



Friday 18th October 2024

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy

Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderfully busy week we've had at St Nicholas! It's been a joy to see our school buzzing with activity and engagement from pupils, staff and parents alike.

This week, we opened our classroom doors to welcome parents in preparation for the upcoming Parent Teacher Consultations. These open classes provided a fantastic opportunity for you to get a glimpse of your child's learning environment and the exciting work they've been doing. I hope you found this experience valuable and that it has set the stage for productive conversations during next week's consultations.

Our curriculum has been in full swing, with a particular focus on PE. Gymnastics has been a highlight, showcasing our pupils' strength, flexibility and coordination. We've also had various sporting events taking place across the school. To keep up with all the exciting activities your child is participating in, I encourage you to check Class Dojo regularly. It's a wonderful window into your child's daily school life!

One of my personal highlights this week was our Attendance Tea Party. It was delightful to see the children's enthusiasm as they made their own biscuits. These moments of celebration are so important in recognising and encouraging excellent attendance.

I must express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended our Harvest Festival. With over 630 of us present at the church service, it was a truly remarkable event. Your generous donations will make a significant difference to the most vulnerable members of our community. It's heartening to see our school family come together in such a meaningful way. Thank you.

Looking ahead to next week, we have our Parent Teacher Consultations. If you haven't already, please do sign up promptly. These meetings are an integral part of your child's learning journey, offering a valuable opportunity to discuss their progress, achievements, and any areas for development. Your involvement is crucial in supporting your child's educational experience.

As always, I'm immensely proud of our pupils and the vibrant, supportive community we have here at St Nicholas. Your ongoing engagement and support play a vital role in making our school such a special place. Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education.

Here's to another week of learning, growth, and achievement!

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale

Headteacher

Dates for your diary

October 2024

Mon 21st

- Year 4 & 6 KIC Theatre Workshop
- 3:30pm Key Stage 2 Parent Teacher Consultations

Tues 22nd

- 9:30am KAE family English session

Thurs 24th

- 3:30pm Key Stage 1 Parent Teacher Consultations

Fri 25th

- Yr R – 6 Flu immunisations all day
- **END OF TERM**

November

Mon 4th

- Children return to school
- 3:30pm Key Stage 1 Parent Teacher Consultations

Tues 5th

- 2:00pm PTA Meeting

Wed 6th

- Year 4 LUNR workshop

Thurs 7th

- 3:30pm Key Stage 2 Parent Teacher Consultations



“Learning, loving and encouraging through Christ.”

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

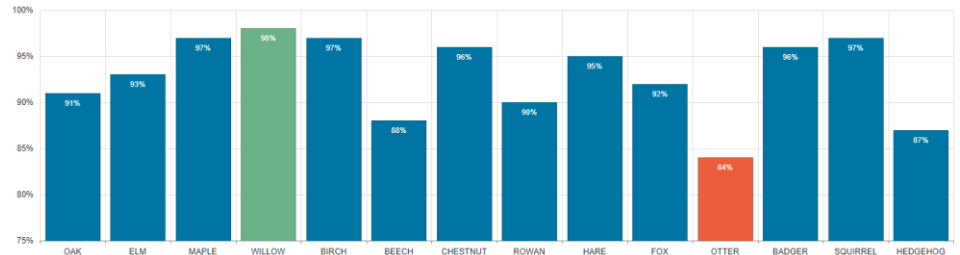


Attendance every day counts.

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 | % |
| 5 | Willow | 98 |
| 4 | Birch | 97 |
| R | Squirrel | 97 |
| 5 | Maple | 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.

Awards & Birthdays



Star of the Week Awards went to:

Squirrel: Alby A, **Otter:** Owen T, **Fox:** Jack D,
Chestnut: Olivia B, **Birch:** Beau W, **Maple:** Omar R,
Elm: Tilley J



This week's birthdays – Ollie E, Wolf F, Taylor E, Riley O, Elizabeth G, Archie H, Rosie J, Archie W, Nellie R, Sophie H, Brooke R and Skye E – many happy returns to you all!

Collective Worship

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

Personal message from the Headteacher on communication.

I hope this message finds you well. As the Headteacher, I wanted to take a moment to address an important matter regarding communication.

Many of you try to contact me via Class Dojo. While I appreciate your efforts to reach out, I must kindly request that you use the email address provided at the top of our school newsletter instead.

You see, as the Headteacher, I am responsible for overseeing the needs of all 15 classes within our academy. Unlike our dedicated teachers who only need to monitor their own class's messages, I would have to sift through communications from every single class. This simply isn't a practical solution for me to manage effectively.

