



Friday 19th September 2025

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy

Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

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From the Headteachers desk...

We've had a fantastic week filled with creativity, learning, and community spirit!

We were delighted to welcome **KIC Theatre** into school, where they worked with pupils across the year groups. The interactive sessions brought stories to life and helped children build confidence, teamwork, and communication skills through drama. It was a joy to see our pupils so engaged and inspired!

A special well done also goes to our **new Year R pupils** who have settled in beautifully. We held two phonics sessions to support their early reading journey this week, and it was wonderful to see so many parents join us. Your involvement makes a real difference, and we're grateful for your enthusiasm and support.

We've also sent home our **new homework books**, and we're thrilled to hear how positively they've been received by families. These books are designed to support learning at home in a fun and manageable way, and we look forward to seeing the children's progress over the coming weeks. Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We're excited for all that's ahead this term!

Have a lovely weekend

Christopher Dale

Headteacher

Education Sunday - Sunday 21st September,

We will be holding our annual Education Sunday service at St Nicholas Church this Sunday at 10:30am.

We will be joined by families and members of the congregation from all over the Romney Marsh Benefice and we hope that many of our families will be able to join us for this special start of school year community service. The service will be led by Rev Chris Hodgkins, along with staff and pupils from St Nicholas School. It promises to be a special service and there will be refreshments after the service. **We hope to see all our families there. Thank you.**



MacMillan Cancer Coffee Morning – Fri 26th Sept 8:30 – 10:00am



This will be our first Breakfast Bonanza Coffee Morning of the Year. It takes place from 8:30am until 10:30am - stay as long as you want.

This will be a perfect opportunity for all our new families to meet up and get to know senior staff members, Mrs

Turner – **Deputy Headteacher**; Mrs Lee – **Assistant Headteacher**; Mrs Starmer-Smith, **Inclusion Lead** and Mr Dale, **Headteacher**.

We will also be raising funds on the day for MacMillan Cancer – all are welcome. Your donations on this day will be better received here, than a coffee shop in town!

Dates for your diary

SEPTEMBER

Sun 21st

Education Sunday @ St Nicholas Church
10:30am – **all welcome**

Mon 22nd – Wed 24th

Y6 residential to Kingswood – 3 days

Wed 24th

Y4 Grp 3
Paddleboarding

Fri 26th

European Day of Languages
6 Ways to Wellbeing Day

Mon 29th

Y6 Elm Swimming

Tues 30th

PTA Meeting at 1:30pm
– all welcome to attend

OCTOBER

Wed 1st

Y4 Grp 4
Paddleboarding

Mon 6th

Y6 Elm swimming
Open classes for parents
3:15 to 3:45pm

Tues 7th

KIC Theatre in with **Y6 & Y2**

Wed 8th

Y4 Grp 5
paddleboarding

Thurs 9th

Harvest Festival at St Nicholas Church 9.15am
– all welcome.

Mon 13th

KS2 Parent Teacher Consultations – 3:30pm

Wed 15th

Flu vaccinations for Years R to 6. All day



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a place where pupils always come first.”* - **OFSTED**



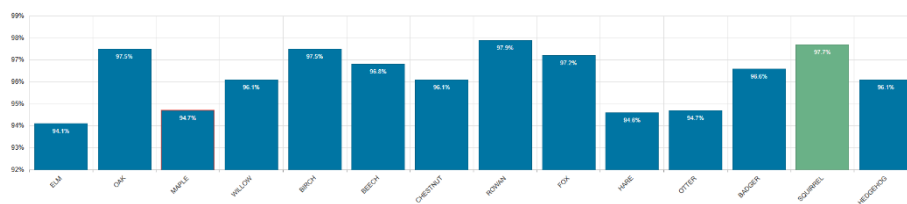
Attendance every day counts.

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 - **this WILL include your child** at some point!

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Top attenders are:

Year	Class	%
3	Rowan	97.9
R	Squirrel	97.7
6	Oak	97.5
4	Birch	97.5
2	Fox	97.2



Congratulations to all the classes above with their super attendance

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

Our House Captains

Our St Nicholas House Captains are a vital part of our pupil leadership team, chosen through a democratic process that takes place in early September each year. Year 6 students are invited to nominate themselves and run for election. As part of the process, candidates present a manifesto and speech, outlining their plans for contributing to the school's development and fulfilling the responsibilities of the role. Once all the candidates have presented, their peers vote to elect the House Captains who will represent their respective house teams throughout the year.



The key responsibilities of our House Captains include working with staff to organise inter-house events and competitions, collecting weekly house point totals and presenting them in our celebration worship, and acting as positive role models to ensure all children are engaged and happy during lunchtimes.

Our four houses are named after local churches — St Nicholas, St Augustine, St Peter and St Georges. House points are earned by demonstrating our Christian values, going the 'extra mile' for peers, and competing in events organised by the House Captains. At the end of each full term, the house with the most points is rewarded with a special prize, chosen by the house team itself.

