

# St. John's Church of England Academy



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Chair of Governors: Mrs V Cadd



## Newsletter

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



### Mythical Performance

Year 3 were so excited to share their learning from the Spring term with their families and friends and what an entertaining performance it was! Their topic 'The Vikings' sparked the children's curiosity and led their learning in a range of subjects including design and technology and English, with a wonderful performance of a Viking myth. In class they enjoyed

completing many different science investigations, reflecting on sadness and joy in the Easter story and having debates about zoos.



Our football captains invited local business 'Crusty's' to our Achievement Assembly to present a framed shirt as thank you for buying a new football strip for our girls' team. Our partnership with local business and the community of Lascelles is very important to us.

Thank you once again Crusty's for your generosity.

Our girls' team wore their new kit last Friday and won the match!



Well done to all Year 6 who worked so hard leading up to their National Tests last week. We hope you have a fun time next week in Seahouses.

Thank you to all those families who have been sending in Sainsbury's vouchers; Taylor (Y4) managed to bring in an impressive 5,000! (Please check if you have any more at home and send them in asap). The School Council will soon have the exciting task of spending them!



Good luck to all the children who are performing in the Mass Dance on Saturday 20th May in the Market Place at 1pm. We hope the sun shines!



Due to warmer days the children are taking off their jumpers at break times. Unfortunately we now have a mountain of unclaimed jumpers. Please can we once again ask you to make sure **all your child's uniform is named**. Any unclaimed uniform will be disposed of at the end of our first week back.

### HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS

We break up next Friday (26th May) and the **children do not return to school until Wednesday 7th June**. Governors planned this to give parents a little more freedom for holidays. Please note leave of absence will not be granted unless there are 'exceptional' circumstances. We hope you have a lovely half term break.

## Response to Parental Survey

Following feedback from our Parental survey (September 2016) Governors identified that Parents and Carers would like the school to operate a texting service to help with communication, for example when a club has to be cancelled and an online payment service.

St John's will shortly be launching **Parentpay** which is an online payment and communication service allowing school meals to be paid for online and also the ability for the school to communicate with parents electronically via text and email.

### What does ParentPay do?

- Enables you to pay for School meals and other items such as school trips.
  - Offers a highly secure payment site
  - Gives you a history of all the payments you have made
  - Allows you to create a single account login across all your children that attend a ParentPay school
  - Shows you all items available for payment relevant to each of your children
  - Emails a receipt of your payment to the email address you register
- Offers you the ability to set automated email/SMS payment reminders
- ### How does ParentPay help you?
- Gives you the freedom to make payments to school whenever and wherever you like
  - Stops you having to write cheques or search for cash to send to school
  - Gives you peace of mind that your payment has been made safely and securely
  - Helps with budgeting: payments are immediate, there is no waiting for cheques to clear
  - Payments for many of the larger trips can be made by instalments up to the due date
  - You will never need miss a payment, or have insufficient credit, with automated email/SMS alerts
- ParentPay is quick and easy to use

### How does ParentPay help our school?

- Reduces the administrative time spent on banking procedures
  - Keeps accurate records of payments made to every service for every student
  - Payments do not bounce
  - Reduces paper 'waste'
  - Allows for easy and quick refunds to be made back to the payment card
  - Improves communication between the school and parents concerning payments
  - Offers a more efficient payment collection process, reducing the amount of money held on school premises
- Helps us improve school-home communication with its integrated email/SMS messaging centre

### How do I get started?

We will shortly send you an activation letter containing your activation details to enable you to set up your ParentPay account.

If you have more than one child at a ParentPay school/s you can add them to a single account, providing one login for all children at ParentPay schools.

For more information please visit [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)

