



Headteacher: Mrs A Norman BA (QTS) Hons NPQH  
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## Newsletter number 5 week ending 23/03/16

Dear Parent/Carer,

I have had great pleasure this term in being witness to a range of outstanding work completed by pupils in all classes across the school. Our rehearsals for our Easter Celebration, to be held in St. Andrew's Church this afternoon, have been underway and I have been fortunate enough to have been part of our final rehearsal this morning. The pupils have worked extremely hard to ensure that their individual class presentations are of an excellent standard. Pardon the pun but I had to get something in there with it being Easter! Your children never fail to impress us, as a staff, at school; you should be extremely proud!

### Parents consultations

Thank you to all parents who attended our Spring Term Parents evening. Over 95% of you made an appointment to speak with your child's class teacher and the feedback from parents with regards to these meetings have been extremely positive.

### Contact telephone numbers

It is of the utmost importance that we have an up-to-date contact telephone number for you where we can contact you using our text messaging service. Durham Local Authority, working closely with the police, are intending to use school systems as a way to ensure children that go missing are located as swiftly as possible. An attached letter explains it all. Please rest assured that your details will not be shared in any way as it is the police that will contact the schools to send messages out to parents. They do not have access to our school systems.

### Y6 SATs

On the return to school, our Year 6 children have four weeks in the run up to their SATs. It is very important that following the Easter break children attend school so they are well prepared for the tests beginning 9<sup>th</sup> May. I understand that this can be a very stressful time for children but we can only ask them to try their best and it won't be long until the SATs are over. During SATs week our year 6 children are welcome to come to breakfast club and have their breakfast at school for free. We are also running our usual booster sessions through the Easter holidays from Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April. While these are not compulsory, it is advantageous for children who attend as it keeps their brains ticking over in terms of English and Maths through the holidays in preparation for times ahead.

### Easter

Thank you to all who entered the Easter egg competition. The entries were fantastic and it made it very difficult to choose winners. Unfortunately time caught up with us this year and we were unable to invite you into school to support your child with their egg but I'm thrilled to see that you've pulled all the stops out at home. Thank you once again for your support with this.

### Staffing and Students

Mr Lee completed his phase 2 placement in Year 3 successfully and has left to move on to his next school placement for Teacher Training. We all wish him well as he continues through university. Mr Maskill will be continuing his teacher training placement in class 2 following the Easter break. I hear from the children that they are enjoying having Mr Maskill in class and are benefitting from the extra adult support when it comes to their learning. We will also be joined by Miss Cordingly as Easter – a trainee teacher who will take up her placement in our Early Years classroom. She has already visited school and met the children and is very keen to start.





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## Sports events

The school has taken part in many sporting events through the spring term and indeed have many planned for the summer term but a special mention has to go to our Y3/Y4 footballers who came top of the league this term – by one point! A fantastic achievement; Well done!

## Events

Finally we have a number of exciting events and opportunities planned for the summer term. I've added an up dated list below for your information, but as always, further details of events will follow – particularly regarding planned school trips and visits.

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

## Diary Dates

School reopens for teaching purposes Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016

### April

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

### May

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

30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June Half Term Holiday

2<sup>nd</sup> June – training day for staff

School reopens for teaching purposes **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June**





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## June

13<sup>th</sup> Y1 Phonics Screening

20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Y5 curriculum week visits to King James', Bishop Barrington and St. John'

30<sup>th</sup> Y3 Multi Skills Festival

## July

7<sup>th</sup> Proposed Sports Day

14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> Y6 Transition Days

17<sup>th</sup> Proposed date Y6 Leavers' Assembly

