# Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023 St Nicholas CE Primary Academy Newsletter Headteacher: Christopher Dale



Dear Parents and Carers,

## Young Voices 2023

This week we took a large group of children to take part in the Young Voices concert at the O2 a first for our school. It was the most amazing event. They sang as part of a choir of over 8,000 children to a packed arena. They were



also joined by world class musicians, dancers and singers. It was a truly magical event, and I am sure they will remember it for years to come. As always, the children's behaviour was exemplary throughout the day and evening. Given the event was so successful we will take part again next was and look forward to families is in a next.

year and look forward to families joining us next time.

#### **School Improvement Advisor**

This week we had an HMI Inspector in to review the standards across the school. I am pleased to say our visit was a very positive one and one which showed as a community we continue to go from strength to strength in everything we are trying to achieve. She visited many classes and reviewed the children's work.

In Year 6 science, the children conducted different investigations to answer the following: Does voltage impact the volume of a buzzer? Does wire length impact the brightness of a lamp? Does it make a difference what the wire is made of?

## **Teachers Industrial Action**

Following on from my communication with parents last week, it is my intention to keep the school open as normal. I hope to be able to confirm my final arrangements with parents on Monday next week.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale Headteacher



Dates for your diary

<u>February</u> Thurs 2nd 1-3pm Y5 Hockey (week 5/6)

Fri 3rd Y2 Mini Rugby (week 5/6)

**Tues 7th** 2.00pm 100% Attendance tea party

Thurs 9th 1-3pm Y5 Hockey (week 6/6)

Fri 10th Y2 Mini Rugby (week 6/6)

## LAST DAY OF TERM

Mon 20th Pupils return to school

Wed 22nd Year 5 & 6 Ash Wednesday Service at St Nicholas Church

Thurs 23rd Y1 Mini Rugby (week 1 of 6)

Fri 24th Y3 Handball (week 1 of 6)

**Tues 28th** 9.30am Squirrel fun day at Marsh Academy



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# **Attendance – Every Day Counts**

Thank you to everyone who has been sending their children to school every day. We are aiming for 96% attendance. Our whole school attendance for this point in the year is: **92.8%.** 





Well done to ELM & HEDGEHOG & THE HIVE <u>all 3 classes have</u> <u>attendance above 96%+</u>

#### **Awards**



Hedgehog: Anaé A, Otter: Autumn J, Fox: Frankie H, Hare: Bonnie M, Rowan: Olivia E, Birch: Callum R, Maple: Riley A, Elm: Harley D



# Reader of the Week Awards went to:

Squirrel: Ralphi M, Otter: Byron C, Rabbit: Niamh D, Chestnut: Hiram-James W, Beech: Emily L, Willow: Piper K, Oak: Aiden L



# **This week's birthdays:** Tobella F, Cayla S, Madison S, Ella J, William C, Lucas L, Everly A, Tommy C & Grace E – many happy returns to you all!

# What's happening in the Hive? Well, it's a hive of activity!

Well I can't believe we're almost half way through the school year already! It's been wonderful to see the Hive becoming a warm and well loved space within the school. There is now an amazing mural on the corridor outside the Hive which all the children love to look at, spotting the class animals and the class tree names on the signpost.

The children in the Hive have settled in well and enjoy using the learning spaces to develop their behaviours for learning and help to self regulate, learning and recognising their emotions and feelings. The sensory circuits and sensory room are providing a wonderful safe space for children to reset and refocus themselves ready for their next learning challenges-in fact even the grown ups have used the space after school too!

We have begun to develop parts of the outside area with a willow den, a solar fountain, for when the sun finally returns and a beautiful wind chime which I hear keeps Mr Dale on his toes when he leaves late at night in the dark! We have planted some small trees and are looking forward to watching them grow and develop just like the children.



The children have been taking part in the big bird watch and have placed bird feeders and fat cakes in the trees to encourage the garden birds in. We have also enjoyed developing our balance and agility with the outdoor balance beams, making up obstacle courses.

In the Hive we use different visuals and resources to help record our thoughts, feelings and learning and to give structure to our day. The talking tins let us hear our own voices and link them to our learning, using the visual symbols. It also help us recall our prior learning each day. This week we have enjoyed finding out about preparations and celebrations for Chinese New Year and have enjoyed dragon, rabbit and lantern craft challenges and joining in with a dragon dance!

It has been great to see different groups of children accessing the Hive, when the timetable allows, including a "carpet picnic" with Reverend Chris and the prayer leaders.

# Community Friendship Perseverance Ambition Respect Trust

On a personal level, I have felt so welcomed into the school community by all the children, staff and parents and am excited to continue to develop the Hive and all it can offer for the children at the heart of the school.

Mrs Butler, The Hive Lead Teacher

Year 6 SATs - Parent information evening.

We will be holding a KS2 SATs information evening for parents at **6pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** in the main hall.

This will be your chance to find out some more information about the tests, and find out how they will be administered. Examples of past papers will be available for parents to understand what is expected of the children in the tests.

#### Contact details:

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