PTA – Parent Teacher Association

Making the school a better place for children to learn. Our first meeting of the PTA in the new academic year will take place on **Tuesday 30th September at 1:30pm** at the school.

All are welcome – including preschool children if that is stopping you from attending! There are many reasons why you should join your PTA. From making new friends and getting to know the school environment, through to helping raise much needed funds and making a difference to the children and school community. All of these things help you grow in confidence as a parent and it feels good to know you are making a difference for your children and for generations to come.



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



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Star Award –



Star of the week awards went to:

Otter: Adya M **Hare:** Oceana K **Rowan:** Polly W **Beech:** Clara A
Maple: Felicity S **Elm:** Lily C



This week's Birthdays:

Evie M, Angelo A, Jessie J, Ethan M, Floss C, Polly W and Albey-Lee C – many happy returns to you all!

Policy reminders. Bringing toys to school.



We kindly ask that pupils **do not bring toys or personal play items to school**. This helps us maintain a focused and safe learning environment for all children.

If toys or personal play items are brought to school, they will be kept in a safe place by the class teacher and will need to be collected by a parent or guardian at the end of the day. **Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.**

New Romney Youth Club is Back!



The Youth Club – **aimed at Year 5 and 6 pupils**, was a huge success last year, and we're delighted to announce that it will be starting up again after the summer break. Sessions will run every **Thursday from 3:30–5:30pm** at the **Community Church**.

There's something for everyone to enjoy, with games including air hockey, pool, table tennis, table football — plus plenty of snacks and space to relax and chat with friends.

If you're attending for the first time, please note that parents will need to come along to complete an emergency contact form before children can join.

Online Safety Update

Online Safety Video 3 – Risk and Harm (Video Length: 12 Minutes)

This week's video considers risk and harm. Risk is the likelihood of harm and, given certain conditions a risk may be increased or decreased. It also looks at the 4C's: Content, Contact, Conduct and Commerce. The 4C's is the easiest way of understanding risk regardless of whether you think you are tech savvy or not.

Video Link: <https://vimeo.com/1113524829/eb399b817b>



Useful Links for parents:

- **Misleading age ratings report** - <https://5rightsfoundation.com/apple-and-google-expose-children-to-data-privacy-breaches-through-misleading-app-age-ratings/>
- **Internet matters - parental controls guides** - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>
- **Snapchat Family centre** - <https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/712138-4944788-What-is-Family-Centre>
- **TikTok family centre** - <https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/family-pairing>
- **Google Family Link** - <https://support.google.com/families/answer/7101025?hl=en>
- **Roblox parental controls** - <https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/30428310121620-Parental-Controls-Overview>



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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 2026?

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.

Thursday 16th October 2025 - 9:45am & 6:00pm

Monday 10th November 2025 - 9:45am & 1:30pm

Wednesday 12th November 2025 - 9.45am

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



Folkestone & Hythe Family Hubs

Timetable

1st September 2025 - 19th December 2025
(Term Time Only)

Our Family Hubs:

Folkestone
03000 421 167
Address:
Dover Road
CT20 1QF
Email:
folkestoneandhythefh
@kent.gov.uk

New Romney
03000 421 167
Address:
Craythorne Lane
TN28 8BL
Email:
folkestoneandhythefh
@kent.gov.uk

All of our groups
and services are
free to attend.

Monday

Folkestone
Stepping Up
3:30pm - 5:30pm

New Romney
Drop-In
Health Clinic
1pm - 3pm

Strengthening
Family
Relationships
12:30pm - 2:30pm

Tuesday

Baby Massage
Course
10am - 11am

Be You
LGBT
4pm - 5:30pm

Compass
5:30pm - 7pm

Stay & Play
9:30am - 11am

SEND
Stay & Play
11:30am - 1:00pm

Wednesday

Talking
Walk In
9:30am - 11:45am

Stay & Play
1pm - 2:30pm

Talking
Walk In
9:30am - 11:45am

Baby
Massage
Course
1pm - 2pm

Stepping Up
3:30pm - 5:30pm

Thursday

Strengthening
Family
Relationships
10am - 12pm

Parent
Guidance & Advice
Group
11am - 12pm

The Communication
Tree / Little Talkers
1:30pm - 2:30pm

Friday

Baby Steps
1pm - 2pm

Baby Steps
10am - 11am

Baby,
Family & You
12:30pm - 2:30pm

Saturday
Dads
9:30am - 11:30am

Please Note: Signing in will not be available until 10 minutes before the session starts.

