



Friday 18th January 2019
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attached with this week's newsletter is a letter reminding parents of the holiday entitlement guidance we follow as a school. Also an overview of last term's attendance in the school compared to the previous year.

From this we are able to see the classes with the best attendance overall each month. **Congratulations to Oak, Beech, Birch and Badger** for all having an attendance rate *above* the school target of 96% last term. Unfortunately however this is not the same for every class. The persistent absence percentage, while being better for two months compared to the previous year, still shows the number of children averaging a day a week off school. This is far too high and can have a detrimental effect on these pupils learning and the learning of others.

I know that Mrs Longman was delighted with the turnout of parents at last week's parent information session on Reading Plus. It has had a good impact on the children for those parents who did attend, it was clear to see how the children had progressed. In Birch class this week – St Nicholas Bear winners – 100% of the children completed all their tasks! I wonder if other classes in KS2 can do as well?

This term at the request of the parent council we will be inviting parents to our Whole School Acts of Worship. Please watch out for the dates and the invitations for your child's class on next week's newsletter. We do hope you can join us for these events.

Our next Parent Information Workshop is on Monday 21st January for Year 1 parents, see details below. Please watch out for information next week on the Year 2 and 6 SATs meetings.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Parent Information Sessions

Our next parent information workshop is everything you need to know about **the phonics screening check** in Year 1. The meeting takes place on Monday 21st January at 2.30pm and will be led by Miss Common.

The Year 1 phonics screening check is not a formal test, but a way for teachers to ensure that children are making sufficient progress with their phonics skills to read words and that they are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning.

Want to know more? Then we look forward to seeing you there.

Dates for your diary

January 2019

Mon 21st

The Phonics Screen meeting suitable for Y1 parents 2:30pm

Wed 23rd

YR Fun Day at the Marsh Academy 1-3pm

Thurs 24th

Y5 Hockey coaching – week 2 please ensure your child has their PE kit in school

Y2 Rugby Tots - please ensure your child has their PE kit in school

Mon 28th

Y2 Infant Agility at the Marsh Academy 1-3pm

Clubs begin

Thurs 31st

Y5 Hockey coaching – week 3 please ensure your child has their PE kit in school

Y2 Rugby Tots - please ensure your child has their PE kit in school

Uniform

We would like to kindly remind parents to send children to school wearing the correct school uniform. Shoes or trainers should be black with no coloured laces. Boots can be worn to school on rainy days but a change of shoes must be brought in for classroom wear. Earrings if worn, should be small studs only and children must be able to remove them for P.E. No other jewellery should be worn. PE is a compulsory part of the school curriculum. Please ensure your child/children have a PE kit in school every day.



This term's collective worship focus is:
FRIENDSHIP

Volunteering at St Nicholas

St Nicholas CE Academy welcomes volunteers in a range of capacities. If you are interesting in volunteering please ask the school office for a volunteer application form and return it to Mrs Turner the Deputy Headteacher. We are particularly interested in recruiting volunteers for the following roles, but are also open to any offers of support:

Reading volunteers

These spend an afternoon a week hearing children read individually and talking to them about their books. We are also interested in hearing from anyone who would be happy to spend an afternoon reading to children across the school. Reading volunteers will need to be DBS checked.

Maths games volunteers

These come in weekly and play some maths games with a couple of children. In Early Years, we ask for someone who could give a half day. Higher up the school we would be looking for just 20 – 30 minutes one afternoon. Maths games volunteers will need to be DBS checked.

All volunteers need to be DBS checked. DBS clearance allows schools to gain access to criminal records in order to safeguard children and vulnerable adults from individuals who may not be suitable for working in schools. There will be a short initial induction for all volunteers.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Star Awards



Star of the week awards went to:

Squirrel: Brihanna B, **Otter:** Harley P, **Hare:** Madison S, **Rowan:** Summer H, **Beech:** Amy L, **Willow:** Ellie-May F, **Elm:** Leah M

Nicholas Bear was awarded to BIRCH CLASS – well done!

Term Dates

Spring Term

First day of term: **Monday 7th January 2019**

Half-term: **Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February 2019**

Last day of term: **Friday 5th April 2019**

Summer Term

First day of term: **Tuesday 23rd April 2019**

May Day Bank Holiday: **Monday 6th May 2019**

Half-term: **Monday 27th to Friday 31st May 2019**

Last day of term: **Tuesday 23rd July 2019**

KCC are currently under a consultation for future term dates please look at the KCC website if you would like to take part in this.

Entry into School

All children must come into school via the main gates on Fairfield Road. The gate is open until 9am if your child is late they must enter through the gate as normal and let the School Office know they have arrived. From Monday the school gates on Craythorne Lane will be locked.