

Friday 6th October 2023

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy week at St Nicholas this week. A big thank you to all the parents who have joined Mrs Lilly and other members of the school team for our reading workshops. The draw for the raffle will take place early next week and we look forward to announcing our winner from all those who attended.

Over the course of the last week, as part of our 'Arts week' the children have been following the theme of being an architect. I am looking forward to inviting parents into school, to join us for an exhibition of the children's work when its complete.

This week we celebrated the start of Black History Month in school. This is an annual event, each October, honouring the contributions and accomplishments of the Black British community in our everyday lives in the UK. It celebrates both current and historical individuals and the positive impact they have made to our society.

Black History Month provides great opportunities to highlight key moments in Black history around the world and in Britain. It is important to celebrate the contributions of everyone to our society and support the multi-culturalism and diversity that helps shape our communities.

In our assembly this week we spoke about Famous Black people who shaped our lives. I shared with the children how I was inspired as a young teenager by West Indian cricketer, Sir Viv Richards. While other staff members shared who had inspired them. Mr Houghton spoke of Olympian, Daley Thompson; Miss Welsh spoke about Michelle Obama as a role model for young people; Mrs Lee spoke of U.S. President, Barak Obama as a role model and force for good; Mrs Bader said she had been inspired by Dame Kelly Holmes, while Mr Dewey spoke about Jessie Owens, an American athlete in the 1930s who raced at the Munich Games. We also looked at people who changed the lives of others such as Rosa Parks and Nelson Mandela.

I wonder which current or historical individual has inspired you for positive impact they have made to our society?

Have a lovely weekend.
Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

October

Mon 9th

Open classes for parents from 3:15pm

Tues 10th

EYFS & Y6 to Church
Y4 swimming (Beech) starts

Attendance tea party at 2pm

Wed 11th

Y6 Water Sports Group 5

Thurs 12th & 13th

Y4 - Kench Hill Residential

Mon 16th

KS2 Parent teacher Consultations 3:30-6pm

Tues 17th

Whole school **HARVEST FESTIVAL** at St Nicholas Church 9:15am
Y4 Swimming (week 2)
Y6 PESE info event 6pm

Wed 18th

11+ results emailed to parents
Y6 Water sports Group 2 (rescheduled date)

Thurs 19th

Pupils individual photographs

KS1 Parent Teacher Consultations 3:30-6pm

Fri 20th

End of term

Mon 30th

Children return to school
KS1 Parent Teacher Consultations 3:30-6pm

Tues 31st

Y4 Swimming (week 3)
Y6 Secondary school applications close

November

Thurs 2nd

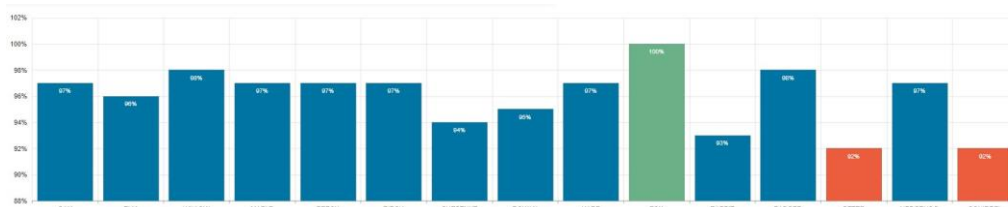
KS2 Parent Teacher Consultations 3:30-6pm

Tues 7th

Y6 Cathedral Schools Day @ Canterbury

Attendance – Every Day Counts

It is essential that your child comes to school **on time** every day. **Learning begins immediately with SODA (Start of Day Activities)**, when the class doors open at 8:30am, when many additional interventions are also scheduled for this time, **this may include your child!**



*Congratulations to **Fox** with 100% attendance this week. Well done to **Hedgehog, Badger, Hare, Birch, Beech, Maple, Willow, Elm and Oak** classes with attendance above 96%*

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

Awards & Birthdays



Star of the week awards went to:

Hedgehog: Hugo W, **Badger:** Ava B, **Rabbit:** Luna U, **Chestnut:** Isabella O, **Beech:** Mia G, **Maple:** Rocco F, **Oak:** Ella I



This week's birthdays:

Tilley J, Reuben F, Bethany F, Scarlett P, Eli T, Elliott W, Shelby F, Mia H, Teddy S and Luke L – many happy returns to you all!

Uniform

I would like to thank you all our parents who make sure their children arrive at school in the proper school uniform (and label items). We are really proud of our school uniform and expect all children to wear it. However, I have noticed increasing numbers of children who are not wearing correct school uniform—mainly this is children forgetting what's allowed and what isn't, or neglecting to come to school with a PE kit. Furthermore, our expectations around uniform extends to jewellery, below is a reminder of the uniform and expectations for ALL our children.

- Footwear with uniform should be black, practical school shoes - not trainers.
- PE kit is a plain white t-shirt with blue plain shorts and an optional plain track suit - NO football kits allowed.
- If ears are pierced, only one pair of studs may be worn for safety reasons. Ideally, these should not be worn on PE days, but if they cannot be removed, they must be covered up with tape which each child should keep in their PE bag.
- Socks and tights should be plain.
- No jewellery (except watches), no nail varnish or make up.

I have reminded the school of our rules and class teachers will re-enforce our message to maintain high standards.

Year 6 Parents PESE Information evening

Year 6 Parents are invited to attend a PESE information evening on **Tuesday 17th October at 6:00pm** on how to complete the online secondary schools admissions form. Details will also be posted on Class Dojo. **Applications** for transfer to secondary school in September 2024 **will close at midnight on Tuesday 31st October 2023**. If you do not make your application on time, the



This term's collective worship focus is on our value:

COMMUNITY

"I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought."

1 Corinthians 1:10

Local Authority will decide which school your child will attend. Applications can be completed online at: <https://kent.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/Synergy/Admissions.aspx>

Harvest Festival



Please join the whole school for our Harvest Festival Service at St Nicholas Church on **Tuesday 17th October at 9:15am**. We do hope as many of you as possible are able to attend.

This year we would like to continue to support the needy and elderly within our parish by contributing a Harvest collection.

We would be extremely grateful if your child could bring a food item to school from Monday 9th October. If possible, tinned or dry food with at least 4-6 months left on their use-by date.

The following items would be very much appreciated:

- Pasta shapes, spaghetti, rice, flour;
- Tinned fruit and vegetables;
- Tinned meat and fish such as ham, tuna or sardines;
- Meat and fish pastes, sandwich spreads, jam;
- Biscuits (sweet and savoury), simple cakes;
- Cooking sauces, mayonnaise, ketchup and any other condiments;
- Sugar, coffee, tea, milk powder, cooking oil;
- Instant potato, tinned or packet soups;
- Soap, disinfectant, washing powder, toothpaste;

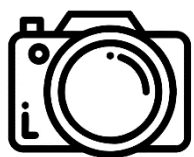
These would be ideal, however, we will gratefully accept any other food and will distribute it to other local causes including the local day centres for the elderly.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Open Classes

A reminder to parents that we have Open Classes on **Monday 9th October from 3:15pm** onwards. This is an opportunity for parents to look at their child's work for a 30 minute period before the Parent Teacher Consultations which will take place either side of the half term holiday. We do hope you will take the opportunity to see your child's work.

Pupil Individual Photographs.



Pupils will have their individual photographs taken on **Thursday 19th October**. We would be grateful if you would send your child to school in the correct uniform for this occasion.

The children from the younger year groups will have their photos taken early on in the day in a bid that they look their smartest.

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Community Friendship Perseverance Ambition Respect Trust