www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub

Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council



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Information



Birth to 6 Months Baby Massage Booking Required A 5 week course for babies from newborn until they start crawling. Enables parents and carers to learn about and respond to their baby's body language and to support their baby to feel safe and secure. To book please contact your local family hub.	Pre-Walkers Baby Steps Baby Steps is a drop-in session for parents and carers with a child who is pre-walking. The group supports perinatal mental health, parent infant relationship, attachment and bonding, and provides parents and carers with information and opportunities to support healthy child development.	13-17 Years Old BeYou LGBTQ+ Invite Only A safe, friendly social group that provides advice and support for LGBTQ+ young people in Kent. For more information see www.thebeyouproject.co.uk	School Years 7-13 Compass Invite Only A programme using DBT approaches. We will be covering four areas: Interpersonal Effectiveness, Emotion Regulation, Mindfulness and Distress Tolerance. Delivered through, games, worksheets, discussions, and activities.
2-5 Years Old Little Talkers Booking Required A 6 week course for parent/carers with children aged 2-5 years. Learn new techniques and useful tips for developing their child's speech. There will be some focused 'fun' activities for you to do with your child, as well as some group time to improve listening skills and turn taking. <i>This group will be delivered according to need.</i>	5-10 Years Old Stepping Up Invite Only Stepping Up is a 6 week programme to encourage and support children age 5 to 10 (school years 1 to 6) with confidence, socialisation and managing in a group.	Parent Guidance & Advice Group A welcoming drop-in session offering guidance and advice for parents of children aged 0-19. The group provides a supportive space to discuss parenting challenges, share experiences, and access helpful resources. No booking required—just come along!	Monthly Saturday Dads Booking Required A group for Dads/male carers with babies and/or pre-school children. A range of play opportunities indoors and out for your children to explore. Meet other Dads and gather information related to baby/child development.
0-5 Years Old Stay & Play An opportunity for children to explore indoors and outdoors safely, whatever the weather. An environment where your child can expand their learning through play and engage socially with others. Clothes for all weathers recommended and a change of clothes for the messy area!	SEND Stay & Play Booking Required Sessions are aimed at children with SEND needs or social communication difficulties. The group numbers are lower to meet the needs of everyone attending and to create a calmer environment. Activities include singing, stories, developmentally appropriate activities, and opportunities to explore different areas and new experiences (e.g. messy play, active movement, creative activities).	2-5 Years Old The Communication Tree Invite Only A 6 week course for parents/carers being given useful knowledge around the different types of communication and how they can support and develop this. This does not focus on the language and speech development but on the foundation skills required to support this development. <i>This group will be delivered according to need.</i>	@folkestoneandhythefamilyhubs @folkestoneandhythefamilyhubs @folkestoneandhythefamilyhubs 11-19

Healthy Start Vitamins
 Are you eligible for Healthy Start Vitamins?
 If so, complete this form to order Healthy Start Vitamins to your door:

Free for 2
 Some 2 year olds can get up to 15 hours of free childcare per week!
 For more information and how to apply:

Useful Contact Numbers:
Health Visitor
 03001 231 240
Midwife
 01227 206 737

Please Note:
 For Health and Safety reasons there are room capacity limits in place.

For more information about opening times give your local hub a call

www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub
Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council

Information



Drop-In Health Clinic An opportunity for you to have a one-to-one consultation with the Health Visiting Team regarding your child's health, and to seek advice about development, infant feeding, behaviour, sleep and healthy weight. Health Team contact: 0300 123 1240 kentchft.folkestoneh@nhs.net Breastfeeding Support Available: Cheriton Wednesdays 10am - 12pm Castle Hill Fridays 9:30am - 11:30am	Strengthening Family Relationships Booking Required The programme is aimed at all families who find themselves in conflict for a variety of reasons, facing new triggers such as money or debt, a new baby, unemployment, relationships with wider family, family breakdown, housing, new partners, geographical change, health and/or mental wellbeing issues, and more. The workshop is a free face to face 90-minute one-off session for parents who are together or separated and covers: 1. Welfare 2. Focus 3. Responsibility 4. Living Arrangements – for separated parents 5. Building a Framework for success 6. Evaluation and Toolkits To book please visit: https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/kent-family-hub	New Parents Baby, Family & You Booking Required The course is four weeks of 2 hour group sessions, delivered with the babies (0-6 months) in attendance. Followed by four (optional) 1:1 follow up telephone calls, conversations or visits with a practitioner. The course aims to provide: Positive Parenting Skills – To promote secure attachment and reduce parent and infant distress Partner and Social Support – Improve partner and social support to increase overall family well-being Reduce Risk of Mental Health Problems Developing – Increase parental coping resources to reduce the risk of mental health problems developing. Sensory Room Castle Hill Family Hub Experience our Sensory space at Castle Hill Family Hub. Available to book throughout the week for up to 2 families Booking Required	2-4 Years Old Talking Walk In Drop-in sessions if you are worried about your pre-school child's speech, language or communication development. An opportunity to ask questions and discuss concerns with a speech and language therapist. Monthly: 1 st Tues - Cheriton / 2 nd Wed - Folkestone 3 rd Mon - Castle Hill / 4 th Wed - New Romney Soft Play Room Folkestone Family Hub Available for 1 hour sessions on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Up to a maximum of 3 families can enjoy our Soft Play space and explore at their own pace. Booking Required
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