

Monday 26th September 2016
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale



Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a lovely week of learning at St Nicholas last week. The children are now very settled into their classroom routines and their new units of learning are well underway.

Success again! Out of the 37 Shepway Primary Schools who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge, St Nicholas CE Primary Academy came 1st again for a second year. This is great news and I am really pleased for everyone who took part. We had over 30 more children take part in the challenge this year than in the previous year. Nearly 30% of the children who took part read on average a book a week over the summer holiday period! My thanks to both Mrs Buss and Mrs Leyshon for their hard work and for finding some fantastic prizes for the children.

Last week saw the re-launch of Busters Book Club, and as you will see over the page a great start has been made by many of the children. Reading really is the way to make sure children are able to achieve in their learning and this year I am more determined than ever to make sure that St Nicholas becomes a real reading community where ALL children have a love of books. I hope you will support me over the year with projects and parent meetings that will take place.

I was pleased with the response from parents for Parent Ambassadors. I will be writing to all those who responded and make arrangements for taking this exciting initiative forward and setting up a council to meet the needs of our parent community so that it benefits our children.

This Friday we are having our Macmillan Coffee morning to raise money for cancer charities. Please do join us, if even for a short time and support this worthy cause.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

House Captains

Last week the children had the opportunity to vote for their House Captains. Pupils met in their Houses and then listened to each of the nominees who had an opportunity to introduce themselves and explain why the children should vote for them. Our elected House Captains are; St Augustine - Sophie & Zara; St George - Casper & Aaliyah; St Peter - Skye & Caleb; St Nicholas - Joshua & Ruby. Amongst various responsibilities of showing guests around the school and meeting with Governors, the children will also collect and collate House Points on a weekly basis. House Points are awarded for excellent learning and effort but also for manners and demonstrating the St Nicholas way.

The winning house at the end of half term will all receive a non-school uniform day. This term this day will be on **Friday 21st October** – The winning house will be announced on 14th October.

Dates for your diary

Tues 27th Sept

Squash Crazy for Y5 & Y6 – please ensure children have PE kit in School

Thurs 29th Sept

Harvest Festival Service
9.30am at St Nicholas Church

Fri 30th Sept

Macmillan Coffee Morning
from 8.35am – Training room
ALL WELCOME

Wed 5th Oct

Swimming starts for Y4

Thurs 13th Oct

Kent Test (11+) Results day

Tues 18th Oct

Please join us for the PTFA
AGM at 2.15pm

Mon 24th to Fri 28th Oct

HALF TERM – school closed

Mon 31st Oct

Term 2 starts – children
return to school

Yr 6 Secondary School
Admissions close

Tues 1st Nov

Whole School Parent &
Teacher consultations 4pm
to 7.30pm

Astrodome Years 2 & 6

Children starting school in
2017 – Meeting in Children's
Centre 6pm onwards

Thurs 3rd Nov

Whole School Parent &
Teacher consultations
3.30pm to 6pm

Flu Immunisation for Year R,
Y1, Y2 & Y3

Fri 4th Nov

Y3 Skiing Group 1

Mon 7th Nov

Year 6 Residential Week at
Kingswood

Tues 8th Nov

Yr 5 Canterbury Cathedral
Visit

Thurs 10th Nov

Open Day Tours for Sept
2017 entrants at 9.30am &
1.30pm

Busters Book Club

A great week of reading. As a school we have managed 1,866 extra minutes of reading this week. Well done to everyone who read! Let's see if we can improve on this next week. Keep reading!



WINNING CLASSES THIS WEEK

Foundation & KS1: - *With highest % of children reading from the class:*

Owls with 42%

KS2: - *With highest % of children reading from the class:* **Chestnuts with 78%**

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH CLASSES

Attendance

Well done to the following classes who achieved best % attendance in the week ending 23rd September:

- Hedgehogs – 100%
- Owls – 99.6%

Whole school attendance to 23rd September was 97%.

Class with the best punctuality was Hedgehogs with 0 Lates.

Thank you for realising the importance of sending your child to school every day.

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

In order to support this fantastic charity, St Nicholas CE Academy will be hosting a coffee morning on **Friday 30th September from 8:35am onwards** in the Training Room. We would really appreciate it if you could support this event by donating some delicious cakes and join us by sampling the sweet purchase, with a coffee for a small donation. Let's bring together our community and make the difference!

WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT



Collective Worship

This weeks collective worship focus is:

JOURNEYS OF FAITH WITH JESUS

When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.

Isaiah 43 v2

Stepping Stones at St Nicholas Church

For Pre-school Children, Parents & Carers – we meet every Wednesday, 1.45pm – 2.45pm weekly during term times for Food, Fun and Fellowship.

WANTED

Small boxes – Shoe box size, for Yr 5 Pupils who are working on a special project for display in Canterbury Cathedral.

Star Awards



Star of the week awards went to: Squirrels: Lillian D, **Otters:** Jack M, **Owls:** Joshua P, **Kestrels:** Macie W, **Chestnuts:** Omie B, **Maple:** Shanelle M, **Beech:** Amber D

Work to be proud of awards went to: Hedgehogs: Poppy J, **Badgers:** Sophie B, **Eagles:** India P, **Kites:** Emily T, **Birch:** Sophie B, **Willow:** Sion W, **Rowan:** Skye T



Nicholas Bear awarded to...HEDGEHOGS and SQUIRRELS!

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL!



Over the course of the past week I have received several complaints from parents and local residents regarding the poor parking outside school. A member of staff even had to endure foul language directed at her while escorting children to the school bus, because parking nearer to the school was considered more important than the safety of children!

Thank you to those drivers who support the safety of our school community by driving and parking responsibly. May I remind families:

- Do not park on the zigzags
- Do not park on single or double yellow lines
- Do not park on the pavements or near the entrances to the school (including the bus stop area).

This is to ensure that children and adults can safely navigate their way to and from school. It is also as a sign of respect to our neighbours on Fairfield Road – who show endless patience with the minority of parents still deciding to park dangerously. Please consider the impact of your parking. Once again I know that the VAST majority of our families are considerate when collecting and dropping children off – thank you.

