



# Easington Church of England Primary School

Happy, healthy and fulfilled Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016



## Dates for your diary – details to follow

Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Peterlee Partnership Children's festival at Hesleden Primary YR-Y4 children
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Residential to Robinwood
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> July p.m.	Brass Concert (Y5 and Y6 children) –all parents invited - 2p.m start
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Annual reports to parents
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term discos
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Meet the teacher meetings
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fayre 2.30p.m. School Hall
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Meet the teacher meetings
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Singing Concert 2.15p.m. (sorry 2.10p.m. has been on previous newsletters)
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 leavers service St. Mary's 2.15p.m
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> July	School closes for summer break
Autumn Term 2016	
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	PDDay - school closed for children
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	School re-opens for children

## Star Pupils

Year Reception	Harry Hagel /
Year One	Clementine French / Isabelle Rutherford
Year Two	Alex Smithson
Year Three	Alice Flanagan
Year Four	Charlie Hagel / Matthew Flanagan
Year Five	Thomas Ashcroft
Year Six	Joshua Simpson
<b>Mrs Swift's Special Book</b>	Olivia Sparrow
<b>Writer of the Week</b>	Jenny Archer
<b>Pupils' pupils</b>	Ben Syson / Arthur Golden-Shillaw
<b>Attendance week ending Friday</b>	
Mrs Appleby's class	<b>97.50</b>
Miss Swan/Mrs Hetherington's class	<b>97.50</b>
Miss Wiseman's class	<b>98.62</b>
Ms Lilley's class	<b>98.18</b>

## School sweatshirts and cardigans

Over the past couple of weeks children from all year groups have been on various visits. On a recent visit to an activity where children from other schools were present I was disappointed to hear that not all of our children were in complete school uniform. Not only does school uniform make our children look smart it is also important so that staff can "spot" children when they are in a busy place with other children. Please remember to send your child to school with a school sweatshirt or cardigan everyday – clearly marked with your child's name. If a child arrives at school without a sweatshirt or cardigan and they are due to attend a visit that day, they will be given a sweatshirt or cardigan to wear from school.

## STEM events – Dene Community School

On Monday our Y5 and Y6 children visited Dene Community (Secondary) School to take part in their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activities. All children had a super afternoon full of exciting activities including an indoor planetarium. This event (including transport) was fully funded by Dene Community school – we are very grateful for this opportunity. Staff who accompanied children during this event were very impressed with Dene School and the organisation of the entire event. I do urge parents to visit Dene Community to see the opportunities it could offer your child. Mr Cowey Year7 and Transition Manager can be contacted at Dene on 0191 5546000 to arrange a visit. Alternatively Mrs Bowden-Stoker can arrange a visit for you. Mrs Swift

*"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5 14-16*

## Easington's Got Talent

Congratulation to Ben Syson winner of Easington's Got Talent 2016. Alyssa Lawton was second place runner up and Arthur Golden-Shillaw was in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. This was a great event enjoyed by all who attended. The children who performed were all extremely talented. A big thank you to everyone who supported Easington's Got Talent 2016. Mrs Swift

## Clothes Collection

Thank you to those who supported our clothes collection on Wednesday. We raised £41.60 for school funds. We are hoping to do another collection in the future.

## Family Friday/Stay and Play – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July

It was wonderful, again, to see so many parents and family members in school for our final Family Friday/Stay and Play session of this academic year. The buzz around school is always amazing during these sessions. We are hoping to continue with these sessions next academic year and would encourage you to complete the questionnaire that accompanies this week's newsletter (and also distributed this morning) which will help us to evaluate our Family and Community activities for this year.

## FROG group visit to Birchwood Care Home

On Wednesday our FROG group visited Birchwood Care Home. While they were there they sang songs, talked about our school as a Church of England school and prayed with the residents. It was a super opportunity for our children to share what we do here in school with our community. FROG group members were super ambassadors for our school – well done.

