



Friday 26th September 2025

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy

Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Email: headteacher@st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk

From the Headteachers desk...

This Week at School

Thank you to all the families who joined us for the **Education Sunday service** at St Nicholas Church. It was good to see our school community come together in celebration.

This week, I had the pleasure of attending the **Year 6 PGL residential**, where our children showed outstanding behaviour and resilience. From rope climbing to abseiling, they embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and teamwork. A huge well done to all involved!

In this newsletter you'll find:

- Details of our upcoming **PTA meeting** on **Tuesday 30th September at 1:30 PM** – all are welcome!
- Information about our **Harvest Festival Service** on **Monday 7th October**, to which all families are warmly invited.
- A request for **Harvest donations** to support the vulnerable and elderly in our parish. Suggested items include tinned goods, pasta, rice, spreads, toiletries, and more. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

This week, **Mrs Bader** introduced our **handwriting scheme**, offering tips on how parents can support their children at home - do checkout her Dojo post.

Reading at Home – A Powerful Tool for Success

One of the most impactful ways you can support your child's learning is by encouraging regular reading at home. Research shows that:

- Children who read daily are more likely to perform well across all subjects.
- Reading improves vocabulary, comprehension, and writing skills.
- Just **20 minutes of reading a day** exposes children to **1.8 million words per year**.
- Reading together strengthens parent-child bonds and builds confidence.

Whether it's a bedtime story, a comic, or a chapter book, every page counts. Thank you for continuing to support your child's learning journey.

Have a lovely weekend
Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

SEPTEMBER

Mon 29

Y6 Elm Swimming

Tues 30

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

OCTOBER

Wed 1

Year 4 Group 4 SUPB

Mon 6

Year 6 Elm swimming
Open classes for parents
3:15 to 3:45pm

Tues 7

KIC Theatre in with Y6 & Y2

Wed 8

Year 4 Group 5 SUPB

Thurs 9

Harvest Festival at St Nicholas Church 9:15am
– all welcome

Mon 13

[KS2 Parent Teacher Consultations – from 3:30pm](#)

Wed 15

Flu vaccinations for Years R to 6 - all day

Thurs 16

PESE assessment letter to parents
9:45am New Intake meeting

[KS1 Parent Teacher Consultations from 3:30pm](#)

6:00pm – New Intake meeting

Fri 17

End of term

Mon 27

Children return to school

Y6 Swimming Elm class

[KS1 Parent Teacher Consultations](#)



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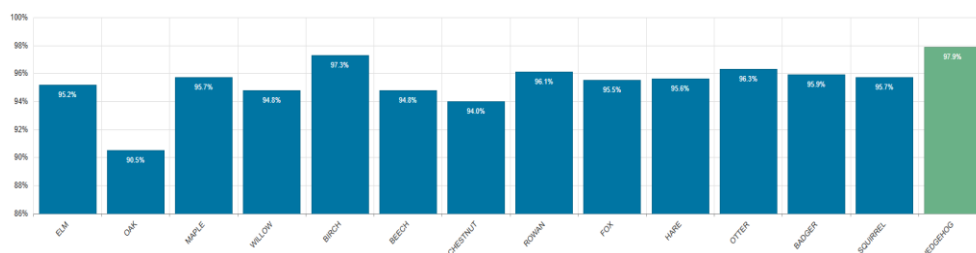


Attendance every day counts.

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:		
Yr	Class	%
R	Hedgehog	97.9
4	Birch	97.3
1	Otter	96.3
3	Rowan	96.1



Congratulations to all the classes above with their super attendance

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

🍂 Harvest Festival Service & Collection 🍂

Thursday 7th October – 9:15am at St Nicholas Church

We warmly invite all families to join us for our **whole-school Harvest Festival Service** at St Nicholas Church. This is a special opportunity to come together in celebration and reflection, and we hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend.



As part of our Harvest tradition, we are continuing our support for the **elderly and those in need within our parish**. We kindly ask families to contribute to our **Harvest Collection** by donating **non-perishable food items**, which will be distributed to local causes including day centres for the elderly.

Donations can be brought to school from Monday 29th September. Please ensure items have at least **4–6 months left** on their use-by date.

Most appreciated items include:

- Pasta, rice, flour, spaghetti
- Tinned fruit, vegetables, meat, and fish (e.g. ham, tuna, sardines)
- Spreads: jam, sandwich spreads, meat/fish pastes
- Biscuits (sweet or savoury), simple cakes
- Cooking sauces, condiments (e.g., ketchup, mayonnaise)
- Tea, coffee, sugar, milk powder, cooking oil
- Instant potato, packet/tinned soups
- Toiletries: soap, toothpaste, disinfectant, washing powder

We are grateful for **any contributions**, and your generosity will make a real difference in our community. **Thank you for your continued support!**

Apply for Free School Meals

In Kent, 21% of children receive free school meals. If you are eligible and register your child will get:

- a choice of delicious, healthy hot meals every school day at no cost - this is worth £470 a year per child and recognised to improve behaviour and learning
- meals to cater for cultural, dietary, and religious requirements
- the chance to develop social skills by sitting with friends for a school meal.

