



Monday 28th November 2016
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Weekly Newsletter
Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all the parents who took the time to complete and return their questionnaires. We will now collate all the responses and let you know the outcome of these as soon as we are able. Last week the children in Key Stage 2 also had their questionnaires aimed at finding out more about what they think of school, what they enjoy and what they would like to see more of. We will be gathering their responses and reporting these to parents as well.

Many thanks to all the families in supporting the PTFA bring a gift day as part of our fund-raising for the school. Once again we were overwhelmed by the generosity of our families in providing a gift to enable us to raise much needed funds for the school. I look forward to seeing many of our families at the fayre on Friday.

While the fayre begins the school's countdown to all the Christmas festivities that will take place, I would like to reassure parents that apart from the events publicised in our diary dates section, the children will continue to be focussed on their learning throughout. I look forward however to welcoming all our KS1 families to the Nativity performances next week.

I would like to draw parent's attention to the new changes that will be taking place for the way children enter and leave the school at the start and end of the school day this week. **Please see the end of this newsletter.** For this system to work successfully, it is dependent on parents not parking on the yellow zigzags outside of the school. Unfortunately there were 3 cars on Friday who did park on the zigzags in so doing they put their own and other's children at risk.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

PTFA Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre takes place on **Friday 2nd December at 3pm.** At the Fayre this year will be traditional stalls along with the chance for children to visit Father Christmas in his grotto.

The success of our Fayre depends on your support; please help us make this year's event a success! We hope to see you there! All offers of help with the Fayre will be gratefully received. Our thanks to the PTFA for the brilliant post box they have made for our Christmas post.



House Points - week ending 25/11/16

St Augustine	480	St Nicholas	652
St George	629	St Peter	452

Dates for your diary

Wed 30th Nov
 Year 5 parents
 Kingswood meeting at 2.30pm

Thurs 1st Dec
 Christmas post box opens - All letters/cards must have full names & class

Fri 2nd Dec
 PTFA Christmas Fayre
 3pm onwards

Mon 5th Dec
 1:45pm KS1 Nativity

Tues 6th Dec
 9.30am KS1 Nativity
 1.45pm St Nicholas Day Assembly at Church

Wed 7th Dec
 Pantomime Performances provided by the PTFA

Fri 9th Dec
 PTFA Christmas Disco
 KS1 5pm - 6pm
 KS2 6:30pm – 7:45pm

Mon 12th Dec
 Giving Tree Assembly
 2pm Carols & Cake – please give nominations to Hayley by Friday 2nd December

Tues 13th Dec
 KS1 Christmas Parties

Wed 14th Dec
 School Christmas Dinner Day

Thurs 15th Dec
 KS2 Christmas Parties

Fri 16th Dec
 Wear your Christmas Jumper Day
 9.30am KS2 End of Term Carol Service

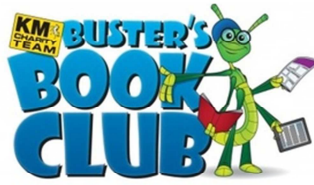
END OF TERM

Children return to school on Tuesday 3rd January 2017

Busters Book Club

Last week we were looking for the highest number of **readers**. Both awards went to KS2. KS1 must try hard to ensure they read every week.

In KS2, once again Chestnuts and Birch had the highest number of readers!



This weeks collective worship focus is:
ADVENT
"The light shines in the darkness & the darkness has never put it out."
John 1:5

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH CLASSES!

Attendance – Every Day Counts

School attendance is vital for young people to reach their full potential and is therefore a priority for St Nicholas Academy.

Please remember that our doors open at 8.35 and the school day starts at 8.45 – being in school on time ensures that your child is ready to start the day the right way.

Our whole-school attendance so far this year is 95.6%.

Class attendance rates last week			
Hedgehogs	96.1%	Kites	93.3%
Squirrels	92.9%	Chestnut	89.6%
Badgers	97%	Birch	96.3%
Otters	91.3%	Maple	97.9%
Owls	98.3%	Willow	94%
Eagles	100%	Rowan	98.7%
Kestrels	88.8%	Beech	98.3%

The Class with the best punctuality was Eagles with No Lates.

