



Friday 16th October 2020
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Dear Parents and Carers,

My thanks to all those parents who answered Mrs Starmer-Smith's appeal of not using mobiles on the school site after her letter last week. The reduction has been most noticeable. The key message was 'it's good to **talk**' and find out what is happening at school.

Talking of Talk, the children will be coming home with homework this week related to talking!

This involves NO writing at home...they do it in school the following week! It is a vital aspect of their Talk4Writing and is a key phase in the development of their writing.

It works around the basis **"If they can't say it, they can't write it!"**

Children will bring home TALK homework at least twice a term. It is our hope that children will have the time with you to develop their vocabulary and understanding which will enrich their writing tasks back here at school; they talk about the vocabulary that they might use, discussing sentence structures, content and text type.

When doing the talk homework we would ask families to please turn off the TV and spend 'special' time talking to your children.

The following are ways we could make your talk last longer and be more interesting:

- Each give your own opinions on the subject
- Use the 'because' word to explain why you think that.
- Discuss why other family members not present might have a different idea.
- Use the 'because' word to explain why they might have a different idea.
- Encourage thinking about exciting words to use to make their writing more interesting.

Please watch out for the TALK homework activities this weekend.

Have a great weekend

Christopher Dale

Headteacher

A huge **thank you** to everyone for supporting YoungMinds **#HelloYellow** day last Friday for World Mental Health Day.

2020 hasn't been the year we thought it would be - it's been tough. We had an amazing day filled with joy and colour raising a total amount of **£254.00**

Thanks again for your support.

If you would like to learn more about YoungMinds please visit:

www.youngminds.org.uk



Dates for your diary

October

Week beginning 19th
Maths Week – whole school

Sponsored Bounce & Maths Hats:

Y1 – Mon 19th October
Y2 – Thurs 22nd October
Y3 – Weds 21st October
Y4 – Tues 20th October
Y5 – Fri 23rd October
Y6 – Fri 23rd October

Thurs 22nd

Virtual Harvest Festival

Parent Teacher consultations 3:30pm to 8pm – This will be strictly by appointment only

Fri 23rd

End of term

November

Mon 2nd

Children return to school

The Immunisation team will be attending for the FLU nasal sprays.

Year 6 Parents - secondary school applications for your child to start secondary school in 2021 close at 23.59hrs.

Mon 9th

Blue Monday – start of Anti-bullying week

Fri 13th

Children in Need Day – watch out for more details

For all of our most up to date information on term dates please see the school website

www.st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk



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 many additional interventions are also scheduled for this time, which may include your child as part of our 'catch-up' programme.



This term's collective worship focus is:
AMBITION

Our whole-school attendance this week was 95.7%.

Class attendance rates this week			
Hedgehog	97.6%	Chestnut	93%
Squirrel	99.2%	Birch	94.3%
Badger	93.8%	Beech	100%
Otter	92.1%	Maple	99.2%
Fox	97.5%	Willow	98.4%
Hare	99.2%	Oak	91.4%
Rowan	94.5%	Elm	95.7%

Well done this week to

- Squirrel
- Beech

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

READING

In school we are really trying hard to improve the children's attitudes towards reading.

At home your child needs to read a minimum of 4 times a week.

Reading Plus in Year 4, 5 & 6 will count as 1 read. If they read 4x a week they will be entered into a prize draw to win a range of different books. This will be drawn before each half term.

The class teacher will keep a tally and will also award badges and certificates in class.



Harvest Festival

This year our Harvest Festival will be very different to previous years, however we are not letting that stop us sharing this special time in the school calendar.

On **Thursday 22nd October** we will hold year group services.

We would be grateful if children could bring in tins and packets of non-perishable goods for us to share with the needy of the Parish.

Thank you in advance for your support at this time.

Maths Hats + - x :-

Don't forget - In celebration of Maths Week (19th October 2020) children in Years 1 - 6 are invited to make a 'Maths Hat' at home (similar to an Easter Bonnet) to wear during their sponsored event at school.



Parent/Teacher Consultations - Important

As you will be aware parent/ teacher consultations are due to take place on **Thursday 22nd October** unless Government guidance changes.

Please be aware we require all parents to wear a face mask to this event. Parents will also be asked to sign into school on the evening using the Track & Trace app and register with the schools QR code.

Teachers will be provided with a face visor and parents will be seated at an appropriately social distance from the teacher. We would appreciate it if children remain at home on this occasion. Anyone not able to follow the systems outlined above will not be able to attend.