

Friday 4th December 2015
**St Nicholas Church of England (Controlled)
Primary School - Weekly Newsletter**

Headteacher: Christopher Dale



Dear Parents and Carers,

This evening every family will receive a letter outlining the need for children to learn and improve on their spelling and their High Frequency Word lists. The aim of this, as pointed out in the letter, is to help the children improve their reading and writing. We hope that parents will find this information useful as it does show what the expected standard is for each child in their relevant year group.

Over the course of the last two weeks, we held sessions on how to help your children with their reading at home. Given the need for children to be successful in their reading as a life skill, I was disappointed by the turn out to both workshops – only 5 parents turned out with two families attending both sessions! Many parents asked in the last questionnaire for these workshops to be put on to help with their child's learning. In a recent newsletter I asked parents what times would be suitable, only 4 replied. If as a school we are to be effective in ensuring we are able to meet your child's learning needs we need to be able to put on events which will encourage people to attend and at a time that is suitable. I will write to parents again in the new year to ensure we get a better turn out and response to future events.

Wishing you all a very good weekend.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Years 4 & 5 Walk to the Beach

Birch, Maple and Willow classes will be walking to Littlestone beach on Thursday 10th December. The walk will be within school time leaving at approximately 9:10am and arriving back in school by 12:15pm. In order for this to happen we do require the support of any parents who would be able to give up their morning to join us as escorts, unfortunately if we do not have enough adults to help walk, this trip will not be able to go ahead. If you would be happy to help then please could you let your child's class teacher know by Tuesday 8th December. Please could you ensure your child has suitable footwear and outdoor clothing on the day of the walk.

The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree Assembly is on Monday 14th December. Children are asked to bring in a wrapped pre owned or new toy/game labelled for another child. Or a gift for an elderly lady or gentleman. These will gratefully received and distributed by St Nicholas Church. It is good to know that amidst all the rush and bustle of Christmas, the true meaning of this special time is celebrated. Again, your generosity is much appreciated.



Dates for your diary

Fri 4th Dec PTFA
Fayre at 3pm

Mon 7th Dec KS1
Nativity 1:45pm

Tues 8th Dec KS1
Nativity 9.30am

Wed 9th Dec School
Panto – provided by
the PTFA

Thurs 10th Dec Years
4 & 5 to walk to the
beach

Fri 11th Dec PTFA
Disco

Weds 16th Dec School
Christmas Dinner

Fri 18th Dec Junior
Carol Service at St
Nicholas Church
09:15, all welcome

TERM DATES

Fri 18th Dec – Term 2
ends at 3pm

Mon 4th Jan – Term 3

Children return to
school

Staff Development Days

The school will be
closed to children on
these dates

Friday 8th July

Attendance

Well done to Owls class who achieved 99.1% attendance this week.
Whole school attendance was 95.5%

Class attendances were:

Squirrels	94.2%	Hedgehogs	99%
Otter	99.1%	Badgers	97.1%
Eagles	93.7%	Owls	95.4%
Kestrels	98.1%	Kites	91.5%
Birch	95.8%	Maple	93%
Willow	96.4%	Chestnuts	92.4%
Rowan	97%		

Our target for attendance is 96.6%

Advent and Christmas Services at St Nicholas Church

Toy Service 10.30am - Sunday 6th December
Star Service 5.30pm - Sunday 13th December
Community Carol Service 7pm - Tuesday 15th December
Holy Communion 10.30am - Sunday 20th December
Christmas Eve 3pm Crib and Christingle Service
Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day 10.30am Family Service

Are **you** following us
on Twitter?

**We now have 50
followers**

@St_Nicholas_CEP



Star Awards

Star of the week awards go to: Hedgehogs: Jacob, **Otters:** India,
Eagles: Maddison, **Kestrels:** Frankey, **Willow:** Kyle, **Chestnut:** Jack U

Nicholas Bear to: Owls

STAY & LEARN

Drop-in sessions, such as Stay and Learn, are a great way for families to meet each other and have a change of scene and activities. They are more flexible than a group, in that there is no expectation that parents/carers attend every week or get there for the start time. They can provide a relaxing way for parents to chat together, while their children take part in activities. However, they also offer a great opportunity to share ideas with parents and carers (in bite-size chunks) about how they can support their children's learning through everyday activities. Year R is on Monday, Year 2 Tuesday and Year 1 on Thursday. **We hope to see you supporting YOUR child's learning!**

Volunteer Readers We are still looking for more volunteers to help children with reading. Could you spare a small amount of time each week to become a regular reading volunteer? Please speak to either Tina at the school or contact her at the school office on 01797 361906 for further details.

Christmas Performances

We are pleased to announce the times of this year's Christmas Performances, which parents and carers are invited to attend.

Reception and Key Stage One will be holding their Christmas Nativities on Monday 7th December at 1:45pm and again on Tuesday 8th December at 9.30am

Key Stage 2 will have their Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church on Friday 18th December at 09:15am.

We hope that you are able to join us for these events.

Letters sent home this week: Disco letter, HFW Letter,