## A message from our Governing Body

Our Governing Body continue to play an active part in the leadership team of our school. Before the half-term holiday a number of governors attended a training session led by Liane Atkin – Assistant Director from the Joint Board of Education for the Durham and Newcastle Diocese. This training focussed on the role of Governors as governors of a Church of England School. This was particularly timely as next year we are expecting our SIAMs inspection (Church School inspection) – Mrs Swift will tell you more about this in the autumn term.

In June we had a meeting of our Finance and Premises committee. As well as monitoring our school budget, this was also an opportunity for governors to be updated on the snagging list for our extension – a year down the line and we are nearly there!

It is now statutory that Governing Bodies share attendance at Governing Body meetings via school web sites. This information could be found here <http://www.easington-pri.durham.sch.uk/about-us/our-governing-body> As always, Governors can be contacted via our school office. Mrs Humphries, Chair of Governors.

**Please see reverse for more news this week.....**

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## School premises

It has been reported to school that older children and young people continue to use our school field to play on when school is closed. This is trespassing. In addition this week some older children have decided to scrunch up paper and then throw it at the outside of our new hall. The paper then sticks to the wall and needs to be removed by our caretaker. These incidents have been reported to Durham Police via the 101 phone number and PSCOs will be monitoring our premises after school is finished.

Please can I ask if anyone does see people and children trespassing and causing damage or vandalising our school premises that they also contact 101 to report the incident. It is not fair nor acceptable that others should spoil our lovely school. Mrs Swift

## Mobile phones

For a number of reasons – both practical and safeguarding children are not allowed to bring phones into school. If a child brings a phone into school it will be stored in our office until the end of the school day. Equally children should not be using phones on school premises before or after the school day. We look to parents and families for support with these issues – thank you.

## Proposed Strike Action – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July

School will be **open** for all children on Tuesday.

## Private Fostering – a message from Durham LA

Are you looking after someone else's child? Is your child being looked after by someone else? This may be private fostering. Private fostering is the term used to describe an arrangement where a child under 16 (or 18 if they have a disability) is cared for and lives with an adult who is not a close relative. This may be a friend or neighbour. It is not a private fostering arrangement if the person caring for the child is a close relative like a grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle or step-parent.

Private fostering isn't the same as regular fostering.

There isn't a formal assessment and approval process.

Private fostering is an arrangement made directly between the parent and the private foster carer. No official financial support is available, the financial arrangements are made between the parent and carer.

If the private fostering placement is for more than 28 consecutive days, the law places a duty on the parents of the child (or those with parental responsibility) and the private foster carers to notify Children's Services.

Contact details:

03000 26 79 79

scd@durham.co.uk

This should be done as soon as the arrangement has been made (or as soon as it is apparent that the placement is likely to extend to 28 days or more).

## Inappropriate hair styles

Just a reminder that children should come to school with appropriate hair styles e.g no patterns shaved into hair or very closely shaved hair only at the sides. Also children with long hair must tie their hair back while they are at school. Hair bobbles will be provided for those who come to school with untied long hair.

## Whole School Worship at St. Mary's

It was great to see so many families worship with us at St. Mary's on Wednesday. The congregation were treated to our children two of our favourite songs as a taster for our upcoming singing concert on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July- details to follow. While we were in church two members of the Wednesday morning congregation took the time to come over to me to tell me how amazing our children are and how much they enjoy the service when our children are in church. Another very proud Head Teacher moment – thank you everyone. Mrs Swift

## European Passport

Along with this week's newsletter your child has brought home a European Passport activity book. I apologise that these should have been sent home last week after our European day which was before the referendum!



## JRSO event

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June our JRSO's (Junior Road Safety Officers) attended an end of year celebration at Durham County Hall. Ava Keegan, Alyssa Lawton, Poppy Watt, Matthew Flanagan and Charlie Hagel were recognised for all of their hard work throughout the year, which has involved making parents and children more aware of where to park around school and the importance of sticking to the speed limit. The children have carried out their role extremely sensibly and conscientiously, organising competitions and working alongside our local police officers. With the help of Councillor Surtees (our school governor), the children designed two fantastic banners focusing on road safety, which will be displayed outside of school from September.

The event was a huge success and I was very proud of how our JRSO's represented our school.

Thank you Mr Appleby

