



Friday 4th October 2019
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Dear parents and carers,

Last Friday Year 6 returned after a wonderful adventure in the woods at the Bushcraft Centre in Westdene, West Sussex. We have heard the stories of camping out making their own dens, cooking dinner for the camp and eating fish eyes, yuck! They also filleted and prepared salmon for their dinners. We will be sending out a photo montage for parents of their adventures over the course of the week. The children who remained behind had a great time carrying out bread making and bread investigations with Mrs Turner.

Attendance has always been a focus for the school as a whole and this year is no different. There have already been a number of requests for leave of absence for holidays. It is a decision of this Governing Body NOT to authorise time off for family holidays or events and to ask for the Local Authority to penalty notice those who take term time holidays.

As a school we are committed to the continuous raising of achievement for all our pupils. Regular attendance is crucial if our pupils are to be successful. We expect all children to attend every day when school is in session as long as they are fit and healthy enough to do so.

For more information on attendance, please see the school website.

This year at St Nicholas we will have a huge push on handwriting. Early next week parents will receive information on how to help their child with the formation of their writing. We hope this will be of use.

Wishing all our families a restful weekend

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

School Dinners

We have been informed by Nourish that the price of school dinners will rise by five pence to **£2.25 per meal from Monday 7th October 2019**. Those parents who have already paid for the term in advance will also have to pay the increase in the cost of the dinners from this date.

This is the first rise in school meal costs for 3 years and we believe this still represents good value with costs being as effective as anywhere else in the county. Parents of children in Year R,1 and 2 will continue to receive the universal free school meals.

For information of what's on offer at lunchtime please see the menu on the school website –

<https://www.st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Nourish-Menu-Sept-to-Dec-2019.pdf>

Dates for your diary

October 2019

Tues 8th
Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 Cross Country at Three Hills 4pm onwards

Thurs 10th
FLO Coffee Morning

Tues 15th
Individual & sibling photos

Wed 16th
Y1 Multiskills at the Marsh Academy

Thurs 17th
Year 6 PESE (11+) results released

Fri 18th
End of Term

Mon 28th
Children return to school
Start of MATHS WEEK
KS1 Maths workshops

Tues 29th
KS2 Maths workshops

Wed 30th
Multiplication
Mastermind afternoon

Thurs 31st
Year 6 PESE secondary school applications close today

November 2019

Wed 6th
Y6 Cathedral Schools Day at Canterbury Cathedral

Thurs 7th
OPEN DAY for prospective YR parents

Mon 11th
National Height & Weight Measurement for YR & Y6 pupils
3-3:45pm Open classes



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:
AMBITION

Our whole-school attendance this week was 94.5%.

Class attendance rates this week			
Hedgehog	90.5%	Rowan	94.8%
Squirrel	94.3%	Beech	98.3%
Badger	93.8%	Birch	96.9%
Otter	85.2%	Maple	94.8%
Fox	97.2%	Willow	93.1%
Hare	94.6%	Oak	94.4%
Chestnut	97.1%	Elm	93.1%

Well done this week to

- Fox
- Beech

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

Star Awards



Star of the week awards went to:

Badger: Buddy L, **Fox:** Lola B, **Rowan:** Henry B, **Birch:** Harry D, **Willow:** Lily P,
Elm: Kimberley B

Message from Year 1 Teachers

This term Year 1 have been learning about toys. The children have looked at their favourite toys and learnt about old and new toys. To finish our topic we would like to invite all parents/carers & grandparents to join us on **Tuesday 15th October from 1:45pm** to share your favourite childhood toy with us. We very much hope you will be able to come along and we look forward to seeing you with your favourite toy.

Reading

A child's reading skills are important to their success in school as they will allow them to access the breadth of the curriculum and improve their communication and language skills. In addition, reading can be a fun and imaginative time for children which opens doors to all kinds of new worlds for them.

Why is reading so important?

Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance. Also, children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who do not, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

What difference can I make as a parent?

You can make a huge difference! Parents are the most important educators in a child's life – even more important than their teachers – and it is never too early to start reading together.

Please spend up to 20 minutes a day reading with your child.

Class Dojo

At St Nicholas we use Class Dojo to keep in touch with you about school events, send reminders and send celebratory messages about learning and community activities.

Some of the features include;

- Class Story - general class news and celebrations, reminders and updates.
- School Story - news from across the school, on the day it happens, informing you about whole school events, sporting results and other whole school information and updates.

There are still some parents who are yet to register or log back in to their Dojo account. If you need assistance with this please speak to your child's class teacher who can provide you with a login to your account.

