



Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018  
**St Nicholas CE Primary Academy**  
**Weekly Newsletter**  
Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we near the end of the academic term a wave of excitement and joy fills the school as we enter the most special time of the year. Christmas songs and dances have started to pervade the building and I am sure many of you are already well versed in your children's lines and lyrics for their Christmas performances! Children have been busy making decorations for their classrooms and the school. This traditionally marks the commencement of the school's Christmas celebrations that exudes a magical, Christmas spirit which everyone looks forward to.

I love the magic that Christmas brings especially as it is a time to spend with family and a time for fostering a community spirit. Everyone has an opportunity to join in unison, with a feeling of togetherness, whether it is through celebrating the joys of watching your children perform in the KS1 Christmas nativities or by joining us in our KS2 Carol Service. Across the next two weeks a whole host of Christmas festivities will be taking place, which we warmly invite everyone to take part in — all dates and events are listed in the Dates for your Diary section. We look forward to seeing you!

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale  
Headteacher

### **Is my child too ill for school?**

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell. But there are government guidelines for schools that say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. With the cold wet weather coughs, colds, sore throats and sickness are all around us so it is important that children have a warm coat, hat, scarf and gloves (all named). It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly. You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat.

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school for 24 hours after their symptoms have gone. If you do keep your child at home it's important to ParentMail the school on the first day to let us know that your child won't be in and give a reason.

For more information on school illness and absence please contact Clair Seiver or visit the following website - [www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/)

## **Dates for your Diary**

### **December**

#### **Fri 7<sup>th</sup>**

Lantern Parade in New Romney Town Centre from 5.30pm onwards

#### **Mon 10<sup>th</sup>**

Whole school panto for KS1 & KS2 pupils

#### **Wed 12<sup>th</sup>**

Y3 Skiing Group 5

#### **Thurs 13<sup>th</sup>**

KS1 Nativity Performance at 1.45pm

Parent Council Forum 6.30pm

#### **Fri 14<sup>th</sup>**

KS1 Nativity Performance at 9.30am

Y2 Fox & Hare class open class from 2.30pm – parents welcome

Christmas Disco  
KS1 5pm-6pm  
KS2 6:30pm – 7:45pm

#### **Mon 17<sup>th</sup>**

KS2 class parties

#### **Tues 18<sup>th</sup>**

KS1 class parties

#### **Wed 19<sup>th</sup>**

Christmas dinner & Christmas jumper day

KS2 Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church 9:30am

### **LAST DAY OF TERM**

### **January 2019**

#### **Mon 7<sup>th</sup>**

Start of Term

#### **Jan 10<sup>th</sup>**

Meeting for Y5 Parents regarding the Y6 residential



## 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.



This term's collective worship focus is:  
**COMPASSION**

Our whole-school attendance this week was 94.6%.

Class attendance rates this week			
Hedgehog	97.5%	Rowan	92.7%
Squirrel	95.7%	Beech	97.5%
Badger	98.6%	Birch	97.3%
Otter	94.3%	Maple	97.5%
Fox	94.5%	Willow	87.9%
Hare	90.9%	Oak	94.8%
Chestnut	93.1%	Elm	96.2%

## Well done this week to

- Badger
- Beech & Maple

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

## Reverse Advent

We would like to invite you to be a part of our school's reverse advent calendar, if you wish to do so. Thank you to those classes and families who have already contributed.

The purpose of a reverse advent calendar is to encourage everyone to think about how much we have and to support us in giving a something away each day.

Items for our reverse advent calendar can be brought to school from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> of December until Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

Each day a different class will be asked to bring in one item from home and place it in the reverse advent calendar box which will be in the main school hall, please see class list below for the day for each class.

Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	Fox	Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	Otter
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup>	Hedgehog & Squirrel	Tues 18 <sup>th</sup>	Willow
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	Birch	Wed 19 <sup>th</sup>	Maple
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup>	Beech		
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	Badger		

## Safety first

There have been a number of issues raised regarding inconsiderate parking and use of the zig-zags as a drop off zone lately. We are fully aware that it is busy in the morning and everyone wants to ensure that they get their child into school on time but please be responsible whilst parking and think of others

## Star Awards



Star of the week awards went to:

**Squirrel:** Joshua E, **Badger:** Elliott W, **Hare:** Henry B, **Chestnut:** Phoenix M,

**Beech:** Jimmy R, **Maple:** Harry D'A, **Elm:** Teddy W

## Term Dates

### Spring Term

First day of term: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Half-term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019

Last day of term: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

### Summer Term

First day of term: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Half-term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Last day of term: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019

---

## Free School Meals

We are currently updating our records to ensure that we have captured the details of all families whose children are entitled to receive Free School Meals.

If you receive any of the benefits below, then your child will be eligible to receive Free School Meals:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross household income of no more than £16,190)
- The Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Working Tax Credit run on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

**If your application for Free School Meals is successful, the school will also receive extra funding from the Government of approximately £1300 per year.**

Even if your child already receives a free lunch because they are in Reception or KS1, we can still claim funding to support their learning. If you would like to apply for Free School Meals you can apply online at; <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>

---

## School Post Box

The Christmas Post Box is now open. The post box is located by the School Office. Children are welcome to post their Christmas Cards into the post box and the cards will be delivered during the afternoon.

Please make sure your child has addressed the envelope with the recipient's name and class on the envelope.

