



## Easter Time at school

Thank you to everyone who managed to come along to our Easter service on Tuesday . I was very proud of all of the pupils as they had worked so hard on their contributions .Staff had also worked very hard preparing the pupils with their art work, songs and words .

Class Swale told us all about Holy week through their wonderful art work and they delighted us with their 'Spring Chicken' song and 'Plant a Little Seed ' song . Class Wear explained what Easter meant to them and shared their ideas so clearly with a marvellous presentation. Class Tees presented their work on the Last Supper and both of our junior classes delighted us with their songs, 'Celebrate' and 'Easter Jubilation'. Many thanks to Rev Canon Eileen Harrop, Brian Harrop and to Claire Meade for helping us to have a wonderful Easter Service .

Alongside lots of work on the real meaning of Easter there was also time for Easter egg hunts and Easter egg decorating competitions . We will post the entries on our website.

## 1: 1 Violin lessons

We now have a new violin teacher, Mr Dickenson from Durham Music Service ,who played enthusiastically for Class Wear this week inspiring them with his musical skills .If you have a child in Year 3,4 or 5 and they are interested in learning to play the violin please contact the music service for further details - 03000 262368 or email [durhammusicservice@durham.gov.uk](mailto:durhammusicservice@durham.gov.uk)

## Cricket Taster Sessions

Today (Friday) all of the children in school took part in a cricket session delivered by Darren Brown He was promoting the All Stars cricket programme for 5-8 year olds and the Dynamos cricket programme for 8-11 year olds Some of our children have previously taken part in this and have loved being involved in the programme . Pupils across the school really enjoyed taking part

Freddie *"I liked catching and throwing*

Joseph *'We did a carousel of different activities, batting, bowling and catching. We could set personal challenges and it was a really good session . I enjoyed all of it .'*

Lydia *!! I really liked batting the ball and bowling to each other .I liked catching the ball after bouncing it and clapping first.*

Amelia *" I enjoyed reaching and passing my own challenges for catching .I really enjoyed the cricket session and would love to try it again'*

Dexter *' I enjoyed trying to aim at the wickets when bowling. We tried different types of catching too.The batting was good fun as we had to try to get the ball between the cones .*

## Disco Time

Many thanks to FoGS for planning our Easter disco nights. Good fun was had by all with dancing, party games, food and .... Poo Bingo! Yes this is not a typo! The children had to match animal poo pictures to the ones on their



bingo cards and they absolutely loved it !It became quite competitive when trying to get a line or a full house! I'm sure it will be played again in school!

### **Mini Disciples- Comic Relief Fundraising Stall**

Many thanks to our Mini Disciples along with Claire Meade for planning and running their own fundraising stall to raise money for Comic Relief. There tombola gift stall and guess the weight of the cake raised £45. Our Staff Absence Insurance provider also contributed £50 on behalf of our school so a fabulous£ 95 has been donated to worthy causes . Well done !

**Craft Clubs** Lots of our children signed up to Easter Craft Clubs and enjoyed being involved in a range of activities including painting, sewing and pom-pom making .Thank you to Mrs Gallagher and Miss Smith for planning and running the clubs .

### **Good Bye....but hope to see you again!**

This week was the last week for two of our student teachers ,Mrs Greives and Miss Smith, and we are certainly going to miss them working in our school. We know that they have thoroughly enjoyed their time with us and we all wish them well for their future careers .

### **Easter Holiday Activities at Saint Mary's Church**

The next Youth Saints session is on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April and Messy Church, or rather Messy Easter ,is on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April Easter – all are welcome (see attached information)

.As always I have asked all of the pupils to have a fun and safe Easter break -without the 'break' as there is usually at least one person who returns to school with a broken bone-biking and trampolining are the usual causes !

I do hope that you all manage to have some family time over the Easter weekend and if the children can't eat all of their Easter eggs then they know where to send them !

Best Wishes

C Riley

### Reminders

We are a **NUT free** school. Please do not send your child to school with nut products.

### **Summer Fayre Fundraiser**

If you can help by contributing of any of the items below this will be very much appreciated.

