

St. John's Church of England Academy



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Newsletter

11th November 2016

Issue 100

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



Our Sustainable Stars!



Last month our Sustainable Travel Ambassadors travelled to Leeds to receive a Gold Modeshift Star Award. This accolade takes a great deal of hard work and commitment to achieve. The children monitored the traffic and parking outside of school resulting in our 'Park and Stride' scheme which encourages those who are brought to school by car to park further away from the school gates and walk to school. Our team came second in the regional final! Well done to you all.



Mrs Honeyman will be retiring at Christmas after a sterling service of 37 years at St. Johns! She will be greatly missed but she is looking forward to gardening, sewing and planning her son's wedding! We wish her a long and happy retirement. Mrs McAdam

has been appointed as replacement; to ensure excellent transition is in place for the continuity of the children's progress, she is working alongside Mrs Honeyman.



CHILDREN IN NEED & BRIGHTER BIKER DAY



Friday **18th November**, we are inviting the children to dress up in something bright that they would be easily seen in, on a dark morning, to promote safe cycling. Alternatively, children could wear spots as it is Children in Need Day; we will be grateful for any donations. **Please do not buy anything special to wear, anything that is brightly coloured or spotty will be fine.**

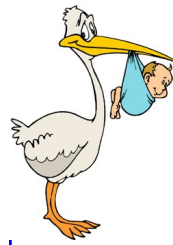
'Evening of Performance Art'

Our after school poetry club, run by Mr Boyd, have been working hard writing poems on all sorts of topics and would like to invite you to their performance at school on **22nd November at 6pm**. Tickets are available at a cost of £1.



Inspiring Author

Author, Neil Bushnell, paid a visit to Y5 this week. Neil read some very entertaining extracts from his book 'Sorrowline' and answered lots of insightful questions about being an author, creating characters and developing a plot. He was very impressed with the high quality questions and left us some signed copies of his book for the library.



Congratulations to Mr Ramsay who will be on Paternity leave from Monday 14th November for two weeks. We hope that everything goes well and look forward to hearing all about the new baby.

Mr Ramsay has planned all the work and the class will be covered by existing staff.



Christmas Performance Announcement

Christmas is looming very quickly! Please note the dates and times of the Christmas festivities. The EYFS (Nursery and Reception) and Key Stage 1 (Y1 & 2) will be performing Nativity plays. This year Key Stage 2 classes will be giving a performance for parents during the day, similar to our Harvest Celebration and not a large production with Year 6. Year 6 will not miss out on doing a large production though as they will be performing an extravaganza in the summer term.

Safety First!

Year 6 had a fantastic day at the Safety Carousel in Newton Aycliffe. The purpose of the day was to become more aware about how to keep themselves safe as part of the PSHCE curriculum. The children learnt about: Fire safety; staying safe on the internet; rules for staying safe when on the roads; the dangers of electricity; safety around water and also some of the basics of first aid. The workshops were very useful and the children gained a great deal from the experience.



All Creatures Great and Small

On Thursday 3rd November, as part of their topic work on the Deep Dark Woods, Y1 and Y2 enjoyed an exciting visit from Kirkleatham Owl Sanctuary. The children learnt about a variety of animals, their habitats, diets and behaviours. They listened carefully, asked lots of interesting questions and even got to stroke and hold the animals including a barn owl, bearded dragon, corn snake and even two rats called Mince Pie and Mistletoe. The children have written some wonderful reports on the animals.



Mrs Brown will be working with the choir from next week to prepare for presenting at the Christmas Fayre at St. John's Church and entertaining at The Lawns.

Dates for Diaries

14.11.16	Anti - Bullying Week
18.11.16	Children in Need Day  ghter Biker Day
22.11.16	School Photographer
26.11.16	St. John's Church Fair 11am - 2pm - Choir performing
6.12.16	Year 2 Christmas Journey at St. John's Church
13.12.16	Christmas Lunch
13.12.16	Christmas Performance Y5 & Y6 at 9.15 am
14.12.16	Christmas Performances - EYFS at 10.30am - Y3 & Y4 at 9.10 am - Y1 & Y2 at 2.50pm
15.12.16	Christmas Party for Y1 & Y2 morning
15.12.16	Christingle Service - 2pm everyone welcome at St. John's Church
16.12.16	EYFS Christmas Party - morning
16.12.16	KS2 Christmas Party - afternoon
16.12.16	Break up for Christmas
3.1.17	Return to school



School Photographer Reminder

May we remind you that the photographer will be in school Tuesday 22nd November. A letter has been sent out giving further details. Thank you.