



Friday 17th November 2017
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Dear Parents and Carers,
 Yesterday evening we held our first parent council meeting and many issues were brought up and discussed. I would like to thank those who attended as we move forward in trying to ensure we offer the best experience for all those who attend the school.

Many of the issues discussed yesterday evening included:

- Not everyone reads the newsletter – look for alternative methods of communication.
- Have an events board placed near school entrance for all parents to see what's on.
- Some events, such as PTFA Fayres are too crowded.
- Parking outside the school gate, can the PCSO or Community Warden be used?
- When do children need their PE kits in school.
- Homework, not all year groups are consistent in making sure this happens.
- Music, looking for wider opportunities for music tuition for children in the school

The date of the next meeting has already been set and we look forward to welcoming more parents to the next Parent Council Meeting on **Monday 4th December at 6.30pm**. Please do come along where issues such as the ones above and others can be addressed for everyone's benefit.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Attendance – Every Day Counts

Our whole-school attendance so far this year is 95.7 %.

Class attendance rates this week (17/11/17) are:			
Hedgehogs	90.5%	Beech	96.5%
Squirrels	90.5%	Birch	90.4%
Badgers	86.8%	Chestnut	94.2%
Otters	95.5%	Maple	96.3%
Hare	98.8%	Willow	98.6%
Fox	93.9%	Elm	94.4%
Rowan	97.6%	Oak	94.4%

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

Reminder

If someone else is collecting your child please let the class teacher or the office know. We will not release your child until we have had confirmation of who is collecting. This applies to KS1, Year 3 & Year 4. Thank you for your cooperation.

Dates for your diary

Tues 21st Nov
 Brian Moses able writers' day.

Fri 24th Nov
 Year 3 Skiing group 4

Mon 27th Nov
 PTFA – Bring a gift day for non-uniform

For all Christmas activities please see information on the next page

Fri 1st Dec
 PTFA Christmas Fayre at 3pm

Fri 8th Dec
 PTFA Christmas Disco

Wed 20th Dec
 Christmas Dinner Day
 Last day of term

Mon 8th Jan 2018
 First day of term 3

Fri 9th Feb
 Last day of term 3

Mon 12th Feb – Fri 16th Feb
 Half Term

Mon 19th Feb
 First day of term 4

Thurs 29th Mar
 Last day of term 4

Fri 30th Mar
 Good Friday Bank holiday

Christmas Dates for your Diary

Friday 1 st December	PTFA Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 6 th December	St Nicholas Day Service – pupils only
Friday 8 th December	Christmas Disco
Monday 11 th December	Whole School Christmas Panto
Thursday 14 th December	Pupil Concert for Age Concern
Monday 18 th December	KS1 Nativity at 1.45pm
Tuesday 19 th December	KS1 Nativity at 9.30am
Wednesday 20 th December	Christmas Jumper day KS2 End of Term Christmas Carol Service Whole School Christmas Dinner Day



This term's collective worship focus is:
TRUST
I will bless the person who puts his trust in me.
Jeremiah 17:7

Star Awards



Star of the week awards went to:

Squirrel: Bailey M, **Otter:** Samuel R, **Fox:** Aiden M, **Beech:** Rudy Y, **Birch:** Archie D, **Willow:** Leanne C, **Oak & Elm:** everyone!

Nicholas Bear was awarded to Birch!

Year 6 Visit to Kingswood

Last week Year 6 attended Kingswood as part of their Outdoor Adventurous Activity Learning. The children had a fantastic time and learned many skills which included teamwork, trust, determination and perseverance. Many of the things we hope will be achieved in children's everyday learning when faced with challenges.

Please do look at the schools Twitter site for the photos that were posted

How to Express Concern and Social Media

In a school with well over 300 children there will be something that happens every day that one of them might not like. It is entirely understandable that children will go home and tell parents and carers about this. Sometimes incidents may have occurred exactly as described by the child but other times the situation might be considerably more complicated.

Please could I ask that if there is something causing you concern, speak to the class teacher in the first instance, or if you feel it is a more serious issue, that you email or ring the school to let us know about it. In almost all cases we will sort the issue out in the first working day after we are told about it and if it will take longer we will keep you informed. The appropriate people to contact are:

- Your child's class teacher
- The School Office – Mrs Clair Seiver & Mrs Hayley Bartlett
- The Family Liaison Officer – Mrs Lisa Baker (for family and welfare issues)
- The Deputy Headteacher – Mrs Dionne Harper

We also ask that you don't go on social media and make public posts about school issues. The school cannot discuss specific issues publicly, so if there is another side to the story that you are not aware of the whole story is not seen by the public which is not fair on individuals concerned. The discussion of any issue by members of the public on social media often degenerates into insults and accusations, sometimes against the school, sometimes against the parents and children in the original post all of which can make dealing with the original issue much harder.

While we do not get every decision right, the staff at the school work with best of intentions and often go above and beyond what I could ever expect them to because they want to help your children. I think that staff and children at the school have the right to privacy and not to find themselves discussed on social media.

Thank you in advance to the vast majority of parents and carers who continue to work with us to support their children.