



Headteacher: Mrs A Norman BA (QTS) Hons NPQH
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Newsletter number 6 week ending 15/04/16

Dear Parent/Carer,

A warm welcome back to everyone, I was delighted to see all of your wonderful children return to school after the holidays and with the brighter weather, there's a definite feeling of optimism in the air. I hope everyone had a restful Easter and is ready to face the busy summer term ahead of us. Our Easter egg event and Easter Service were very successful. Thank you for your outstanding support in attending our service in St. Andrew's Church. I have been reliably informed it was the "best turn out we've had so far," by Martin the verger, keeping count of the adult visitors into the church. The staff and children worked extremely hard and with all the hiccups we had prior to the service – were relieved that it all went so smoothly in the end. I even saw one or two parents joining in with the singing of the hymns and songs that you know – so once again, thank you for your support. Also a huge well done to our Y6 children who attended our booster sessions through the Easter holiday break; your commitment to your education was outstanding and I'm sure that little bit of extra learning will pay dividends when you do your tests.

Mrs James' recent sponsored 10K run was also a great success – raising over £200 which is to be spent on resources for the reception class. Thank you to all who have sponsored Mrs James. Other fund raising events are planned for the summer term. Money raised from such events will go towards the transport costs and entrance fees for the educational outings planned to enhance the curriculum this term.

Breakfast Club

May I remind you that our breakfast club is excellent value at just £1 per day. Children enjoy a range of breakfast foods including toast, cereals and pancakes and are able to attend from 8am with the last breakfast being served at 8:30; a reminder to **Y6 children** that their **breakfast is free during SATs week** (Monday 9th May to Friday 13th May.) All year six children are welcome.

Attendance

Your child's attendance is very important to us. Can I remind you to do everything you can to ensure that our children are in school? If your child is absent please let us know as soon as possible, preferably before 9:30am. Of course if your child is ill then he/she should be kept at home especially if they have had a tummy bug with diarrhoea or vomiting – in these cases for 48 hours. When children have been prescribed medicine by a doctor we have strict procedures in place regarding the administration of medication and will be able to administer medicines with parental permission to ensure children don't miss their education while still being cared for. We cannot however give medicines to children bought off the shelf at the chemists or the supermarket. **All medicines given must have been prescribed by a doctor and parents must complete a form in school** detailing dosage, when the medicine was last given, etc. Finally, please ensure that any medicines are brought into school and handed over to staff by a responsible adult. It is extremely important that children are not sent into school with their own medicine to hand in to staff as this breaks safeguarding procedures and creates issues of unnecessary risks for all involved.

Plans for the Future

The school is working closely with the local authority to be able to set up and run a **nursery** from September 2016. On our return to school in September we will be opening our first class not only for reception aged children but for **3 year olds** and for rising 3 year olds (children starting nursery the term before their 3rd birthday.) This is a very exciting opportunity and initial consultation has been very positive amongst parents. Please find attached a short questionnaire to gather your thoughts on this. We are interested in everyone's opinion, whether you have a child eligible to start nursery or





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not. If you do have a child aged 3 or who will be 3 between January 2017 and April 2017, and you're interested in securing a place in our foundation stage unit for September – please complete the attached form to secure a place. More details are available on request. Please don't hesitate to contact the office to speak to me or to Mrs James if you would like further information.

Swimming

This term Y5 and Y6 children who have not yet reached the statutory distance of swimming 25m unaided will be going swimming on a Wednesday afternoon. This is a national curriculum requirement therefore we are giving children who cannot yet swim this distance every opportunity to achieve it before they start secondary school. Those who have already completed 25m unaided will remain in school focusing on other lessons and activities. After the summer half term holidays we will arrange for children who can swim 25m to have a special treat/swimming session at the pool. Letters will follow to detail if your child has been selected to attend swimming lessons this term.

Safe Routes to School

Once again we have had some issues with parking outside of school first thing on a morning and at collection times. You will be aware that parking attendants have been patrolling around the school gates and surrounding areas. Anyone parked on the yellow lines outside of school could receive a parking ticket and be fined. No one is exempt from this. Indeed a minibus driver who parked on the lines at 9:15am and called into school to request the gates be opened as he assumed they were locked and was coming to collect children for a school trip was given a ticket and subsequently fined for leaving the minibus on the lines. Of course this is all done with the safety of our children in mind and I'm sure no one wants any of our little ones to get hurt, therefore please leave the yellow lines clear and be extremely careful when dropping off or collecting your children.

KS2 Y6 SATs 9th -13th May 2016 PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK.

We have prepared well for SATs within school and our Y6 children should rest assured that this is not something to worry about, but is their chance to shine. We constantly remind them that we can only ask them to do their best. I know you'll be reinforcing this message at home. As the time approaches Y6, know that I am proud of you all already!

KS1 Y2 tasks and tests will be administered by Mr Soppitt and Mrs Wharton near the end of the summer term as every year. Please do not worry about this as it is seamless to the children and all part of their day to day learning. Also other ages throughout the school will be having optional tests later in the term. This greatly helps us identify any areas the children need more help with. If you need any more information do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher via the school admin office.

Yours sincerely,
Andrea Norman
Head teacher

Working Together for a Successful Future

St Andrew's Primary School is committed to safeguarding
and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers
to share this commitment





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Diary Dates

School reopens for teaching purposes Monday 11th April 2016

April

- 12th Y4 visit to the Captain Cook Museum
- 13th Y5 and Y6 swimming (children that have not yet reached 25m)
- 18th Y4 & Y5 Family Initiative Supporting Children's Health sessions (weekly)
- 19th Faith ambassadors studying Sikhism out to Etherley Lane Primary School
- 25th Y4 and Y5 Family Initiative Supporting Children's Health – after school club (weekly)

May

- 2nd School closed for the Bank Holiday
- 3rd School reopens for teaching purposes
- 9th – 12th Y6 SATs week
- 12th Y3 Tennis Festival
- 16th Key Stage 1 SATs
- 17th Tri-Golf Festival Y3 and Y4
- 19th Quad Kids Athletics Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6
- 19th Class 4 Forest Schools at Auckland Castle (weekly)

30th May – 3rd June Half Term Holiday

6th June – training day for staff

School reopens for teaching purposes **Tuesday 7th June**

June

- 13th Y1 Phonics Screening
- 20th – 24th Y5 curriculum week visits to King James', Bishop Barrington and St. John'
- 30th Y3 Multi Skills Festival

July

- 5th and 6th Parents' Evening
- 7th Proposed Sports Day
- 14th & 15th Y6 Transition Days
- 17th Proposed date Y6 Leavers' Assembly





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