

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
St Nicholas CE Primary Academy  
**Newsletter**

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, it has been another very busy week! This week children have had Drama workshops, European Languages Day – Hopefully your child will have come home with the greeting of another country and learnt a little more about that country's culture. And, by the time this newsletter comes home to you today, you will have found out the children had the first of their 6 days across the school year 'off timetable' celebrating our '6 Ways to Wellbeing.'

Following on from our Mental Health Drama workshops for everyone last week, the children will focus on their classes chosen environmentalist or artist where they will explore the 6 ways to wellbeing wheel. Make sure you ask them what they have been up to today and look out for their work on the ClassDojo pages.



To learn more about our well-being approach at St Nicholas, please visit our PSHE curriculum pages by [clicking here](#) or view our website by [clicking here](#).

As we approach the end of the week, I have to say how delighted I was with the number of parents who turned up for our first PTA meeting of the year yesterday.

It was a great meeting and we have a lot of exciting and new ideas to raise valuable funds for YOUR children going forward. Events include;

- **Sponsored Bounce on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October.**
- **A BINGO evening** with Abacus Nursery on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November** this proved to be a really popular event in the summer term.
- **And a Christmas Fayre to take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December** 11:00am to 2:00pm

We will also hold a Christmas Raffle with some top prizes and hold a Christmas Card Sale of Children art work for parents to buy.

It promises to be an exciting year with other events such as quiz nights, Colour run and gift days. If you would like to take part or help in any of these events do get in touch with the school via the office. All help would be most welcome.

Yours sincerely  
*Christopher Dale*  
Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

### October 2024

#### Tues 1

Kent Adult Education  
English class 9:30am  
– 11:30am

**Y5** - Church visit

#### Wed 2

**Y4** - Group 4 Paddle Boarding

#### Thurs 3

Whole school diabetic screen

#### Fri 4

Whole school diabetic screen

#### Mon 7

Y3-5 Assessment week

**Y3 & 5** KIC Theatre Drama Day

#### Tues 8

Kent Adult Education  
English class 9:30am  
– 11:30am

#### Wed 9

**Y4** – Group 5 Paddle Boarding

#### Thurs 10

**EYFS** Church service with Y6 at 9:15am

#### Fri 11

**Y5** Medic Fitness workshop all morning



**“Learning, loving and encouraging through Christ.”**

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

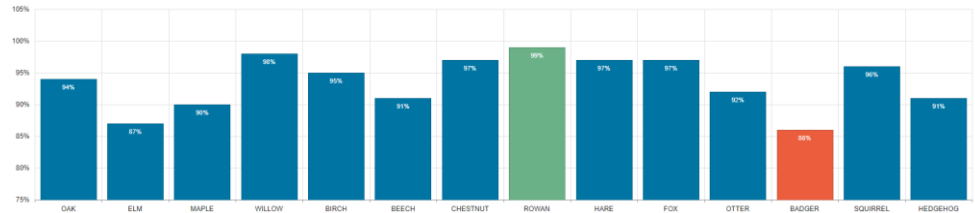


## Attendance every day counts.

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    | %  |
| 3                  | Rowan    | 99 |
| 5                  | Willow   | 98 |
| 3                  | Chestnut | 97 |
| 2                  | Hare     | 97 |
| 2                  | Fox      | 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:**

**Hedgehog:** Olivia C **Badger:** Arnie L **Fox:** Izzy W  
**Rowan:** Clara A **Beech:** Georgia I **Willow:** Archie S  
**Oak:** Megan D



**This week's Birthdays:**

Alphie J, Ralph R, George D, Ricco Q, Samuel E,  
Finley G, Oliver J, Rupert R, Jacob R and Cj S - many  
happy returns to you all!



This term's worship focus is  
on our value:  
**COMMUNITY**



*"Where two or three  
gather in my name, there  
am I among them."*

**Matthew 8: 20**

## Harvest Festival - 2024



*Please join the whole school for our Harvest Festival Service at St Nicholas Church on **Thursday 17th October at 9:15 am.** 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 7th 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.



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**Thank you in advance for your support.**

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### **Year 6 parents – PESE Secondary School Applications**

For children starting year 7 in September 2025 applications will close on **Thursday 31 October 2024**. Parents can apply for up to 4 schools. Put the schools in the order of preference. It's in your best interest to list 4 schools. Naming only one school does not guarantee your child a place at that school or give priority for a place over another child. You are not able to name the same school more than once.

