

Monday 17th October 2016
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have got the reading bug here at St Nicholas and as Mrs Longman told us all in an assembly on Friday 'reading takes you to another world'. As you know, reading with your child at home regularly is crucial for their fluency, understanding and enjoyment of reading. It is also a really lovely time to spend with your child. Please ensure that you are reading at home every night and that you sign your child's reading record.

With this in mind, we are looking for an army of enthusiastic but dedicated volunteers who would like to come in and read with our children on a regular basis. Please let the office know if you are interested and we will be in touch after the half term.

I have been delighted with the response by parents so far with their feedback on the values questionnaire. If you have not already done so please could you get your feedback in by Thursday as we still have to meet with the children and it would be good to have our values established at the start of the next term.

I look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at the PTFA AGM – details below – as funds raised are for the benefit of all our children. We are also holding a Phonics Information Session for Year R & 1 parents on Wednesday. Do try and come along to these important events.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

PTFA - Annual General Meeting

The Committee would like to invite any parents who wish to join the PTFA to attend the next meeting to be held on **Tuesday 18th October at 2.15pm** at the school. Refreshments will be available.

This meeting will provide an opportunity for any new parents to join the committee if they so wish. It can be a daunting experience for some, but rest assured, they are really a very friendly bunch!!

The PTFA brings together parents, teachers and others from the school community who are interested in supporting the school providing an opportunity for everyone to work together, with a common purpose – to organise fundraising and social events. Events organised previously include school discos, quiz nights, Christmas Fayre and the annual summer fete. The Committee also runs a volunteer list. This is for parents who cannot commit to being a fulltime member but would be willing to help the Committee when needed i.e. to supervise school discos, man stalls, help sell raffle tickets, help with teas & coffees etc... Please do lend whatever time you are able – it's all appreciated!

**Volunteers
Wanted**



**Dates for your
diary**

Tues 18th Oct
Individual & Sibling
Photographs

Please join us for the
PTFA AGM at 2.15pm
Yr 6 Kingswood
Residential meeting at
6pm

Wed 19th Oct
Phonics meeting for Yr R
& 1 Parents at 2.15pm

Mon 24th to Fri 28th Oct
HALF TERM – school
closed

Mon 31st Oct
Term 2 starts – children
return to school
Yr 6 Secondary School
Admissions close

Tues 1st Nov
Whole School Parent &
Teacher consultations
4pm to 7.30pm

Astrodome visit for
Years 2 & 6

Children starting school
in 2017 – Meeting in
Children's Centre from
3.30pm -6pm

Thurs 3rd Nov
Whole School Parent &
Teacher consultations
3.30pm to 6pm

Flu Immunisation for
Year R, Y1, Y2 & Y3

Fri 4th Nov
Y3 Skiing Group 1

Mon 7th Nov
Year 6 Residential Week
at Kingswood

Tues 8th Nov
Yr 5 Canterbury
Cathedral Visit

Thurs 10th Nov
Open Day Tours for Sept
2017 entrants at 9.30am
& 1.30pm

Mon 14th Nov
Anti Bullying Activities
Week – details to follow

Busters Book Club

Last week we were looking for the highest percentage of children reading.

In KS1 **Owls** had 54%

In KS2, **Chestnuts** had an enormous 96%

The total number of additional minutes read was 2358 which means a grand total of additional minutes read to date - 11,479

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH CLASSES



This weeks collective worship focus is:

OUR JOURNEYS

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

Luke 18 : 1

Attendance – Every Day Counts

School attendance is vital for young people to reach their full potential and is therefore a priority for St Nicholas CE Primary Academy. We are constantly monitoring pupil attendance and want to work together with parents to help ensure excellent attendance and punctuality.

As a safeguarding procedure we will telephone all those children who are not in school on the day, so please ensure that you let the school office know if your child is sick. If we have concerns around your child's attendance, you will be asked to provide medical evidence of your child's sickness. Please also remember that our doors open at 8.35 and the school day starts at 8.45 – being in school on time ensures that your child is ready to start the day the right way.

Our whole-school attendance so far this year is 96.8%.

Well done to the following classes who achieved best % attendance in the week ending 14th October:

- Birch – 98.9%
- Kestrels – 98.5%

The Class with the best punctuality was Hedgehogs with no lates.

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

Stepping Stones at St Nicholas Church

For Pre-school Children, Parents & Carers – we meet every Wednesday 1.45pm – 2.45pm, weekly during term times for Food, Fun and Fellowship.

Romney Marsh Community Church – Friday Club

Meets Friday 6 - 7.30pm for children in school years 3 – 6

It's an informal social time for children to join in with fun games and activities and chill together.

Star Awards



Star of the week awards went to: Hedgehogs: George G, **Badgers:** Carmela Q, **Owls:** Mai R, **Kestrels:** Kai H, **Birch:** Joseph Y-S, **Willow:** Charlotte R, **Rowan:** Mae B



Work to be proud of awards went to: Squirrels: Aiden L,

Otters: Leon J, **Eagles:** Honey-Paris S, **Kites:** Samuel K, **Chestnut:** Zac C, **Beech:** Nathan H

Nicholas Bear awarded to... Badgers!

House Points Awards

This term the children have been working hard to collect their House points. On Friday the children had the final totals for the term announced to decide who would have the non-uniform event on Friday 21st October. The results were:

St Augustine	1868	St Nicholas	1831
St George	2134	St Peter	1756

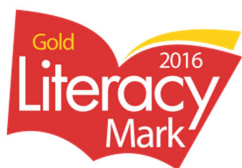
This means that **ONLY** the children in St George's House will be able to come to school in non-uniform on Friday 21st October.

Parents Evenings

These will be held on **Tuesday 1st** (4pm ~ 7.30pm) & **Thursday 3rd November 2016** (3:30pm ~ 6pm). **Parents can now book their consultations via Parent Mail.**

If you have not already done so, please sign up to Parent Mail.

Secondary School Transfer - The secondary school transfer deadline is **Monday 31st October**. If you have a child in Year 6 who has yet to make an application please visit this website: www.kent.gov.uk/ola where you can submit an online application. If you have any questions or need any advice please speak to Miss. Barrow (KS2 Leader) or Mr. Dale.



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Twitter: @St_Nicholas_CEP – We now have 180 followers.



School Photographer

The photographer will be in school on Tuesday 18th October. Would you please make sure your child is in the correct school uniform.

If you would like a photograph of your child with a younger pre-school or older sibling please go to the Den between 3pm – 3:30pm.

Phonics meeting

On **Wednesday 19th October at 2.15pm** Mrs Pearce will be holding an information meeting for parents on how we teach phonics in Reception and Year 1. This meeting will also include information regarding the Year 1 phonics screening test.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Sports News

Last week, Children from St Nicholas took part in the Shepway Schools Cross Country held at Brockhill Park. The children represented the school with great sportsmanship and determination as they ran over a mile. Our congratulations to George C who was awarded Silver position.

