

Friday 15th March 2024

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy

Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

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Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us at Church last week for the Mothering Sunday service. Over 166 parents and children joined us and members of the St Nicholas congregation for this event. A really big well done to the children who read and sang beautifully.

This week I was pleased to see the latest development on the plan for the sports pavilion, now that planning permission has been approved. We are now looking at moving forward with this project with speed.



The children have also been taking part in British Science week this week and it has been great to see the work being undertaken. See more further on in the newsletter.

Please find below information on a public consultation regarding School Term Dates for 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28.



Kent County Council are currently consulting on school term and holiday date patterns for the next three academic years. This consultation closes on 30 April. Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/termdatesconsultation to find out more and participate in this consultation.

Have a lovely weekend!

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

MARCH

Tues 19th

Y5 Ancient Greece Day

Tues 26th

Road Safety presentation
Y1 Trip to Bedgebury

Wed 27th

Guy Bass – Visiting author to work with whole school

Thurs 28th

Easter Breakfast – more information to follow

END OF TERM

APRIL

Mon 15th

Children return to school

Tues 16th

National Offer Day for September 2024 intake
Attendance tea party

Summer Term 2024

First day of term:

Monday 15 April 2024

May Day Bank Holiday:

Monday 6 May 2024

Half-term: Monday 27 –

Friday 31 May 2024

Last day of term:

Thursday 18 July 2024



“Learning loving and encouraging through Christ.”

“St Nicholas Church of England Primary Academy a place where pupils always come first.” **OFSTED**

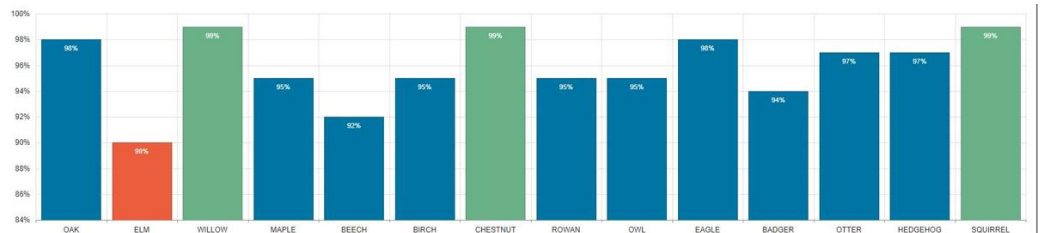


Attendance every day counts.

It is essential that your child comes to school on time every day. **Learning starts when the class doors open at 8:30am with SODA** (Start of Day Activities), some interventions start at this time and this **WILL** include your child at some point!

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Top attenders are:		
Year	Class	%
R	Squirrel	99
3	Chestnut	99
5	Willow	99
2	Eagle	98
6	Oak	98
R	Hedgehog	97
1	Otter	97



Congratulations to all the classes above with their super attendance

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

Star Award



Star of the week awards went to:

Squirrel: Dougie B **Otter:** Tia T **Owl:** Mason H
Rowan: Zente B **Birch:** Gracie D **Willow:** Darcie E
Elm: Jamie H



This week's Birthdays:

Tyler M, Iris B, Aila M, Darcie E, Buddy L, Theo S, Rose B, Jackson B, Billy R, Luca B and Hudson S – many happy returns to you all!



This term's worship focus is on our value:

RESPECT

Romans 12:10

"Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honouring each other."

This verse shows us respect is demonstrated through our love and consideration for others

Author visit to St Nicholas



WHO IS THIS GUY?

Hill I'm an award-winning author whose children's books series include *Slitch Head*, *SCRAP*, *Skeleton Keys*, *Spynosaur* and lots of books that don't begin with 'S' like *Dinkin Dings*, *Anna Gain*, *Laura Norder* and *Noah Scape*. In 2010 *Dinkin Dings* and *The Frightening Things* won the Blue Peter Award for Most Fun Book with Pictures.

I have also written plays for both adults and children. I've previously been a theatre producer, illustrator, temp, gerbil whisperer and have acted my way out of several paper bags.

I spent my childhood reading comics and hoping one day to become a superhero. I spend my adulthood in more or less the same way.

I live in London with my wife and



Guy Bass will be visiting our school on Wednesday 27th March.

He will be around during the day for book signings - books can be purchased at the above link which also gives you more information about the books he writes

<https://littletiger.co.uk/author-illustrator/guy-bass>

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Safeguarding at St Nicholas – it's everyone's responsibility.

Spotlight on: Child on Child Abuse (formerly known as Peer on Peer Abuse)



What is this type of abuse?

Child-on-child abuse occurs when a child or young person is exploited, bullied and/or harmed by others of the same or similar age. The impact of this behaviour on children can be very distressing and have an impact on academic achievement and emotional health and wellbeing. All staff know what to do if they come across, or are worried about, child-on-child abuse. They are aware of their duty to report this to the DSL or one of the safeguarding team to ensure that children are safe.