Parents of children who sat the Kent Test will have their results emailed to them on **Thursday 17 October 2024**. KCC will only send the results to the email address used to register your child for the Kent Test.

If you provided an email address on your Secondary School application, KCC will email you on Monday 3 March 2025 after 4pm to tell you which school your child has been offered.

Please note:

- **Marsh Academy Open Day** takes place **SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> September** 10am to 12 noon



### **Development Day reminder**

I would like to draw parents attention to the fact the school will be closed on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024** for a Staff Development Day – this means children will not be at school on this day.

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### **Who is eligible for free school meals?**

Free school meals are available to pupils whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

**Make sure you apply for your child if your circumstances change – if you have any questions, please contact the school office.**

**If your child is already receiving free school meals you DO NOT need to re-apply.**

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## Parent /Staff communications.



Research consistently shows that children achieve more when schools and parents / carers work together. The development of positive relationships between families and school takes effort from both parties and typically develops over time rather than over a single event.

Below are a series of recommendations to support parent/ carer expectations when contacting the school.

- Please remember that most teachers, including Subject Leaders and Senior staff, will be teaching when you try to contact them. While it would be ideal for them to respond to your query immediately, this is not possible in all cases. Staff will endeavour to acknowledge receipt of your email or phone call within 48 hours (workdays). If it is something that will require a longer period to investigate, they will acknowledge the concern and a more detailed response will be sent within a specified timescale.
- If the matter is urgent, staff will endeavour to deal with the matter urgently or will explain why that will not be possible.
- Please be aware staff are not expected to monitor or respond to emails outside of their normal working hours (including weekends and holidays).

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## PE KIT



PE is a compulsory part of the curriculum and children are entitled to 2 hours of PE each week from Year 1 upwards.

We have noticed that throughout school there are some children who are regularly forgetting their PE kits and this is having a detrimental effect on their learning as it may be that children cannot participate without the correct clothing.

It is compulsory that children are required to have their PE kit in school.

We really appreciate those who do bring their PE kits to school religiously and want to make sure that this does not go unnoticed, therefore children who bring their PE kits every week will be rewarded with Dojo Points and will be invited to a sporting morning with Mr Dewey at the end of the school term.

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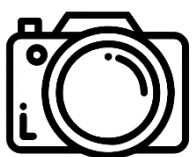
## Jewellery at school

Just a reminder that children should not wear jewellery for school except small stud earrings and a watch. If your child wears earrings they must either be able to remove them for PE or not wear them for school. As stated in the national guidance teachers are **not** to tape up earrings for PE. This must be able to be done by the child. Please bear this in mind when getting your child's ears pierced. Children are not allowed to wear nail varnish in school.

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## ADVANCED NOTICE

### Pupil Individual Photographs.



Pupils will have their individual photographs taken on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October**. We would be grateful if you would send your child to school in the correct uniform.

Children from the younger year groups will have their photos taken early on in the day in so they look their smartest!

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## Parent Teacher Consultations.

On **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October at 3:15pm** there will be a chance for parents to come into school and look at their children work at the end of the school day.

This will help parents get ready for the Teacher Consultation evenings which are set to take place on:

- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November – 3:30pm to 6:00pm **for KS2** and on
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November – 3:30pm to 6:00pm **for KS1 & EYFS**

**Please watch out for the online booking information and make a note in your diary so you can attend.**

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## FLU IMMUNISATION FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR R to YEAR 6

These immunisations will take place on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024** – please make sure you complete the paperwork for your child.

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### Target Number

A game to play using car number plates on car journeys or simply when you are out and about.

Each player's goal is to get their total to 100 — or as close to it as they can.

*(There's nothing special about 100 — if you want to pick a higher or lower target, feel free!)*

#### How to play:

1. Each player starts from zero.
2. When a vehicle passes, take turns to add up the digits on its number plate e.g. '194', you would add  $1+9+4=14$
3. Add this amount to the running total e.g. if you already have 47, add 14 to your score and say "61".
4. You can then choose to 'stick' and make that your final score, or twist and add the next number plate to your total. If you go over 100, you score nothing.
5. Whoever 'sticks' closest to 100, wins the round.



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