Follow this link to see if you are eligible - [Free school meals - Kent County Council](#) - **IF YOUR CHILD ALREADY RECEIVES FREE SCHOOL MEALS YOU DO NOT NEED TO REAPPLY**



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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Awards



Star of the Week Awards went to:

Hedgehog: Dalia F, **Badger:** Olivia C, **Fox:** Finley P, **Rowan:** Emily R,
Birch: Jerona J, **Willow:** Albert L, **Oak:** Charlotte B



This week's birthdays: Cooper L, Nieve M, Ralph R, George D, Ricco Q, Samuel E, Finley G and Oliver J – many happy returns to you all!

Nicholas Bear was awarded to: YEAR 6

Policy reminders. Healthy Eating School.

Healthy Snack Reminder

As part of our ongoing commitment to promoting healthy eating habits, we encourage children to bring a **nutritious snack** for break time. **KS1 children are provided with a snack by the school.**

☒ Healthy snack ideas include:

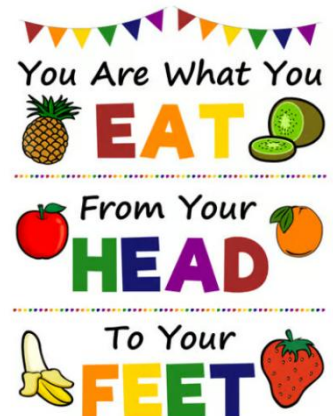
- Fresh fruit (e.g. apples, bananas)
- Raw vegetables (e.g. carrots, celery sticks)

These snacks help support energy, focus, and wellbeing throughout the school day.

Please avoid sending:

- sweets; chocolate bars; crisps; sugary drinks.

By choosing healthy options, we can work together to build positive eating habits that benefit our children now and in the future. **Thank you for your support.**



Online Safety Update: Online Influence (Video Length: 9 Minutes)



In this week's video, we're looking at online influence. As children grow up, the digital environments around them are evolving as well, often in step with their changing interests and behaviours, so what are some of the factors that can influence children online? We will also take a brief look at misogyny.

Video Link: <https://vimeo.com/1113526326/a4b03fd165>

Useful Online links for parents:

What is a parasocial relationship?

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-are-parasocial-relationships/>

The online disinhibition effect

<https://ed.buffalo.edu/content/dam/ed/alberti/docs/conference/Levy%20Presentation%202014%20.pdf>

What are algorithms?

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-are-algorithms-how-to-prevent-echo-chambers/>

What is persuasive design?

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/talking-to-young-people-about-persuasive-design>

What is misogyny?

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/online-hate/what-is-misogyny/>



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Year 6 parents – PESE Secondary School Applications

For children starting Year 7 in September 2026, applications will close on **Friday 31 October 2025**. 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 16 October 2025**. 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 2 March 2026 after 4pm to tell you which school your child has been offered.

Please note:

The Marsh Academy Open Day takes place on Saturday 27th September 10am to 12 noon

To make your arrival as smooth as possible, you can pre-register for this event by scanning the QR code. This will give you quick access to the registration form and event website, which includes details on navigation, activities, locations, and timings to help you get the most from your visit.



PTA – Parent Teacher Association – Get Involved!

Tuesday 30th September at 1:30 PM – at School

We're excited to invite all parents and carers to the **first PTA meeting of the new academic year**. Whether you're a returning member or new to the school, your involvement makes a real difference.

Everyone is welcome – and don't worry if you have preschool children, they're welcome too!

Joining the PTA is a fantastic way to:-

- Meet other parents and build friendships
- Get to know the school environment
- Help raise vital funds for school projects
- Make a meaningful impact on your child's education and school experience



Being part of the PTA not only benefits the children, but also helps you grow in confidence as a parent and feel proud knowing you're contributing to something lasting – for your child and future generations.

We hope to see you there!

Staff

At the end of last term we said farewell to Mrs Lisa Baker, our Family Liaison Officer (FLO).

Lisa has been a valued member of our school community for the past 10 years, giving her dedicated service to the children, families, and staff. Her commitment, hard work, and care have made a real difference, and we are truly grateful for all she has contributed during her time here.

On behalf of everyone at St Nicholas, I would like to thank Mrs Baker sincerely and wish her all the very best for the future.



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🏠 Open Sessions for Prospective Parents

We warmly invite prospective parents to visit our school and experience the welcoming, nurturing environment we offer. Our **Open Sessions** are a great opportunity to meet staff, explore our facilities, and learn more about our curriculum and values. ***If you know someone looking for a place for their child in September 2026 pass on these details.***

📅 Upcoming Open Event Dates – 2025

- **Thursday 16th October** | 9.45am and again at 6.00pm
- **Monday 10th November** | 9.45am and again at 1.30pm and
- **Wednesday 12th November** | 9.45am

If you would like to attend one of these events, please contact the school office to book your place.

📞 T: 01797 361906

✉ E: office@st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing what makes our school a wonderful place for children to learn and grow.



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



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