



Monday 8th January 2018
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a restful holiday.

Before the holiday two new members of staff were appointed to the school's leadership team. Miss Sabina Common as KS1 Phase Leader and Mrs Kerry Longman as KS2 Phase Leader. These are two very important appointments for the school as they will add greater depth to the leadership and management of the school.

The role of a Phase Leader in a primary school is to support the Headteacher in developing and promoting high standards in teaching and learning, while also being responsible for the phase which they lead. Both members of staff will be taking an active role in the leadership and management of their phase over the coming term.

With regard to the appointment for Deputy Headteacher, the window for applications is still open and shortlisting is due to take place at the end of this month after the closing date. We will of course keep parents up to date with this appointment.

This term we have planned a series of curriculum workshops for different year groups. These workshops will be important for parents to support the learning of your child. We do hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend these meetings, which have been highlighted in the 'Dates for your Diary' section of the newsletter and the Calendar of Spring Term Dates which accompanies this newsletter.

The children today will have started their new units of learning today for this term. Curriculum newsletters will be sent out to parents on Friday with more information about the term ahead. I hope parents find them useful when supporting your child's learning at home.

Yours sincerely

Mr Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Inclusion Breakfast – First Friday.

After the success of our last Inclusion breakfast the next one will be held on **Friday 12th January 2018 at 8.35am** – First Friday back to school. We will again be joined by Mrs Stephanie Wallace, SENCo at Temple Ewell Primary, who will be talking to parents about Autism. All parents are welcome, whether you have a child with a diagnosis or just want to learn more about autistic spectrum condition. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Dates for your
Diary**

Mon 8th Jan

Children return to school
Year 5 Hockey starts for
next 6 weeks

Wed 10th

Year 5/6 Tag rugby

Thurs 11th

Year 2 Rugby Tots for
next 5 weeks

Fri 12th

**Inclusion Breakfast for
Parents** starting at
8.35am

Mon 15th

Reception 2018/2019
Application Closing Date

Year 4 Parent meeting,
for proposed trip to
France at 2.30pm in
school hall

Wed 17th

Year R Parent Meeting
Phonics - Supporting
Blending 2.15pm
Year 5/6 Tag rugby

Thurs 18th

Year 6 Parents Meeting
SATs and Kingswood.
2.30pm in the school hall

Fri 19th

Year R Parents meeting
- supporting children with
reading Ditty Books
2.15pm in school hall

Mon 22nd

Parent Council Meeting
6.30pm

Wed 24th

Year 5/6 Tag Rugby
4-6pm

Thurs 25th

Year 2 Parents Meeting
Phonics and KS1 SATs
2.15pm in school hall

School Values

This term we will be promoting the school value of **Perseverance** and sending out an edition of our Home, School Values to families. We hope that as many families as possible will join us in completing the 'Home School Values Challenge'.

Please look out for the Home, Schools Value letter.

Attendance – Every Day Counts

If your child is absent from school, you must report their absence by 9am on the first morning. This can be done via Parent Mail under Notify Absence or by telephoning our absence line on **01797 363118** and leaving a message with your child's name, class and reason for absence. Please do not call the school's main number to report absences.

Our whole-school attendance so far, this year is 95.5%.

Class attendance rates this year.			
Hedgehogs	95.1%	Rowan	97.7%
Squirrels	93.5%	Chestnut	94.5%
Badgers	93.5%	Birch	93.6%
Otters	96.4%	Maple	95.1%
Fox	94.9%	Willow	96.5%
Hare	96.5%	Oak	95.6%
Beech	96.4%	Elm	95.3%



This term's collective worship focus is:
PERSEVERANCE

'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.'

PHILIPPIANS 4.13

Are **you** following us on Twitter?



We now have 298 followers!

@St_Nicholas_CEP

Volunteer Readers

We are desperately seeking more volunteers to help with children's reading.

Are you, or perhaps a retired member of your family, able to spare a small amount of time each week to become a regular reading volunteer? If so, please speak to Hayley in the school office or contact her on 01797 361906 for further details.

Year 4 Parents French Trip Meeting.

This is a meeting for Year 4 parents on **Monday 15th January at 2.30pm** with regards to the proposed trip to Lille (Northern France) later in the school year. After the successful visit by our link school to St Nicholas in 2016 we would now like to make the return visit. We would however like to share the detail of the trip, its requirements and educational outcomes for this visit.

We hope you can attend.

Parent Council

The school's Parent Council continues to grow from strength to strength. So far, we have parent representatives for the following classes;

<u>Class</u>	<u>Parent(s)</u>
Oak	Gemma Rogers
Maple	Kim Finn
Chestnut	Tracy & Derek Haythorne
Birch	Jenny Ross
Fox	Donna Durling
Hare	Susie Guest
Badger	Tara & Ben Elphick
Squirrel	Stephanie Wayland
Hedgehog	Rebecca Philpott

It would be great to get parent representation for **Elm, Willow, Beech, Rowan** and **Otter** classes as well, so that we can really get a whole school representation of our families.

The next Parent Council meeting is set to take place on **Monday 22nd January 2018 at 6.30pm.** (Crèche facilities will also be available.)

Nourish Online Payments

From 1st January 2018 Nourish are no longer able to offer the online payments as an option. Payment for school meals must be made on a Monday morning for the week ahead either by cash or a cheque made payable to Nourish Contract Catering. You can also pay monthly or termly.

Year 6 SATs meeting

There will be a meeting on **Thursday 18th January at 2.30pm** for Year 6 parents on the KS2 SATs.

The SATs tests are used to assess the the attainment of pupils against the programmes of study of the National Curriculum at the end of KS2 and will be used by secondary schools to predict future attainment.

During May 2018, the children undertake three National Curriculum tests; Reading, Grammar Punctuation & Spelling and Mathematics. Writing is assessed solely on the teachers judgement which is externally moderated.

To receive further details about the SATs (such as dates, exemplar test papers, how to support your child at home to achieve the best possible outcomes and how to interpret standardised scores) we encourage you to attend a SATs information afternoon.

We do hope as many of you as possible are able to attend this important information event.

Parent Teacher Consultation – Advanced Notice.

Please be aware that the parent teacher consultations for the Spring term will take place on **Thursday 8th February 2018 3.30pm to 8.00pm** for ALL year groups. Do make a note in your diary so that you are able to attend this important event.

ParentMail Online Payments

From 1st January 2018 we will be using +Pay on ParentMail – an online payment service which allows you to pay for school items quickly and easily on your smartphone, tablet or computer. We will inform you about items you need to pay through ParentMail, and you will be able to pay electronically, using credit or debit cards. These will include school trips and clubs.

If you have an Android or Apple smartphone, we would highly recommend you download the free ParentMail App so that you can make easy, online payments on the go. To do this, simply search for “ParentMail” in your devices’ App store. **Payments for school dinners are not able to be made through this system.**

If you do not wish to make payments online, you can of course, continue to make cash and cheque payments until February half term, after which point we hope all parents will see the benefit of online payments.

Please note: your bank statement will display either the school name or ParentMail, dependent on your payment method.

If you need any additional information or assistance, please use the help site:

www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/ or please contact Hayley Bartlett in the school office
