



Newsletter

Easter Celebrations

Year 6 produced a very poignant film depicting the Easter Story. We couldn't help but shed a tear - we so miss all our school family being able to sing together. The film is available to watch on the school website by clicking [here](#) and will also be available on the school Facebook page.



Our Reception Class re-enacted the events of Palm Sunday (this Sunday)

which commemorates the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-9), when palm branches were placed in His path, before His arrest and crucifixion on Good Friday (April 2nd). This marks the final week of Lent. Your child will be coming home today with a Palm Cross to remind us of this very special time in the Christian Calendar.



We hope you have a lovely Easter Break and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 12th April.

*Dear God
Be with us as we think about all that has changed this year,
And help us to trust that you are always with us.
Be close to us so we remember those who have died,
And help us to trust they are at peace with you.
Show us how to reach out to others with kindness and care,
So that hope shines out in every heart and every home,
Amen.*



It is hard to believe that a whole year has passed since the start of the first lockdown and so many things have changed in the world. Marie Curie encouraged us all to reflect and Year 4 created some wonderful daffodils at home to remember all those who have been impacted by the virus and to show their support to those still suffering or grieving a loved one.

Virtual Dance Festival

Year 1 have had the most super time and worked so hard learning a Ballet dance with Mrs Penteney and Miss Tunstall. The children participated in a virtual dance festival with other schools in Darlington. Everyone did a super job and looked fabulous in their costumes for the final performance to a piano version of 'When you wish Upon a Star'. You can view the dance on our Facebook page or Class Dojo and our webpage.



**BE PROUD
OF YOUR
MOUTH**



As a school we place a high priority on promoting dental health in our curriculum. This week all classes have promoted good dental health to support the 'Be Proud of your Mouth' slogan for World Oral Health Day. Nursery read Topsy and Tim going to the dentist and talked about foods that are good for your teeth and those that are not. Ask your child about the activities they have taken part in. Useful advice from the World Dental Federation can be found on their webpage

| EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS | Rec | Y1 | Y2 | Y3 | Y4 | Y5 | Y6 |
|--|-------|-------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| Week 5 | 94.7% | 94.8% | 99% | 97% | 89.3% | 99% | 91.5% |

Overall attendance this week is 95.01%

| DATES FOR DIARIES | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 12th April '21 | Return to school |
| 3rd May '21 | May Day - off for one day |
| 28th May '21 | Break up for 1 week |
| 7th June '21 | Return to school |
| 16th July '21 | Break up for summer |

Town Centre Eggstravaganza

In some of the shop windows in the town centre this Easter time, there will be large colourful eggs to spot, made by the children from lots of Darlington schools. Here are John and Joanie from Year 1 showing off our St John's egg. If you are out and about during the Easter break keep your eyes peeled for the eggs!



SUPER LEARNER

Week ending: **26th March 2021**



| | |
|--------|---|
| Rec | Harrison Liddle—for making fantastic progress with his independent writing. |
| | Betty Graney—for working extremely hard during phonics, making super progress. |
| Year 1 | Myah Bailey - for lovely story about the ugly duckling. |
| | Daulton Paylor - for counting in 10's from any number. |
| Year 2 | Kaden Rowley—for super contributions to our zoom lesson with the author Holly Sterling. |
| | Isaac Davies—for showing great enthusiasm when working in the allotment. |
| Year 3 | Jackson Hasselby—for showing excellent resilience and having a fantastic positive attitude in recent assessments. |
| | Harrison McEwan—for his super attitude to learning and for being a great role model for others. |
| Year 4 | Darcy I'anson—for working independently at home to produce fantastic pieces of learning. |
| | Benjamin Williams—for being conscientious with all of his home learning and producing some brilliant Haikus! |
| Year 5 | Meisha Hunter - for super effort with reading. |
| | Harrison day - for fantastic effort in his Maths assessments. |
| Year 6 | Jayden Campbell—An excellent attitude to learning throughout this half term, resulting in some fantastic scores in his assessments. |
| | James Ibbotson—Brilliant singing during our Easter performance and having the confidence to take a major part. |

Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme

Parents and carers of children who have been asked to self-isolate can now claim financial support through the Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme [Claiming financial support under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/claiming-financial-support-under-the-test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme). Parents and carers may be eligible for a £500 test and trace support payment if they meet all of the following criteria:-

- They are the parent or guardian of a child in the same household who is self-isolating, and they need to take time off work to care for them
- The child is aged 15 or under, or aged 25 or under with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan, normally attends an education or childcare setting, and has been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their education or childcare setting
- The parent or carer is unable to work from home and will lose income because they have to care for the child while they are self-isolating
- They meet all the other eligibility criteria for a Test and Trace Support Payment or discretionary payment (i.e. they are receiving or are the partner of someone in the same household who is receiving specified benefits as set out in the guidance, or if not on these benefits they could be eligible for a discretionary payment if they are on a low income and will face financial hardship as a result of self-isolating).

If a parent or carer is applying for this payment they will also need to provide their child's NHS Test and Trace Account ID or a communication from the school telling them to self-isolate, please speak to the office if you meet the criteria above and require a letter from school.

Home Testing Kits (Lateral Flow Device)

Parents can order Lateral Flow tests (LFD) now and schools have been asked by the DfE to encourage all parents to test twice a week and report test results online. It would be great if this could continue over the Easter holidays and if children could be tested **on the Sunday evening before the children returned on the Monday. This would help to keep children in schools and avoid class bubbles closing.**

Please note that any positive test at home using a LFD must be followed up by a PCR test to confirm the result.

If any child tests positive from the close of school on Friday 26th Saturday to Sunday 28th March, please email school (admin@stjohnsceacademy.co.uk) so that we can get a message to the rest of the class bubble and staff of the requirement to self isolate. Many thanks.