



NEWSLETTER

10th January 2025

A huge Happy New Year to you all!



I hope you have all enjoyed the Christmas break. In assembly this week, as well as in our PSHE lessons, the children have been thinking about their dreams and goals.

As part of this we have discussed the importance of reading and how this can support with achieving these goals.

Moving forwards we are encouraging the children to read more at home and we would appreciate your support with this. Ideally, we would like children to read every day at home, although we fully appreciate there are times where this is not possible, so the target we are currently setting for the children is to read at least 3 times each week.

Starting from Monday, we will be implementing a new reward system for reading at home. At the end of each week, if a child has read 3 times at home, they will receive a golden ticket to go into a prize draw at the end of each month. If a child reads 4 or 5 times, they will receive two golden tickets. The children have already shown an interest and excitement in achieving these tickets so it would be fantastic to see lots of children receiving these each week.

If a child has not read 3 times this will be flagged on our STARS system which is monitored by the leadership team each week.

As previously stated, we would really appreciate your support in helping the children to succeed and receive their golden tickets! If you require any support with reading at home please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Mrs Parks



Reception places for September 2025

If your child's birthday falls between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021, your child will start Reception in September 2025.

The closing date to apply for a primary school place for September 2025 is midnight on Wednesday 15 January 2025. **Even if your child currently attends Sacriston Academy, you MUST still apply for a place in Reception.**

Please use the following link to apply - [Primary school places - Durham County Council](#)
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will be able to assist you.

Goals and Dreams

Find out about our first PSHE lessons around goals and dreams:

This week in Nursery, we have been learning all about how to deal with challenges. Jigsaw Jenie set the challenge for Nursery to balance on one leg for thirty seconds! Nursery found it tricky, but they kept persevering and showed great resilience. We read the story 'The Jungle Run' where the animals were not kind to his friend, they didn't let him join in because they didn't think he would win the race but he did not give up! Here is what Nursery had to say:

"He might feel angry because he can't do it." - Eliza

"Sad because he is lonely." - Alfie

"Happy because he won the race." - Harry

RECEPTION

This half term Reception are learning not to give up and rise to the challenge. We worked as a team to solve lots of challenges and found the best way to overcome them. We found out that the best way is to work as a team!

Daisy- We never give up!

Laura- We work together!

Tommy- We help our friends!

Mila- We are kind and help!

YEAR 1

This week in Year 1, we discussed what the word success means and how we can celebrate our own success. We then talked about things that we can think of that could be a success to us. The children were then given a success treasure coin to create, where they wrote how they would meet their dream.

"I am good at writing but I want to get better." - Esme

"I am good at cricket because I have medals." - Casey

"I am good at tidying and helping." - Tyler

YEAR 2

We began by discussing what goals and dreams are as a class, asking the questions "How did you manage to achieve the success? How does it feel to have achieved this goal? Is this a realistic goal?".

Each child received a treasure chest template to complete the sections explaining their success and the feelings they would like to store inside like treasure. We were also able to explain that challenges are very personal, and that something one person finds difficult another person might find easy.

YEAR 3

We discussed some of our dreams and goals from Monday's assembly with Mrs Parks. We then looked at our own PSHE lesson. This lesson was all about the struggles and challenges that people may face in achieving their goals and dreams. We were given pictures of different children, we had to identify the challenges they faced and which one had the hardest challenge.

Layla - I dream of being a gymnast

Mason - My goal is to get better at darts

Amber - My dream is to become a dancer.

YEAR 4

We looked at the story of basketball player Michael Jordan and discovered that when he was our age, he was told he was too small to play basketball and didn't make the school team. Michael didn't let this stop him and through hard work, perseverance and determination he achieved his goal and became one of the best basketball players in the world. We wrote our own goals in our dream jars.

YEAR 5

We explored the title 'when we grow up'. We discussed what it meant to strive towards a job or career. We discussed different pathways into different jobs and the options that are available when we leave secondary school. After that, we discussed what we would like to do when we are older.

'I would like to be a cricketer!' - Kayaan.

'I think I would like to work in construction like my dad.' - Josh

'I would like to go into the army.' - Evan and Leo.

'I want to be an Egyptologist because I loved learning about Ancient Egypt in history and I would love to discover something like Howard Carter!' - Grace

YEAR 6

We started by discussing what is meant by an aspiration, dream or goal and then talked about what is a realistic and an unrealistic goal. After this, we each then set ourselves an 'in-school' goal and a goal for outside of school that we would like to achieve this year. We are going to work hard to try and achieve them!

'A goal is something that you want to be able to achieve.' George D

'I would like to be more brave as I know there will be some challenges.' Charlotte

'I would like to try more different foods.' Grace

'I would like to do the Great North Run in September.' Mrs Maxfield-Kay



The menu for week beginning **13th January 2025 is Week**

3. School dinners are £14.05 per week, paid online by Monday please. Our school menu can now be found on our website. If you would like to look at the options with your child, please use the following link.

<http://www.sacristonacademy.co.uk/school-information/lunch-menu>

Class Attendance



Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
85.42%	98.55%	96.53%	95.06%	93.55%	98.55%	98.85%	96%

The government expectation is 97% attendance for individual pupils and school. Attendance and punctuality really matter to your child's education - every day counts! When your child's attendance drops below 95% school will begin monitoring. Referrals to the local authority may also be made if there is no improvement seen.

Weekly Awards

Our Headteacher Awards were presented today to the following children who have all impressed their class teacher:

Nursery: Chase Loan

Reception: Theo Boyd

Year 1: Dominic Wood

Year 2: Joseph Patterson

Year 3: Ethan Bradford

Year 4: Caleb Bunyan

Year 5: Logan Brennan

Year 6: Archie Crone

Handwriting Awards:

Year 1: Hunter Johnson

Year 2: Olivia Nicholson

Year 3: Theo Long

Year 4: Marley Ord

Year 5: Joe Morris

Year 6: Okitha Arachchilage

Dates for your Diary

Monday 13th January

Uniform Swap Shop 3:15pm

Tuesday 14th January

Y4 Sports Trip

Wednesday 15th January

DEADLINE FOR RECEPTION PLACES - SEPT 2025

Thursday 16th January

Theme Lunch – Pizza!

Thursday 28th January

Y3 Sports Trip

Wednesday 29th January

Thursday 13th February

Friday 14th February

Friday 21st February

Parent Workshop – Sleep – 9am

EY Stay and Play 10:30am

Theme Lunch – Valentines Day

Break up for half term