

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018**  
**St Nicholas CE Primary Academy**  
**Weekly Newsletter**

**Headteacher: Christopher Dale**



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February** is the Parent Teacher Consultation's. If you have not booked a slot yet – it's not too late to do so! There is still time to get onto parent mail and attend this valuable meeting to find out more about the progress your child is making.

I am often asked how to make the parent teacher meetings more productive, so below are some top tips to make the most of the parents evening:

**Talk:** Take time to speak to your child in advance of the evening. Find out whether there's anything they'd like to discuss or understand more about. If they are younger - how do they feel, and is there anything specific they'd like you to ask?

**Write it down:** Make a note of your questions or areas you'd like to discuss. That way you won't miss anything if the evening is a bit rushed.

**Listen:** On the evening it's very easy to get caught up in the moment asking questions; remember to take the time to listen to the teachers' feedback.

**Take notes:** Write anything down or add notes to your phone or tablet between sessions so you can remind yourself later what you learnt.

**The bigger picture:** Although academic performance is obviously important there are many other aspects of your child's school life that you may not know about, like social interactions, so don't be afraid to ask about these too.

**What's next?** It's a good idea to ask the teacher how you can help to support your child outside of the classroom – ask for any tricks they may have to help you with this that they use in the classroom. Plus discuss whether there's a way of keeping in touch regularly should any more questions arise – whether meeting at school pick up or via email if you aren't at the school often.

**Feedback:** Let your child know how the evening went – if they were there discuss it with them. Were they happy with the outcome and how are you going to address any issues raised? Working together on this is a great way to improve a child's performance.

Yours sincerely

Mr Christopher Dale  
**Headteacher**

**Dates for your diary**

**February 2018**

**Tues 6<sup>th</sup>**  
Safer Internet Day

**Thurs 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Whole School Parent Teacher Consultations**  
**3:20pm—8pm**

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup>**  
End of Term

**Mon 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Children return to school**

**Wed 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Year R Sports Fun Day at the Marsh Academy

**Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
Year 1 Rugby Tots for next 5 weeks

**Mon 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Book Week all this week—more details to follow.

Book Character Day

**Tues 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Book Week - Guest Author visit

**March 2018**

**Thurs 1<sup>st</sup>**  
Year 6 Sailing - Group 1  
Year 1 Parent meeting on Phonics 2.30pm

**Thurs 29<sup>th</sup>**  
9.30am Whole School Easter Service at St Nicholas Church, parents welcome



## Attendance – Every Day Counts

It is essential that your child comes to school on time every day. Learning begins immediately at 8.50am after Early Morning Work when the class doors open at 8.35am when many additional interventions are also scheduled for this time.

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 last week was 93.8%.**

Class attendance rates last week.			
Hedgehog	98%	Rowan	92.5%
Squirrel	96.7%	Chestnut	97.8%
Badger	96.7%	Birch	92.3%
Otter	92%	Maple	96.3%
Fox	87.6%	Willow	92.1%
Hare	90.4%	Oak	96.5%
Beech	95.7%	Elm	95.4%



This term's collective worship focus is:

**PERSEVERANCE**

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

**PHILIPPIANS 4.13**

**Well Done this Week to**

- **KS1 Hedgehog**
- **KS2 Chestnut**

## School Closure

In the event of bad weather we always aim to ensure that the school remains open. Depending on the number of staff able to get to school we may have to re-arrange classes and cover that may be different to the normal school routine. Our priority will be to provide safe and adequate supervision for all children. We will ParentMail all parents with news about the status of the school as early as we can and aim for this to happen before 8:15am. Information can also be found at [www.kentclosures.co.uk](http://www.kentclosures.co.uk) as well as on local radio stations (Radio Kent, KMFM and Heart FM) and on the school website. If there is a heavy snowfall during the daytime then we will only consider closing early in very extreme conditions and we will send out a text via ParentMail.



## STAR AWARDS

**Star of the week awards went to:**

**Hedgehog:** Ronnie H, **Badger:** Jasmine C, **Fox:** Hollie A,  
**Rowan:** Lenny P, **Birch:** Katie A, **Willow:** Lacey D, **Oak:** Luca M



## COMPETITION

### *Handwriting Competition*

- To write out a poem or piece of text from a children's story.
- Only entries on A4 paper will be accepted. The paper can be portrait or landscape and with faint lines which do not detract from the handwriting.
- There will be 3 categories for prizes
  - Infants (Years 1 & 2)
  - Lower Juniors (Years 3 & 4)
  - Upper Juniors (Years 5 & 6)
- Entries for pupils in the Infant or Lower KS2 (Yrs 3 & 4) may be written in pen or pencil. Entries for Upper KS2 (Yrs 5 & 6) should be written in ink.
- Entries may be illustrated but the illustrations or decorations must not overlap or detract from the handwriting.
- Entrants need to put their name and class on the back of the entry.
- Entries need to be returned to school by **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018**
- Judging will take place in the week the competition closes and the winner announced at the end of the week. Certificates will be sent out to runners up, third place and highly commended entries.

*Good Luck!*