



Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy

# Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

Email: [headteacher@st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk)

*From the Headteachers desk...*

## Dear Parents and Carers,

What another busy week we've had at St Nicholas! It has been a joy to see our pupils engaging in such a wide range of exciting activities and learning experiences.

Last week, we celebrated our "6 Ways to Well-being" day, which was a resounding success. Each year group took part in thoughtful and creative activities designed to support their overall well-being, and the children threw themselves into every challenge with enthusiasm. You can find a detailed piece at the end of this newsletter highlighting what different classes got up to—it's well worth a read!



We also marked *European Languages Day*, another wonderful event that gave our pupils the chance to explore cultures and languages from across the continent. Their eagerness to share their learning was a joy to see, and we have included some of their work later in the newsletter so you can enjoy it too.

In Early Years, our children have been immersed in the classic tale of *The Little Red Hen*. They have not only listened to and retold the story but also taken part in a variety of activities to deepen their understanding. The quality of their work has been truly impressive, showing both creativity and curiosity.

For our Year 6 families, a reminder of some important dates regarding secondary school applications:

- The national closing date for applications is **Friday 31st October 2025**
- For those who sat the Kent Test, outcomes will be shared on **Thursday 16th October 2025**.

I hope this information is helpful as you navigate the process of choosing the next step in your child's educational journey.

As always, it is a privilege to see our pupils thriving, embracing new opportunities, and demonstrating such enthusiasm for learning. Thank you for your continued support in making St Nicholas a vibrant and positive community where our children can truly flourish.

*Have a lovely weekend*

Christopher Dale

Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

### OCTOBER

**Mon 6**

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

**Tues 7**

KIC Theatre in with Y6 & Y2

**Wed 8**

Y4 Grp 5  
paddleboarding

**Thurs 9**

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

**Mon 13**

**KS2 Parent Teacher Consultations – 3:30pm**

**Wed 15**

Flu vaccinations for  
**Years R to 6 All day**

**Thurs 16**

PESE assessment letter to Y6 parents  
9:45 New Intake meeting  
3:30 – **KS1 Parent Teacher consultation meeting**  
6:00 – New Intake meeting

**Fri 17**

**End of term**

**Mon 27**

**Children return to school**  
Y6 Swimming Elm class  
**KS1 Parent teacher consultations**

**Wed 29**

Attendance officer in school

**Thurs 30**

**NELFT workshop – 9am**  
Anxiety in your child  
**KS2 Parent/Teacher consultations**



*"St Nicholas CE Primary Academy,  
a place where pupils always come first."* - **OFSTED**

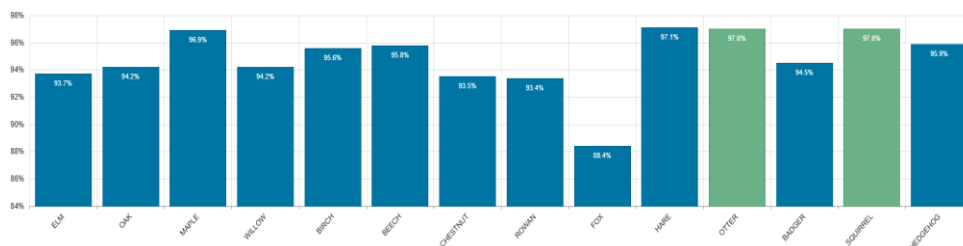


## Attendance every day counts.

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

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

Top attenders are:		
Year	Class	%
2	Hare	97.1
1	Otter	97.0
R	Squirrel	97.0
5	Maple	96.9



*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 9th 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.** 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 your school will get £1550 per child & 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](#)



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**



*"St Nicholas CE Primary Academy,  
a place where pupils always come first."* - **OFSTED**



---

## Star Award –



**Star of the week awards went to:**

**Squirrel:** Francesca C **Otter:** Taylor E **Hare:** Shiloh F **Rowan:** Matilda K  
**Beech:** Albie G **Maple:** Alan S **Elm:** Gracie J **Oak:** Archie A



**This week's Birthdays:**

Rupert R, CJ S, Lenny P, Aria-Belle R, Elsie B, Oceana K, Oliver T, Heartli J, Bethany F, Scarlett P and Eli T – many happy returns to you all!

---

## Policy reminders. Earrings at School.

Children **are** allowed to wear earrings to school however **they must be plain studs**. **Dangly earrings and hoops are not allowed**. Children cannot wear any earrings for PE so must be able to remove them themselves or not wear them on PE days or be able to tape them up independently. Thank you for your support with this important matter.



---

## Online Safety Update: Training Video - Exploitation (Video Length: 10 Minutes)



This week's video is a difficult video to watch and listen to as the content centres around the growing statistics of children being exploited online, including sextortion (financially motivated extortion). It is a vital area of which every parent/carer should know about.

Importantly, please be aware of your own state of mind before you watch and be aware of your surroundings, consider wearing headphones. I don't go into a lot of detail in this video, it's more about the statistics to show the growing numbers.

**Video Link:** <https://vimeo.com/1113536188/681cc98c7e>

### Useful Links:

**Internet Watch Foundation - Talk Checklist - Clear, practical advice to keep your children safe.**

<https://talk.iwf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Parent-Resource.pdf>

**Internet Watch Foundation - Supporting children with SEND**

<https://talk.iwf.org.uk/children-with-send/>

**Internet Matters - Teens, Sexting and Risks**

<https://www.internetmatters.org/about-us/sexting-report-look-at-me/>

**Child Exploitation and Online Protection Service (National Crime Agency)**

If you or your child is worried about online sexual abuse or the way someone has been communicating you can report here: <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

**The state of sextortion 2025**

<https://www.thorn.org/blog/the-state-of-sexortion-in-2025/>



## Celebrating the European Day of Languages:



Every year on **September 26th**, Europe comes together to celebrate one of its most vibrant and unifying treasures: **language**.

