



Friday 30th January 2026

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy

Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

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"St Nicholas Academy... a place where pupils always come first." - OFSTED

From the Headteacher's desk...

It has been a rather unusual week for me, as I've found myself watching the school from afar while recovering at home from minor surgery. I'm pleased to say that I am recovering well and look forward to my return on Monday.

This unexpected pause has also given me the chance to reflect on the many wonderful activities and opportunities our children have enjoyed this term. We were delighted to welcome the KIC Theatre group and Astrodome into school recently, and we have several more exciting visitors and events planned for the weeks ahead. Experiences like these play an important part in shaping children's understanding of the world.

As a school, we remain committed to ensuring that these **in-school enrichment experiences do not come at a cost to families**. We believe strongly in giving children access to these valuable opportunities that build cultural capital and broaden their learning. To help manage costs overall, we only request parental contributions for larger, off-site trips. This approach is not something all schools adopt, but we feel it provides the right balance between offering a rich curriculum and keeping things affordable for parents.

Over the coming weeks, you may see more information on Class Dojo about our strong and growing partnership with NEFLT. They have already visited several times this year to support our parent community, offering guidance, workshops, and insights on a range of topics. There are more sessions planned — some in person and some online — and I would encourage you to take a moment to explore what's available. I know that some workshop titles can look a little daunting, and it's natural to worry about being judged for attending. Please don't let that stop you. Speaking as both a teacher and a parent, I know how valuable these opportunities can be. Parenting comes with no manual, and the more support networks we build, the more confident we become. You are always welcome.

We are now approaching our Parent Teacher Consultations, which will take place on either side of the half-term break. If you haven't already booked your appointment, please do so via the MCAS app before **Thursday 5th February 2026**, when booking closes. These meetings are a really important opportunity to discuss your child's progress and next steps.

Before Parents' Evening, we also invite you to our **Open Class Sessions on Monday 2nd February**, from **3:15–3:45pm**. The children have been working incredibly hard, and this is a lovely chance to pop in, look through their books, and see for yourself how much they've achieved this term.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

February 2026

Mon 2nd

Y4 Beech – Swimming

Week 4

1:30pm Candlemass

Eucharist at School

3:15 Whole School

OPEN CLASSES

3:15pm Herald Cup

training

Tues 3rd

10am Governing Body meeting

Wed 4th

Kav to work with

Y6 Handball – am

YR Multi-skills – pm

Thur 5th

Parent teacher consultation online booking closes

Mon 9th

Y4 Beech – Swimming

Week 5

KIC Theatre in

Year 4 - am

Year 1 - pm

3:30 – KS1 Parent

Teacher consultation

Tues 10th

Whole school - Internet Safety Day



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!**

MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.

A Message About the Importance of Attendance

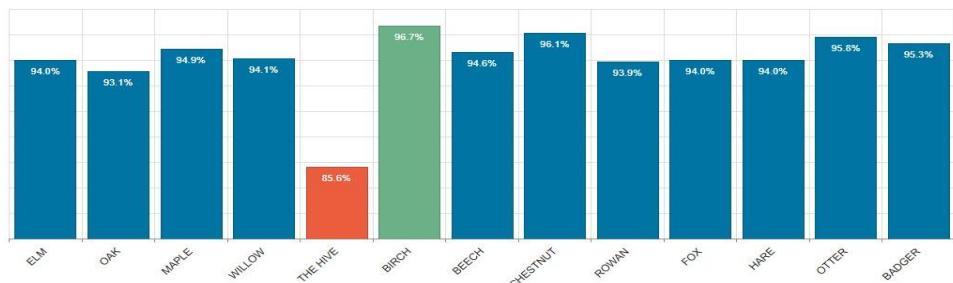
Good attendance is essential for every child's learning, wellbeing, and long-term success. At present, our level of Persistent Absence (pupils missing 10% or more of school) is 16.71%, meaning **68 pupils** are currently missing significant amounts of learning time.

Every day in school matters.

When children are frequently absent, they not only miss lessons but also the daily routines and relationships that help them feel secure and connected. Friendships can drift, confidence can drop, and small worries can grow into bigger challenges when a child feels out of touch with school life. **These issues are much harder to rebuild the longer a child is away and engrain into longer term behaviours at secondary school if not addressed.**

Please support us by ensuring your child is in school every day they are well enough to attend. If you are experiencing difficulties with attendance, we are here to help. Working together, we can make sure every child feels settled, supported, and ready to succeed.

Top attenders are:		
Year	Class	%
4	Birch	96.7
3	Chestnut	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.

Star Award –



Star of the week awards went to:

Squirrel: Luca H **Hare:** Matilda C **Rowan:** Vinnie H **Beech:** Ollie B
Willow: Freya C **Oak:** Maia J



This week's Birthdays:

Lucas L, Joshua N, Ava R, Ada T, Ryder H, Remy P, Everly A, Richie W, Bailey V and Lucas W – many happy returns to you all!



SEND Administrator - Advert Close Date:27/02/2026

Are you an organised, people-focused administrator who wants to make a genuine difference to children's lives? Do you thrive in a busy environment where no two days are the same? If so, we'd love to hear from you.

We are seeking a SEND & Inclusion Administrator to provide high-quality administrative and clerical support across our SEND and Inclusion teams. This is a vital role at the heart of the Academy, supporting pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), their families, and the professionals who work with them.

For more information and to apply please click on the link below:

<https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=152845>

ST NICHOLAS UNIFORM PROVIDERS:



Exciting news for St Nicholas families! 🎉

We are delighted to announce that we have added a third official uniform provider - Top Banana Services, to give you more options and convenience.

You can now purchase your school uniform from:

- County Print & Embroidery
- Top Banana Services
- PMG Schoolwear

Parking Safely at the School Gate

Over the last two weeks, parents will have noticed the new signs positioned at the school gates during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. These signs are there to remind drivers of the importance of not parking on the yellow zig-zag lines, which must be kept clear to ensure the safety of all children and families.

I am very pleased to report that the response from the overwhelming majority of parents has been extremely positive. Many of you have shared supportive comments at the gate, and it is clear that most families understand why keeping these areas clear is so important.

We will, however, continue to challenge drivers who do not park safely or responsibly. In line with guidance from the Highways Team, we will also photograph the number plates of vehicles that deliberately ignore the road signs, with these being passed on to the Penalty Notice Team where appropriate.

Thank you to everyone who continues to help keep our school community safe at the start and end of the day.



The Princess and The Frog

A Pantomime by Cameron J Ruby

Box Office
07434 895113

In person at The Clipper Barbers & Beaux at
19 Littlestone Road, TN28 8LN

[Ticketsource.co.uk/nradpanto](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/nradpanto)

Wed 18th Feb 7:00pm
Thu 19th Feb 7:00pm
Fri 20th Feb 3:00pm

Fri 20th Feb 7:00pm
Sat 21st Feb 3:00pm
Sat 21st Feb 7:00pm

The Marsh Academy Theatre
Station Rd
TN28 8BB

 Sponsored by
The Clipper Barber & Beaux

SCAN ME

