



Friday 27th April 2018
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week the Leadership Team have met with all the teachers across the school for Pupil Progress Meetings. These are meetings where we discuss every child's attainment and progress for reading, writing and maths. The meeting also focuses on identifying the children that have not made the necessary progress and deciding what will be done to ensure this will be rectified.

As part of that meeting staff are asked questions about support for the child at home. When reviewing reading results across the school, which incidentally show a lot of very good progress, there are still too many classes in which there are 5 or 6 pupils who are not reading regularly.

Not listening to your child read regularly can have a detrimental effect on the outcomes for your child's education. Listening to your child once a week or asking someone else to do the job of a parent is only putting your child at further risk of not being able to be successful at GCSEs when they leave school. Of course many of the parents at St Nicholas do support their children in reading and where this is happening there is good evidence of accelerated progress.

I have asked staff to approach parents whose children are not reading regularly. If you are approached please do help us to help your child.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Parent Council

The next Parents' Council meeting will take place on Monday 30th April at 6.30pm at the school. You are all very welcome.

At this meeting members of the Council will be joined by Miss Sisk the schools new SENCo to find out more about her role and the upcoming priorities for the school.

Football Team

Congratulations to our school football team on a thrilling nail biting display against Greatstone. St Nicholas ran out eventual winners 5-4 in the Shepway School's Football Association Consolation Cup. The display of sportsmanship at the end by both teams was really great and all concerned were a credit to both schools. Huge thanks to everyone who supported.

St Nicholas has been represented by:

Harry A, Medard B-G, George C, Ronnie G, Hayden K, Max L, Maison L, Ryan L-E, Jake M, Loui-Joe N, George R, Harry S, Charlie S, and Alfie U.

Dates for your diary

April 2018

Mon 30th

Parent Council 6.30pm

Yr R Hearing & Vision Screening

May 2018

Wed 2nd

Yr 3 Bright Sparks

Thurs 3rd

8:15am & 2.30pm Yr 1

Phonics meeting for parents

Yr 5 Windsurfing

Mon 7th

Bank Holiday – school closed

Wed 9th

Yr 4 Tri-Golf at Littlestone Golf Club

Mon 14th

KS2 SATs week all week – for Yr 6

Thurs 17th

KSG Netball qualifiers

Term 5 dates

Starts:

Monday 16th April 2018

Ends:

Friday 25th May 2018

School holidays:

Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June 2018

Bank holidays:

Monday 7th May and Monday 28th May 2018

Term 6 dates

Starts:

Monday 4th June 2018

Ends:

Tuesday 24th July 2018

Attendance – Every Day Counts

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

If your child is absent from school you must report their absence by 9am on the first morning. This can be done via ParentMail 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 96.5%.

Class attendance last week			
Hedgehog	92%	Rowan	99%
Squirrel	98.3%	Chestnut	96.5%
Badger	95.5%	Birch	96.4%
Otter	99%	Maple	97.4%
Fox	98.2%	Willow	99.6%
Hare	94.8%	Oak	93.5%
Beech	96.5%	Elm	94.2%

Well done last week to

- **Otter Class**
- **Willow Class**



This term's collective worship focus is:

FRIENDSHIP

I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

JOHN 15:15

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

Star Award



Star of the week awards went to:

Hedgehog: Jack C, **Otter:** Poppy J, **Hare:** Keira H, **Beech:** Ruby L, **Birch:** Jayden S, **Maple:** Logan W, **Oak:** Aimee C

Nicholas Bear was awarded to...BEECH!

School Dinners

As we have mentioned in previous newsletters the price of the children's school lunches is £2.20 which is £11.00 for a week. We would respectfully remind parents that Nourish our school meals provider require all payments to be made in advance. The school **cannot** pay for children's school lunches.

If you think you might be eligible for Free School Meals then please visit <https://www.kent.gov.uk> or collect a form from the school office.

School Trips and Visits

Here at St Nicholas we are absolutely committed to ensuring that all children get at least one 'educational visit' based on their Topic learning. These visits are crucial to allow all children to have a 'real' experience and help give them a context for their learning.

In the times of Google it is easy to access a wealth of information from virtually anywhere. We recognise that this is an amazing support to our learners BUT, no virtual experience can have the same impact on a child's learning that a real experience will have.

Whilst we are on the subject...can we please ask that parents continue to support these visits by ensuring the correct payment for any visit is made by ParentMail in advance of the visit. We are experiencing a continual decline in parental contributions. This is now getting to the point where we may have to consider cancelling certain visits as the school cannot afford to subsidise them. The school has recently introduced ParentMail online payments in a bid to make payments easier for parents.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.