

Friday 14th September 2018
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale



Dear Parents and Carers,

In the first newsletter of the school year I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new entrants. Today was first full day of school for our Year R pupils and I hope all the children have settled in, as this has proved to be a very successful transition to the children's start of school.

I hope parents found the Open Classes valuable earlier this week. It was good to have so many parents in school finding out more about the day to day routines as well as those all important events taking place this year within each year group. Curriculum letters and notices will be placed onto the year group class pages for those parents who were not able to attend.

As stated in my letter to parents at the start of the school year, I am looking forward to making this academic year one where the school and home is working collaboratively for the benefit of all the children. Where this happens, the progress in children's learning is enormous and I would like for St Nicholas and its parents to be recognised as having the strongest home school partnerships in Kent. Wouldn't that be an achievement. On that note we have the first Parent Council meeting on **Monday 17th September at 6.30pm** and if your child's class is in need of a parent representative please do come along.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Advanced Notice of Development Day

Further to our dates calendar sent out last week we would like to advise parents of an additional development day which has been arranged for **Friday 16th November 2018**. We do hope this advanced notice will provide parents with the opportunity to arrange alternative care on that day if required.

School Ground Improvement Day

This Saturday (15th September) we will be holding a working party in the Foundation Stage and environmental areas from 9am to 2pm. If you can spare some time to come and help us improve our outdoor learning areas then we would love to see you.

We will be clearing the pond, removing some shrubs, ivy and also painting fences. We will meet in the infant playground. Please bring your own tools and paintbrushes if you have them. Gloves would also be extremely useful. All help is gratefully received!



Dates for your diary

September

Mon 17th
Parent Council Meeting at 6.30pm

Fri 28th
MacMillan Coffee Morning 8.30am onwards—all are welcome
Year R Open Class

October

Wed 3rd
Harvest Festival Service at St Nicholas Church 9.30am.

Fri 5th
Year 1 Visit the Old School House

W/B Mon 8th
Science Week.

Wed 10th
RWI Parent Workshop at 2.15pm and again at 6.00pm

Thurs 11th
11+ (PESE Test) results released.

Year 6 Parents PESE Secondary School Application and Kingswood Information meeting at 6.00pm

Mon 15th
Open Classes Yr R to 6 (3pm - 3.45pm)

Wed 17th
Year R Parent Teacher Consultations 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Thurs 18th
Year R to 6 Parent Teacher Consultations 3.30pm to 8.00pm

Fri 19th
END OF TERM 1



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.

Please be aware of the legal obligations we have to follow regarding reporting attendance: We have to ask for supporting documents regarding appointments and official leave All leave MUST be requested in advance.

Attendance that drops below **90%** will automatically be investigated by Kent's Attendance Team.

Our whole-school attendance this week was **96.1%**.

Class attendance rates this week			
Hedgehog	100%	Rowan	94.8%
Squirrel	100%	Beech	97.7%
Badger	92.5%	Birch	97.2%
Otter	93.6%	Maple	95%
Fox	91.8%	Willow	96.8%
Hare	96.1%	Oak	98.6%
Chestnut	98.2%	Elm	99.2%



This term's collective worship focus is:

COURAGE

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

JOHN 14:6

Well Done this week to

- Squirrel & Hedgehog
- Elm

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

Star Award



Star of the week awards went to:

Otter: Logan-Jacob S, **Fox:** Jayme C, **Rowan:** Cadence C, **Birch:** Rudy M, **Willow:** Daisy Swash, **Oak:** Valentine L

Nicholas Bear was awarded to...BEECH!!!

RWI Success - We are a "Get Reading. Keep Reading. Change Everything." school.

We use the highly successful Read Write Inc. Phonics programme to teach our children to read, write and spell. Our children do well in the phonics screening check and by Year 2, the majority are fluent readers with the best chance of success in the KS1 tests.

Ruth Miskin Training recognises us for teaching the programme with fidelity and passion – we know what it takes to make reading and writing pleasurable and rewarding for our children.

I would like to thank all the staff who have worked so hard to ensure we as a school have been recognised for this success.

This badge recognises that we:

- Raise standards in reading and writing for our children
- All staff are expertly trained by Ruth Miskin Training
- Gain the latest programme updates through regular visits from our Ruth Miskin Consultant Trainer
- Support our most vulnerable readers with extra one-to-one teaching every day.

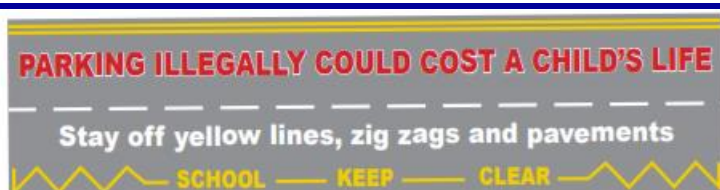
To visit the parent pages on the Ruth Miskin Training website go to:

<https://ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/>



Parking

We would like to remind parent not to park on the Yellow Zig-Zags and respectfully request that they remain considerate towards our neighbours when parking their vehicle.



PE Kits

Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school.

They will need a white t-shirt, navy blue or black shorts, black plimsolls. For pupils in KS2 black or navy jogging bottoms and trainers will also be needed for outdoor PE.

Earrings

Jewellery is not permitted to be worn by pupils in school with the exception of stud earrings. If a pupil wears stud earrings these **must** be removed for PE. Pupils who wear earrings must be capable of removing and replacing them unaided. Pupils who cannot remove their earrings may not participate in PE.

If your child is unable to remove their earrings please ask your child's teacher which days PE takes place and send your child in without earrings on that day.

TERM DATES 2018/2019

3rd September 2018	-	Staff Training Day – school closed
4th September 2018	-	Staff Training Day – school closed
5th September 2018	-	Start of Term 1
19th October 2018	-	Last day of Term 1
22nd – 26th October 2018	-	HOLIDAY
29th October 2018	-	Start of Term 2
16th November 2018	-	Staff Training Day – school closed
19th December 2018	-	Last day of Term 2
20th Dec – 2nd January 2019	-	HOLIDAY
3rd January 2019	-	Staff Training Day – school closed
4th January 2019	-	Staff Training Day – school closed
7th January 2019	-	Start of Term 3
15th February 2019	-	Last day of Term 3
18th – 22nd February 2019	-	HOLIDAY
25th February 2019	-	Start of Term 4
5th April 2019	-	Last day of Term 4
8th April – 22nd April 2019	-	EASTER HOLIDAY
23rd April 2019	-	Start of Term 5
24th May 2019	-	Last day of Term 5
27th May – 31st May 2019	-	HOLIDAY
3rd June 2019	-	Start of Term 6
23rd July 2019	-	Last Day of Term 6
24th July 2019	-	SUMMER HOLIDAY