Language is a bridge - not a barrier. By celebrating different languages, we foster mutual understanding and respect across borders. Learning languages opens doors to new opportunities, careers, and friendships as

we know from our friends at our partner school, St Joseph's in Lille, France.

At St Nicholas, the **European Day of Languages** is more than just a date on the calendar - it's a powerful reminder of the continent's rich tapestry of cultures, histories, and identities woven together through words. – [watch this video for more information](#)

Whether you're fluent in five languages or just learning your first foreign phrase, the European Day of Languages invites you to be curious. Try saying "hello" in a new language.







# Six Ways to Wellbeing project



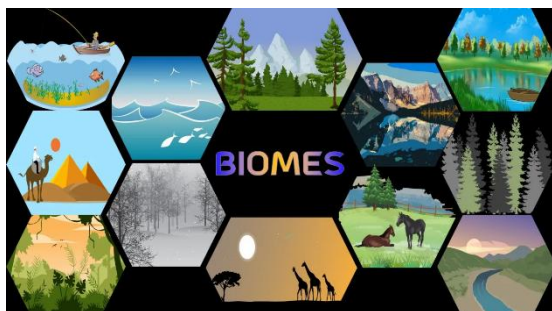
This year at St Nicholas, we are again linking our **Six Ways to Wellbeing** project with our exciting whole-school theme of the planet's biomes.

## What is a biome?

A biome is a large natural area of the world, such as the **rainforest, desert, ocean, tundra, grassland, or savannah**. Each biome has its own special climate, plants, and animals. Learning about them helps children understand how amazing – and fragile – our planet is.

## How does this link to wellbeing?

Each term, we will focus on **one of the Six Ways to Wellbeing** (Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Keep Learning, Give, Care for the Planet). At the same time, each year group will explore a different **biome** as part of their learning. Together, these two themes will help children build healthy habits for life while also learning about the world we share.



For example, while learning about the rainforest, children might **Connect** through teamwork activities, **Take Notice** of the rich variety of plant and animal life, or **Care for the Planet** by learning why rainforests are important for Earth's health.

By combining **wellbeing** with our **biome theme**, we hope children will see how looking after themselves and looking after the planet go hand-in-hand. We look forward to sharing each term's focus with you through the newsletter so families can join in too.

## Year 1

Spent their afternoon focusing on Place: What do we notice? They linked this with their learning of the changing seasons and finding signs of Autumn! The children made their own journey sticks in the outside area.

The children worked together, helped each other and encouraged others. The children also took these photos themselves – We're very impressed!



*“St Nicholas CE Primary Academy,  
a place where pupils always come first.” - OFSTED*





**Year 3** - thought about plastic pollution (as it linked to its class text - Flotsam) and how it is affecting the planet, in particular oceans and rainforests where a lot of microplastics are ending up. The children created posters and a big mural as seen in the pictures.



### Year 5

Have been working on taking time to notice the world around us and have made observational drawings of the trees in our school grounds and meditating on the wonder of the natural world around us. They also took part in a live lesson with Steve Backshall all about temperate forests.



**Next term we will look at what has been happening in other year groups**



*“St Nicholas CE Primary Academy,  
a place where pupils always come first.” - **OFSTED***





## 🏠 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 16<sup>th</sup> October** | 9:45am and again at 6:00pm
- **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November** | 9:45am and again at 1:30pm
- **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:office@st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk)



**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

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

## 🎵 Bringing Music to Life on the Marsh – A Local Success Story

Eleven years ago, a passionate group of parents and musicians from Folkestone, Hythe, and the Romney Marsh came together to address the lack of music education in local schools. Their solution? The creation of a **charity-run music academy** offering free brass instrument tuition to children aged 8–18. Starting with just a few students, the academy has grown to over **50 young musicians**, divided into three bands: beginners, training, and senior concert band. As students improve, they progress through the levels—giving them clear goals and a sense of achievement. Thanks to generous support from local Rotary Clubs and fundraising efforts, instruments and music are provided, and children pay just **£3 per week** to participate. The academy welcomes children from all backgrounds and is currently seeking new members from the Romney Marsh area.



**SHEPWAY BRASS ACADEMY**  
**SATURDAY 11TH**  
**OCTOBER 2025 @ 3:00 pm**

We welcome you to join us in a concert of fun music of all styles played by our training band and senior concert band consisting of young people ages from 9 years to 18 years.

During the interval there will be tea, coffee, juice, cake and biscuits available.

There will be a raffle full of great prizes.

The ticket price is £5.00 for adults and children will be admitted free and the money raised will be shared equally between the band and the church.

This is a concert not to be missed - we look forward to seeing you there.

**ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH**  
Church Lane  
New Romney  
TN28 8AS

**SBA**  
Shepway Brass Academy



"St Nicholas CE Primary Academy,  
a place where pupils always come first." - **OFSTED**



---

## Upcoming Concert

Join us for a special afternoon of music at **St Nicholas Church, New Romney**, on **Saturday, October 11th at 3:00pm**, led by new Director of Music **Steffan Hughes**.

- **Tickets:** £5 (Under-18s go free!)
- **Proceeds:** Split between the Band and the Church's youth outreach work

Last year's concert raised over £1,000—let's beat that this year! Come and enjoy a wonderful celebration of local talent and community spirit.

**Thank you - Peter Woodward-Bailey**

---



*“St Nicholas CE Primary Academy,  
a place where pupils always come first.”* - **OFSTED**