- Bottles of Alcohol/Wine/Spirits – Bottle Tombola Stall
- A filled jar with or without a lid of items such as hair bobbles, toys, marbles, sweets, pencil, Crayons, rubbers etc – Jar Tombola Stall
- School Uniform in good condition – Preloved Stall
- Bottle Gift Bags



- Tombola Gifts for a Surprise tombola stall – e.g. toiletries/toiletry sets, toys/games, glove/hats, socks, etc

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far.

**Attendance w/e31.03.2023**

Our Minimum Target is 96%

Well done to all classes who have achieved attendance above our minimum target.

A special well done to ??s whose attendance was the best out of the entire school.

Class	Attendance %
Swale	
Wear	
Tees	

**Gold Headteacher Awards**

31.03.2021 Easter work/activities/songs

Well done for the fabulous work this week

<b>Class Swale</b>	Marley Charlotte
<b>Class Wear</b>	Ivy Oliver
<b>Class Tees</b>	Evie Lyla

**Friends of Gainford School (FoGS)**

We would love to see more volunteers supporting our school so if you are interested in volunteering or just finding out more, please contact [gainfordfogs@gmail.com](mailto:gainfordfogs@gmail.com) . **The next meeting is via Teams on Wednesday May 7pm. Please join us if you can.**

FoGS are busy organising our Big Summer Raffle with some super prizes . As soon as tickets are available we will let you know . FoGS are hoping to raise enough money to allow the school to purchase some new staging units ready for the school production in July .

**We are a Rights Respecting School**

This week we have been thinking about our friends Luibov and Ruslan who came to our school from Ukraine . They are now in Egypt and we are hoping to hear from them after Easter . Our pupils have talked about how important it is to be protected from war(Article 38) and how difficult it must be to be away from home and your own country.They have also talked about how fortunate they are to have warm homes , ample food and clean water and have recognised that not all children will be having the same treats as them during the holiday period.

**After School Clubs**

**Tuesdays – Multi Sports with Kyle 3.30-4.30pm**

**Wednesdays – Year 6 SATS Booster Sessions (last session 03/05/23)**

**Wednesdays- Mini Disciples Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm**

**Mondays- Computing/Online Safety Club – Mr Martin 3.30-4.30pm ( first session)**



## HOUSEPOINTS/DOJO points

Well done for all the hard work and effort in school this week! The Dojo points have been totalled up and those **Cool Cats** have come out on top! Lots of dojo points were given out for fabulous work and behaviour this week and for wonderful contributions at our Easter Service

<b>Dizzy Dogs</b>	258	<b>FANTASTIC FOXES</b>	255
<b>LEAPING LIONS</b>	260	<b>COOL CATS</b>	261

## Diary Dates – Whole School

### Events

24/04/2023	Parental Consultations	Class Swale & Tees	By Appointment
25/04/2023	Parental Consultations	Class Swale, Wear & Tees	By Appointment
Throughout May	SATS	Y2	(in school hours)
09/05/2023	SATS Week	Y6	(in school hours)
15/05/2023 & 16/05/2023	Activity Days	Y5 Y6	In school hours
20/05/2023	Car Boot Sale /coffee and cake stall	All welcome	Cars arrive from 9.30am Open to the public from 10am-12pm
24/05/2023	Cricket Festival	Class Wear	(in school hours)
29/06/2023	Summer Fayre		Time TBC
18/07/2023	School Production	Class Tees	2pm & 6pm
20/07/2023	YR6 Leavers' Service at St Mary's Church	All welcome	9.15am

### Term Dates

Easter Holidays	Closes 31/03/2023	Reopens 17/04/2023
Bank Holiday	<b>School Closed 01/05/2023</b>	
Additional Bank Holiday	<b>School Closed 08/05/2023</b>	
Whit Week	Closes 26/05/2023	Reopens 05/06/2023
Staff Training Day	<b>School Closed 19/06/2023</b>	
Summer Holidays	Closes 21/07/2023	Reopens 05/09/2023