Child-on-child abuse is most likely to include, but is not limited to:

- Bullying (including cyber-bullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying)
- Physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair-pulling or otherwise causing physical harm (this may include an online element which facilitates threatens and/or encourages physical abuse)
- Emotional abuse – on or offline
- Abuse in intimate relationships between peers
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment - this can occur between two children of any age and sex or a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or group of children.
- Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent
- Upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture underneath someone's clothing without their permission to obtain sexual gratification or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm
- Consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos (also known as sexting or youth produced sexual imagery)
- Initiation/hazing type violence and rituals which could include activities involving harassment, abuse or humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group and may also include an online element.

Are your contact details up to date?

It is vitally important that if you change your home phone or mobile number; email; address; names of contacts, that you let the school know as soon as possible, so we have the most up-to-date contact details. The school must also have more than one contact in case of an emergency.

Thank you.

IF YOU'RE BEING BULLIED ONLINE



Don't retaliate.
(Often that's what they want!)



Save the evidence.
(Screenshot, save messages.)



Tell someone what's happening.



Report, block, mute, get rid!



Remember the problem is with them, not you.

For safeguarding emergencies after 4.00pm, during the school holidays and at the weekend, please contact:

**03000 411111 or
Out of Hours 03000 419191**

At St Nicholas, everyone has a right to feel safe and happy

It is never OK to say unkind or hurtful things to others on purpose. When you do this online, using any device, it is called cyber bullying
Bullies cannot hide behind their devices so we must always tell someone

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Online safety – What parents need to know.

At St Nicholas CE Primary Academy we like to support our families with online safety matters. Each week, we post a new item with the most up to date information to help you keep your child safe

Fortnite Battle Royale

Fortnite Battle Royale is rated PEGI 12 because it features moderate violence which means it is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age.

It is important to remember that when rating games, PEGI do not take into consideration the communication features of a game. Fortnite does include a chat facility, which adds further risks.



What is Fortnite?

There are different versions of Fortnite, including Battle Royale, which is free to play (although in-app purchases are available). In Battle Royale up to one hundred players compete against each other.

What do I need to be aware of?

- **Chatting to strangers and inappropriate language:** Fortnite contains voice and text chat. Due to the nature of the game, your child may be chatting to strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report players for any inappropriate behaviour.
- **In app purchases:** All users can purchase V-Bucks directly through the game so make sure you don't store your card details within the game/device and restrict purchases.

Parental Controls

Fortnite includes several parental controls to help you make it a safer environment for your child including disabling voice chat, filtering language and setting privacy settings. Also, remember to set up age-appropriate parental controls on the device your child is playing on.

Further information

Virgin Media outline how to set up the different parental controls available:
<https://www.virginmedia.com/blog/parental-controls/gaming-fortnite>

At what age can my child start using social networks?

Internet Matters have produced this fantastic resource highlighting the minimum age limits for a variety of social media platforms as well as outlining the risks of being underage on social media. You can find out more here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-age-can-my-child-start-social-networking>

5 ways to get support if things go wrong

1. **Talk to someone you trust** like an adult, or you can always talk to a [Childline](#) counsellor
2. **Report bullying and abuse** directly to the website or app
3. **Delete things you've shared** that you're worried about, or find ways to hide them
4. **Tell the police** by making a report to CEOP if someone is threatening or blackmailing you
5. **Plan for the future** and change your privacy settings so it doesn't happen again

Children and young people use many different social media apps and sites. The most popular are Facebook and Instagram, with many others such as Snapchat, TikTok and Twitter.

There are lots of benefits to social networking. Children can stay connected to friends and family. They can also learn many different things, from make-up or gaming tutorials to making slime, or how to create their own videos.

Like most things, there can be negatives too. For children and young people there are risks that you should be aware of, to help keep your child safe on social media.

For more information follow the link - [What is social media? | NSPCC](#)

Lent fundraising activities.

Our **Easter Egg raffle** has started. **Raffle tickets are 20p each.**

Classes are also being challenged to collect as many 10p's as possible to take part in the coin race which, weather permitting, will be on the last day of term.



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8-17 March
**British
Science
Week
2024**



Celebrating the diverse people
and careers in science & engineering

**#SMASHING
STEREOTYPES**

@ScienceWeekUK

Science Week - 11th to 15th March 2024

British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths which will have taken place over the last week.

Below you will find links to our best science, technology, engineering and maths resources for primary and secondary schools - all in one place. We hope you enjoy finding out more as we did in our learning across the school. – Link: [British Science Week 2024 Teaching Resources - BBC Teach](#)



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Term Dates - See below a copy of the term dates for the rest of the year along with the term dates for the next academic year.

Summer Term 2024

First day of term: Monday 15 April 2024

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 6 May 2024

Half-term: Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May 2024

Last day of term: Thursday 18 July 2024

Term dates 2024/25	
Autumn Term 2024 First day of term: Half-term: Last day of term: Development Days:	Wednesday 4 th September 2024 Monday 28 th October to Friday 1 st November 2024 Friday 20 th December 2024 Mon 2nd & Tues 3rd Sept and Fri 29th Nov
Spring Term 2025 First day of term: Half-term: Last day of term:	Monday 6 th January 2025 Monday 17 th to Friday 21 st February 2025 Friday 4 th April 2025
Summer Term 2025 First day of term: May Bank Holiday: Half-term: Last day of term: Development days:	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025 Monday 5 th May 2025 Monday 26 th to Friday 30 th May 2025 Friday 18 th July Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July 2025

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