



**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022**  
**St Nicholas CE Primary Academy**  
**Weekly Newsletter**

**Headteacher: Christopher Dale**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I have already written to parents, this week has been a very difficult week for all concerned at school.

Since the start of the pandemic we have been very lucky as a school to escape much of the disruption and infection rates suffered by so many others. Throughout the pandemic I have never been complacent about the need to keep robust COVID systems in place. However, that said, we have had our largest rise in confirmed cases this term, which, under the guidance of the UKHSA and PHE, eventually resulted in the closure of 3 classes. We also had 25% of the staff test positive over the course of the week. Hence the need to put the school back into full COVID measures. A sense of irony perhaps, as this week we are told we are now over the worst!

Despite all the obvious difficulties, I have been extremely pleased with the way in which the children have continued to respond to their learning, including those who have had to revert to learning at home again this week.

Finally, I would like to say, it was great to have the parental support we did for the PTA re-launch on Wednesday night. I look forward to sharing with you the ideas and work the committee hope to undertake in raising valuable fund for the school to enrich the learning opportunities for all the children at St Nicholas.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale  
**Headteacher**

**Reading is Fun Workshop – New Date**

We still have places available on the READING IS FUN session on:  
**TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY from 12:30 - 2:30pm**  
 (you can wait till pick up with another cuppa afterwards)

Text Lisa our FLO on her mobile number available via the Class Dojo pages to secure your place.  
 We look forward to seeing you there.



Reading is Fun

Would you like to:

- Explore how to make reading fun for your children
- Understand how reading is taught in school
- Find out how reading can improve your child's wellbeing
- Discover ways to be creative when reading and telling a story

This course is for you...

**Dates for your diary**

**January**

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup>**

Y5 Swimming (week 2 of 8)

Y1 Tag rugby

**Wed 26<sup>th</sup>**

Y4 JAM Choir 3-4pm

**Thurs 27<sup>th</sup>**

Squirrel (YR) & Maple (Y5) Parent Teacher Consultations

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup>**

Y5 Hockey

Y5 & Y6 Dance at 3pm

**Mon 31<sup>st</sup>**

After school clubs resume

**February**

**Tues 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Reading is Fun** with the FLO & Adult Education 12:30pm to 2:30pm, refreshments provided.

Y5 Swimming (week 3 of 8)

Y1 Tag rugby

**Wed 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Y4 JAM Choir 3-4pm

PTA Meeting at 6pm

**Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Attendance Tea Party

**Fri 4<sup>th</sup>**

Y5 Hockey

Y5 & Y6 Dance at 3pm

**Tues 8<sup>th</sup>**

Y5 Swimming (week 4 of 8)

Y1 Tag rugby

5pm Governing Body Meeting

**Wed 9<sup>th</sup>**

Y4 JAM Choir 3- 4pm

**Fri 11<sup>th</sup>**

**LAST DAY OF TERM**



## Star of the Week & Reading Awards



### Star of the Week Awards go to:

**Otter:** Jude W, **Fox:** Leighla-Rose W, **Rowan:** William R, **Beech:** Robyn P,

**Willow:** Maddie H, **Oak:** Stevie P

### Reading Awards go to:

**Squirrel:** Jackson B, **Badger:** Bonnie M, **Chestnut:** Daisy-Mae P, **Birch:** Lenny V, **Maple:** Kevin X

Well done to Otter class with 95% of the class reading 4 times a week and well done to Chestnut class with 92% of the class reading 4 times a week.

## Meeting members of the St Nicholas Team – Mrs Lilly, Lower KS2 (Year 3&4) Phase Lead.

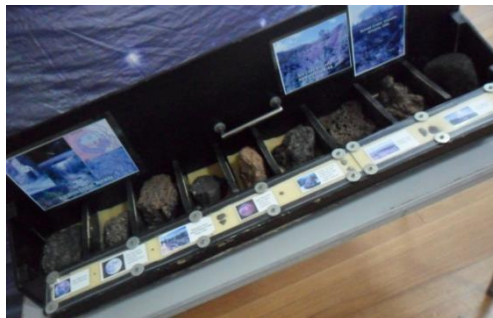


I have been at St Nicholas for 6 years where I spent 4 years teaching Year 2 and this is my second year in Year 4. It has been really rewarding to be part of the journey the school has been on. Currently I am the lead for reading across the whole school – a subject I am truly passionate about and constantly want to drive forward in and out of school – you have probably gathered that from the many Dojo messages I send!

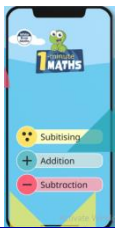
I am also the Lower KS2 Phase Leader – for Year 3 & 4. Throughout my 20 years of teaching I have fulfilled many different roles but being in class with the children is still my favourite! I believe that every child should be given the best chance to fulfil their capabilities and this comes through in the high expectations I have of all children I teach. I am always around if anyone needs to speak with me. My door is always open.

## Y1 & Y5 Astrodome visit

Children in Year 1 and Year 5 had the opportunity to visit the astrodome today and had the chance to hold samples of moon and asteroid rock as well. The children were really excited and asked some wonderful questions.



## Apps for Parents



### 1-Minute Maths

**Designed for use both in class and at home.** Our new 1-Minute Maths app helps pupils to build greater number confidence and fluency. It's all about targeted practice in engaging, one-minute chunks!

Available for download via



## Smoke Free Zone

We have received a number of reports from parents who are concerned about the impact of smoking on children outside a school. We would like to seek the support of all our families to make sure the area around our school remains a smoke free zone. The reasons for this are simple;



- Protect children from harm
- Three out of four children are aware of cigarettes before they reach the age of five. Evidence tells us that children are less likely to start smoking if they do not see it.
- Two thirds of smokers say they began smoking before the age of 18, when it's illegal to purchase cigarettes, and 9 out of 10 began before the age of 19.
- Children exposed to second hand smoke are at much greater risk of cot death, meningitis, lung infections and middle ear infections.
- A child or parent who already has asthma or other respiratory conditions is at a high risk of being affected by second hand smoke, even brief exposure can trigger an attack.

Children are powerless to protect themselves from the dangers of second-hand smoke - but you can!

## Thank you for your support



For up to date notifications of what's on at school please follow us on social media -  
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy - [@St\\_Nicholas\\_CEP](#)  
St\_Nicholas CEP Sport - [@cep\\_sport](#)



Or find us on Facebook



St Nicholas CE Primary  
Academy

## Science Week Poster Competition

Science Week will soon be upon us (11<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> March) and I wanted to share the competition we are setting for your child. This year's theme is "growth". Details can be found here;  
<https://www.britishtscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/poster-competition/>

The deadline for entering the competition is 5pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The link to submit your entry and details on the prizes on offer will be available soon. Your poster could explore a tadpole's journey into a fully grown adult frog, or look at the ways population growth is affecting the planet. Be as creative as you can be!

Please send entries to your class teacher or feel free to message us via Dojo. We look forward to seeing your entries.

Miss Ewart and Mrs Pursey

