



**Catenian Public Speaking Competition**

Huge congratulations to Darcey in Year 6 who took part in the Year 6 Catenian Public Speaking Competition today and came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place! The competition invites Year 6 pupils to voice their opinions on key issues in modern society and Darcey gave a wonderful speech about the impact of poverty. Well done!

**Year 2 Class Trip**

To further their work in History, the children in Year 2 visited the Quayside on Tuesday to learn about the Great Fire of Gateshead and Newcastle which took place in 1854. They really enjoyed being able to visit the sites of the fire and look at how the Quayside had changed.

**School Lunches**

Please complete the school meals form to make your child's lunch choices by clicking on this link. The form is open from 7am on Mondays until noon on Wednesdays. <https://forms.office.com/e/cJQL8kYdyb>

**Online Safety Workshop/Internet Safety Day**

Thank you to all the parents who attended the online safety workshop on Monday evening. We hope you all found this useful. Throughout this week, the children have explored elements of online safety in their Computing and PSHE lessons. Attached to the blog is our weekly online safety update and further information including slides from Monday's workshop can be found on our website in the parents section.

**Children's Mental Health Week**

This week has been Children's Mental Health Week and the theme of the week was 'Our Voices Matter'. The children have been learning about the importance of their mental health and wellbeing and how to express their feelings and emotions. On Monday, several of our pupils led an assembly to share the importance of taking care of your mental health and shared strategies that they have learnt to use. Today we welcomed our Connect Team to school for our Wellbeing Coffee morning, where parents were able to chat and get support/advice for themselves and their children.

**Lent**

Next week marks the beginning of Lent. Please find attached our Lent Blog with information about our Lenten charity work and ways you can participate.

**Time to Waste**

We have been asked to share information about the No Time For Waste environmental event on the 25<sup>th</sup> February at The Linskill Centre 10 - 4pm. There will be crafts, workshops, talks, treasure hunts, raffles and stalls. This is a free event and if you would like any further information please contact Jackie Sewell on 07903302218.

**Dates for Diary**

*Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February – PTA Discos*

*Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Spring Term Parents evenings*

*Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Reception class family Celebration of the Word*

**Next week is Monkey week on the school lunch menu**

**Don't forget to visit it our school website for further school information**

**[www.stmarysonline.co.uk](http://www.stmarysonline.co.uk)**