

Monday 25th September 2017
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale



Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again it has been a very busy week at St Nicholas.

Last week our new intake have been settling into school learning about our school rules and into lunchtime routines. Also getting used to their timetable and the work they have to do, while becoming more independent in their learning. The rest of the school are now settled and are working hard.

Please see our Twitter feed for details and information of what your child has been up to. Remember you can look at your child's year group page on our website to find out more about their learning and see what they have been up to across the school.

I was really pleased to get feedback this week regarding the new RWI tasks and Oxford Owl resources. We have already received this comment from one parent;

'On behalf of my child, I just wanted to say thank you for Oxford Owl. We have never used anything like this before and we really like it. A great resource for parents and easy to use.'

We hope parents continue to see the benefits. If you would like to know more please speak to your class teacher or see the year group blog page on the school website or the RWI page.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Harvest Service



We will be celebrating Harvest Festival on Wednesday 4th October. We would like to invite parents, carers and extended family to join us at the church for our Harvest Service at 9.30am.

We would also be pleased to accept donations of non-perishable foods.

Secondary School Transfer

The secondary school transfer deadline is 31st October 2017. 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 Mr. Dale. There is also a parent meeting scheduled for Year 6 parents on Monday 16th October at 2.15pm where further information will be given.

Dates for your diary

Mon 25th Sept

SEN parent / SENCo conversations all week

Wed 27th Sept

Year 1 trip to Romney Marsh Wildlife Trust

Tues 3rd Oct

Year R photos for KM paper

Wed 4th Oct

Harvest Festival at St Nicholas Church
9.30am - parents welcome

Year 2 speed stacking competition at Marsh Academy

Mon 9th Oct

Year 6 trip to London meeting for parents

Wed 11th Oct

Year 6 Trip to London

Mon 16th Oct

Year 6 Secondary School Admissions Meeting at 2.15pm

Tues 17th Oct

Class photos – all day.

Read, Write, Inc presentation to parents at 2pm for Year R and KS1 parents

Thurs 19th Oct

Flu immunisations
Year R – Year 4

At this point of the year I have already received a number of holiday request letters. I will be sending out a letter to parents this week reminding them of the procedures regarding leave of absence.

Attendance – Every Day Counts

For our children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and your child should be at school, on time, every day unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable. The national expectation for attendance is currently 96% however at St Nicholas we aim to achieve 97%. Research shows that there is an extremely strong link between high attendance levels and progress in a child's attainment. It is very important therefore that you make sure your child attends regularly to achieve the best they can. School attendance is vital for young people to reach their full potential and is therefore a priority for St Nicholas Academy.

Our whole-school attendance so far this year is **96.3%**.

Class attendance rates last week (21/9/17) were:			
Hedgehogs	91.3%	Beech	96.2%
Squirrels	93.4%	Birch	79.3%
Badgers	96%	Chestnut	91.1%
Otters	98.1%	Maple	91.7%
Hare	98.5%	Willow	98.1%
Fox	97.7%	Elm	97.9%
Rowan	95.5%	Oak	98%

The class with the best attendance this week in KS1 is **Hare** and in KS2 is **Willow**.

The classes with the best punctuality were **Hedgehog, Chestnut** and **Willow** with no lates.

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

Advance notice for Year R and KS1 parents

There will be a Phonics meeting on Tuesday 17th October 2017 at 2.00pm with Miss Common along with our Lead Facilitator Mr Nick Locke from Read, Write, Inc.

Miss Common will be holding an information meeting for parents on how we teach phonics in Reception and KS1 as well as how we can look for support from parents to aid your child's learning and development.

We hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend this very important session. Please make a date in your diary.

School Dinners

School dinners cost £2.20 per day or £11 per week.

A polite reminder, dinners must be ordered in advance for the days they are required. The kitchen are very happy to accept payment for dinners for odd days such as Wednesday roast or Friday chip day but these must be paid for by 8.30am on the Monday morning for the week they are required NOT on the day.

Our catering company provide parents with the opportunity to make payments online and this can be accessed via the following link. <http://eschoolmeals.com/nourish>



This term's collective worship focus is:

THANKFULNESS

"And give thanks for everything to God the Father..."

Ephesians 5:20

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.



Zig-Zags

I would like to thank parents and carers and those drivers who support the safety of our school community by driving and parking responsibly, particularly those who have kept off the Zigzags when parking. May I take this opportunity to respectfully remind parents:

- Do not park on the zigzags
- Do not park on single or double yellow lines
- Do not park on the pavements or near the entrances to the school (including the bus stop area).

This is to ensure that children and adults can safely navigate their way to and from school. It is also as a sign of respect to our neighbours on Fairfield Road and beyond – who show endless patience with the minority of parents who continue to park dangerously. Please consider the impact of your parking. Once again I know that the VAST majority of our families are considerate when collecting and dropping children off – Thank you.

Structured Conversations

Some parents may have received a letter/parent mail or been approached directly by your child's teacher inviting you for a structured conversation. This was a programme set up last year and as a result of its success will run again this year. If you have received a letter/parent mail, please speak directly to your child's teacher as soon as possible to arrange a convenient time for your structured conversation to take place. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Follow us on Twitter



Our school is connected! We now have over 260 followers.

Please follow us on Twitter, we use this social media tool to share, connect, and collaborate with the world around us. This school year we will use the school Twitter account (@St_Nicholas_CEP) to share snippets of our work, learning, and life at school. Our goal will be to tweet across a week. We will tweet about our work or exciting goings-on at school. Pupil safety will remain our concern and the account will operate in line with the schools e-safety policy. Using these social media tools will give you a glimpse into our school and your child's learning in a new and exciting format. We hope you will enjoy being "connected"!

Star Awards



Star of the week awards went to:

Badger: Ava A, **Rowan:** Eva A, **Chestnut:** Molly-Anne G, **Birch:** Rhys L,
Maple: Roxy P, **Oak:** Madison S.

Nicholas Bear was awarded to FOX CLASS!



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