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

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.

Romney Marsh Community Church – Friday Club

Meets Friday 6 - 7.30pm for children in school years 3 – 6

It's an informal social time for children to join in with fun games and activities and chill together.

Junior Road Safety Officers competition



Last week saw the JRSO's reveal the winners of their competition. The JRSOs along with the area road safety officer for Shepway selected winners for both Key Stage 1 & 2 pupils. We were delighted that KCC Cllr Mrs C Waters was able to support us in presenting the prizes.

Our Current Value is:
RESPECT



Caring enough to think about others!

Star Awards



Star of the week awards went to: Hedgehogs: Amber M, **Otters:** Kaycie O, **Owls:** Katy L, **Kites:** Bronwyn M, **Chestnut:** Rebecca C, **Maple:** Luca M



Work to be proud of awards went to: Squirrels: Ava A, **Badgers:** Carmela Q, **Eagles:** Imogen O, **Kestrels:** Sharna J, **Birch:** Frankey S, **Willow:** Danny-Jay L

Smoking

We have recently had complaints from the children about parents smoking just outside the school gates. If you need to smoke please show some consideration for the children as they are entering school by standing away from the gates whilst smoking. Thank you for co-operation in this matter.

Primary School Applications for September 2017

If your child was born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 you must complete and submit your primary school application by **Monday 16th January 2017**. You need to apply either using the online process available at www.kent.gov.uk/ola or by completing a paper form called a Reception Common Application Form (RCAF). This form can be downloaded from www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions or by contacting KCC Primary Admissions Team.

Even if you already have an older child at the school you **MUST** apply for a place for your younger child. You will not automatically receive a place because you already have a sibling here.

Entering and exiting school.

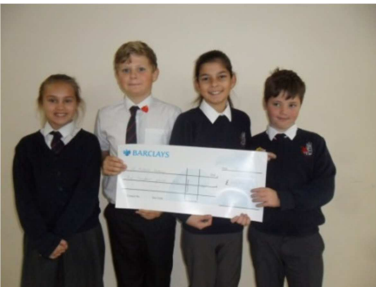
Starting tomorrow **Tuesday 29th November** there will be a change to the arrangements as to how the children will be allowed to enter and leave the school at the start and the end of the school day.

On Tuesday children and parents will only be able to enter the school via the KS2 playground double gates. This change has come about as a result of a review of the schools risk assessments and it is believed it will be best to have only one point of entry and exit for the safety of the pupils.

We will use the KS2 double gate; hopefully this will reduce the risk of congestion. There will also be a member of the schools SLT on duty each day to welcome children and families onto the school site while monitoring the access. We believe this access point will also prove to be much safer for our children and families providing there is no-one parking on the zigzags, as it will provide a much safer approach for families as they cross the road to school.

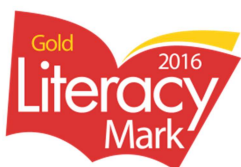
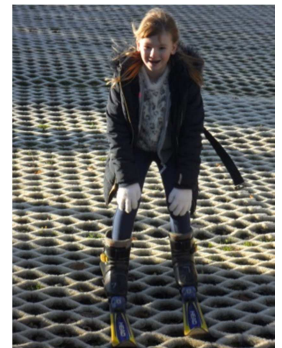
We hope that parents will appreciate that this change has been made in the interests of pupil safety.

Activities across St Nicholas last week...



Last week children in Year 6 were asked to design a Christmas card with the theme around Dungeness Power Station. Alison Prentice from EDF attended the Celebration Assembly and presented the House Captain's with a cheque for £500 to go towards the schools science projects.

Over the last four weeks children in Year 3 have been to Folkestone Ski Centre for an hour ski taster session. The final group attended on Friday 25th November and I'm pleased to say the children have given great reviews.



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