I understand the convenience of Class Dojo, but I hope you can understand my perspective as well. By using the email address, you can be assured that your message will reach me directly, and I can respond in a timely manner.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. I am always here to support you and your child's educational journey, and I look forward to our continued partnership.

Best wishes
CD

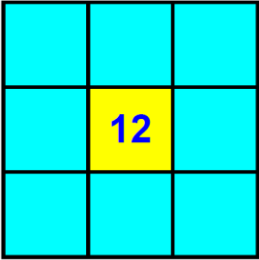
Year 6 – Secondary School Applications

Applications for Secondary schools close on 31st October 2024. You can name up to four secondary schools, but you must name them on the same application.

There will be a meeting for parents who may need assistance with this process on **Tuesday 22nd October at 5pm** in the main hall.

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





Maths Challenge

Can you put the numbers 1 to 8 in each of the squares so that each side adds up to the middle number?

It would be great to see the children coming to school with the solution.

Winter Essentials

As the winter months approach, we kindly request that all students have a warm winter coat on hand.

Outdoor play is an essential part of our school day, and we want to ensure that all children can enjoy it comfortably. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a healthy and enjoyable learning environment.

#WinterisComing



ASDA 'Cashpot for Schools'

Asda's 'Cashpot for Schools' is a fundraising initiative where shoppers donate a portion of their spending to a chosen school.

Parents can sign up by downloading the free Asda Rewards app, linking their account, and selecting St Nicholas CE Primary Academy. Each donation contributes to the school's "Cashpot," which can be used for various school projects and resources.



Parent Teacher Consultations

Parent Teacher Consultation evenings are set to take place on:

- **Monday 21st October and Thursday 7th November** – 3:30pm to 6:00pm for **KS2** and on
- **Thursday 24th October and Monday 4th November** – 3.30pm to 6:00pm for **KS1 & EYFS**

FLU IMMUNISATION FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR R to YEAR 6

These immunisations will take place on **Friday 25th October 2024** – please make sure you complete the paperwork for your child - www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms



Teacher Training Day reminder

The school will be closed on **Friday 29th November** – this means children will not be at school on this day.

Safeguarding Procedures

All schools must have an appropriate senior member of staff to take lead responsibility for child protection. At St Nicholas Academy, this is Mrs Turner, Deputy Headteacher. Key aspects of the 'Designated Safeguarding Lead' role include: ensuring that all staff are aware of the processes for raising safeguarding concerns; ensuring all staff understand the signs of child abuse and neglect; referring any significant concerns to Children's Social Care; monitoring children who are the subject of Child Protection and Child in Need Plans; maintaining accurate and secure child protection records and raising awareness of the school's safeguarding policies and procedures, ensuring these are implemented and reviewed regularly.

Online Safety Tip of the Week

This week's free online safety guide, provided by the National College, focuses on YouTube Kids. YouTube Kids is a kid-targeted version of YouTube that features curated, ad-supported TV shows, music, educational videos, and user-created content. It's designed for kids preschool age to age 12 and is available as an app and a website. YouTube Kids allows you to create individual user profiles for each of your kids, so they can each log in and watch videos geared toward their age. One of the best features of YouTube Kids is the timer, which lets you set a limit (up to an hour) for your kids to play on the app.

The National College®

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ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY ACADEMY

"A place where children come first." - OFSTED



"Learning, loving and encouraging through Christ."

Is your child starting school in September 2025?

Parents and families are welcome to visit our wonderful school and grounds.

Join us for an open session - Contact us on: 01797 361906 to book a place.

Monday 11th November 2024 - 9:45am & 6:00pm

Wednesday 13th November 2024 - 9:45am & 1:30pm

Wednesday 20th November 2024 - 1:30pm & Thurs 9th January 2025 - 9:45am

*"The schools work to promote personal development, welfare and behaviour is
Outstanding." - OFSTED*

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



Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing Support

Public consultation

Have your say!

KCC is consulting on a new Therapeutic Support Service for children and young people with mild to medium emotional wellbeing and mental health needs.

This aims to meet the needs of children and young people by offering a range of creative and therapeutic activities. These will help them to understand and express their emotions in a safe and positive way, build support networks with their peers, and develop tools to help them thrive.

We would fund the proposed service instead of the current Children and Young People's Counselling Service.

Find out more and tell us your views at

kent.gov.uk/cypwellbeingsupport

Consultation closes 12 November 2024

If you need a paper copy of the consultation material or any help taking part in this consultation, please email phstprogramme@kent.gov.uk or phone **03000 413487**. For any alternative formats or languages, please email alternativeformats@kent.gov.uk or call **03000 421553** (text relay service number **18001 03000 421553**).

Both phone numbers go to answering machines, which are monitored during office hours.



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