	Albert Hill – next to play area	Field opposite Hummersknott School
Thursday	Dene's field – near Tennis courts	North Lodge Park
Friday	West Park - near Comets Garth entrance	Springfield Park

If you have loved the Euros, or maybe the Olympics are inspiring you to try something new, check out the Move More webpage [www.darlington.gov.uk/movemorejourney](http://www.darlington.gov.uk/movemorejourney) to find details of fun activities. For health information visit [www.changeforlife](http://www.changeforlife) and [www.nhs.uk/live-well](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well)

\*safety helmets are recommended