



Newsletter

Issue 05
9th October 2020



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

Collective Worship in the classroom from the Durham Diocese Growing Faith initiative



We have been thinking about why we are special in our classroom collective worship. We listened to the story of Moses and talked about how Moses was worried he wasn't good enough to complete the task he was given, but that God and his people believed in him and loved him unconditionally. We then thought about why we are special and who loves us. We had a great time dancing and singing to the 'i-sing' POP hymn.



We are very proud to have achieved a gold Green Tree Schools Award for our commitment to promoting outdoor learning and inspiring our pupils to learn more about trees, woods and wildlife. Mrs McAdam has championed our journey working closely with our local Woodland Trust. The children have enjoyed making a difference to our school grounds working with Darlington Forest Project to plant new trees and willow domes. All the children have been involved, including Nursery who dressed trees to celebrate Remembrance Day, Year 1 who planted new hedging, Year 5 who worked with Councillor Darrien to clean up backstreets and alleyways and our after school Nature Club created wonderful art work in our Forest School. We are also very grateful to Mr Riley, a tree surgeon and one of our parents, who made us some wonderful benches and toadstools seating for our Forest School area. We are looking forward to continuing our journey promoting the importance of woodland, exploring wildlife and making a difference to our world.



♪ 'Do the Locomotion with... Year 6!' ♪

LOOK NORTH

Year 6's project on the history of the railways continued to steam ahead this morning. We had visitors from Head of Steam, The Northern Echo and BBC Look North who took photos, filmed and interviewed children about the 'Save the Loco' campaign. Watch BBC Look North tonight and for the next few days to see if St. John's feature and definitely buy the Northern Echo tomorrow to see what the children have been doing! We will update you next week!



Uke Can Do It!

Keira in Year 5 blew Mr. Ramsay away with her ukulele playing during the school closure. She listened to, and learnt, the songs from Mr. Ramsay's lessons and sent videos of herself playing. For her incredible effort and commitment to music, Keira earned a Blue Peter badge designed by Ed Sheeran! Well done Keira and keep up the good work!



Home Learning Superstar!

Well done and thank you to Rosie who completed a huge amount of work during the school closure. We are very impressed with everything she has achieved and how she used the opportunity to learn lots of new things. You are an example to others Rosie. Keep up the good work!



Tomorrow is World Mental Health Day. We are supporting the "Hello Yellow" campaign to promote positive mental health and wellbeing for all the children and staff. We all wore yellow bow ties and the children participated in emotional and well being activities throughout the day.

Health & Safety



Unfortunately the number of people with coronavirus is increasing rapidly and it is essential that we all do our best to keep each other safe. We have lots of measures in school to keep the children and staff as safe as possible in their bubbles.

Please help us by remembering:

- Parents are not permitted to park in the car park or walk through it at any time.
- To keep your pick up and drop off times to avoid congestion in the yard. (Some parents are arriving too soon and some too late).
- Keep to the one way gate system - it is essential to try and keep your distance from other people not in your family bubble.
- Only 1 parent should be pickup/drop off children.
- If you have young children with you they should be supervised at all times; playing on the Climbing Frame is not permitted.
- If you wear a mask to pick up your children (sensible since infection is rising rapidly) please ensure you don't accidentally drop it - our caretaker is having to pick them up.



Thank you for all the generous donations for harvest. We will be collecting until Friday 16th October.



SUPER LEARNER

Week ending: 9th October 2020



Rec	Ryan Preston— for working hard on his letter formation.
	Samuel Stelmach—for working hard on his letter formation.
Year 1	Sophia McKue – for super spelling.
	Blake Weir – for explaining <, > and = to the class
Year 2	Harrison Smith—enthusiastic and thoughtful contributions to our PSHE work on friendships.
	Adele Grzywaczewska— for excellent contributions to our science lessons this week.
Year 3	Toby Sutcliffe—for excellent participation and contributions in science lessons.
	Jamie Teasdale—for excellent effort and perseverance in maths.
Year 4	Darcy I'Anson—for excellent participation during English lessons and sharing her wonderful ideas confidently with the class.
	Thomas Applewhite—for always being a conscientious learner and using outstanding vocabulary.
Year 5	Max Watson—for participation in after school clubs and showing excellent sportsmanship.
	Sydney Harrison— for a super learning attitude and brilliant work in maths.
Year 6	Georgie Taylor— Always approaching every task with 100% effort. I couldn't
	Aleksander Dye—For having a wonderful personality. You are kind, hard working and the most polite child I know.

ATTENDANCE

Our overall attendance is 96.5%. Leave of Absence will only be granted in **exceptional** circumstances and definitely not to travel abroad as children can miss even more education if they need to self-isolate when they return. Please consider the effect on your child's education before requesting Leave of Absence - thank you.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Week 5	93%	96%	90%	99%	96%	97%	95%

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