



Friday 6th March 2026

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy Weekly Newsletter

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

From the Headteachers desk...

What an exceptionally busy and rewarding week it has been at school and it looks like Spring has sprung! We are incredibly proud of all that our pupils and staff have achieved over the past few days, and it has been wonderful to see the school buzzing with energy, enthusiasm, and a genuine love of learning.

Earlier in the week we celebrated our **Herald Cup football success**, with our mixed team showing fantastic teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship. Their efforts were recognised with a well-deserved win, and we round off the week with yet another football fixture but this time for the girls. As always, they represented the school admirably, both on and off the pitch.

Our **Year 4 pupils enjoyed their residential trip to Kench Hill**, the last group return today and we could not have asked for better weather. Sunshine and clear skies made their outdoor activities even more enjoyable, and the children returned full of stories about new skills learned, challenges conquered, and memories made with friends. A huge thank-you to the staff who accompanied them and ensured such a positive experience.

Meanwhile, **Year 2 ventured out to the Museum of Kent Life**, where they immersed themselves in hands-on learning about local history, farming, and traditional crafts. Their excitement was clear as they explored the exhibits, asked thoughtful questions, and engaged so positively throughout the day.

Yesterday we also celebrated a particularly vibrant and joyful **World Book Day**. The corridors were filled with an array of imaginative and original costumes, as pupils arrived dressed as their favourite book characters. From classic heroes to contemporary favourites, the creativity on display was remarkable. As part of our *Year of Reading*, we continue to emphasise the vital importance of reading in every area of learning—no subject can truly be accessed without strong reading skills, and we are delighted to see pupils' enthusiasm growing.

Looking ahead, the momentum continues as we move into **Whole School Science Week** next week. Pupils can look forward to a range of exciting investigations, activities, and opportunities to explore the world around them through curiosity and discovery.

Finally, a reminder that on **Sunday 15th March**, we will hold our **Mothering Sunday Service at St Nicholas Church at 10:30am**. It is always a special occasion, and we very much hope that many of you will be able to join us. Wishing everyone a restful weekend after such a full and rewarding week.

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

March

Mon 9th

SCIENCE WEEK

Y4 Beech Swimming

Y6 Commonwealth Day service.

Tues 10th

1:30pm – PTA Meeting

ALL WELCOME

Girls football match @ home against Greatstone

Wed 11th

Kav in (Y3 am Y1 pm)

2pm YR meeting for parents on Mastering Number

Fri 13th

Mixed football match @ home against Palmarsh

Sunday 15th

Mothering Sunday service at St Nicholas church.

Mon 16th

Y4 Week 1 - Birch class swimming

Tues 17th

CLASS PHOTO DAY

Y6 Bikeability

Wed 18th

Y4 Ancient Egyptian Day

Y6 Bikeability

Thurs 19th

8:30am **SEND Parents**

Coffee Morning

Y6 Bikeability

Fri 20th

RED NOSE DAY

Mon 23rd

KIC THEATRE for Y5 and Y3



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!**

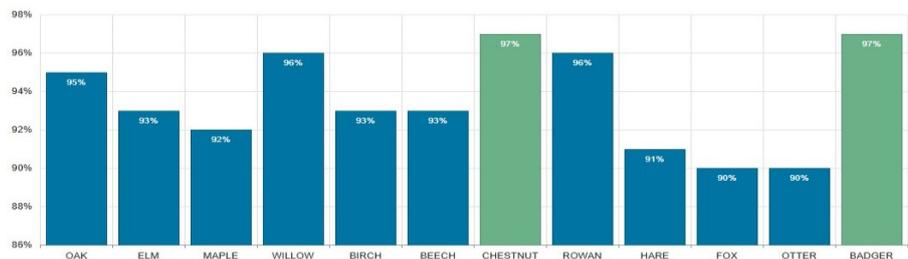
**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

A Message About the Importance of Attendance

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	%
1	Badger	99.3
3	Chestnut	98.6
4	Birch	98.6
5	Maple	97.4
1	Otter	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.

Star Award –



Star of the week awards went to:

Squirrel: Binky W **Badger:** Tillie L **Hare:** Isaac S **Rowan:** Aria-Belle R
Beech: Oscar J **Maple:** Ajay C **Oak:** Blake C

This week's Birthdays:



Daisie B, Archie C, Frankie S, Aubrey B and Leia T – many happy returns to you all!

Calling All Year R Parents!

Don't miss our **Mastering Number Workshop** on **Wednesday 11th**, from **2:00–3:00pm!**



It's a fun, hands-on chance to see how we help children build brilliant early number skills—and you might even pick up a few ideas to use at home too!

We'd love to see as many of you there as possible, so please come along, join in, and learn more about the magic of early maths.

Let's master numbers together!



Parent workshops



We have our Stay and Read workshop for **Year 1** parents to come in and read with their children every Wednesday and In **Year R** on the same day we have a Stay and Count session. These are wonderful ways for parents to see how we structure reading and maths in the formative years in school and hope you will gain something from them as well as working with your child in their class. **It will be great to see as many year 1 and R parents at these events supporting your child!**



Special Educational Need & Disabilities (SEND) updates

The Parent Consultation Line is for parents to access a free 30 minute telephone or video consultation with an educational psychologist to discuss issues regarding their children's wellbeing and/or learning that are causing concern. The aim of this service is to support parents and carers in finding ways forward and possible solutions through a joint problem solving conversation. Topics or areas that parents and carers may wish to discuss might include:

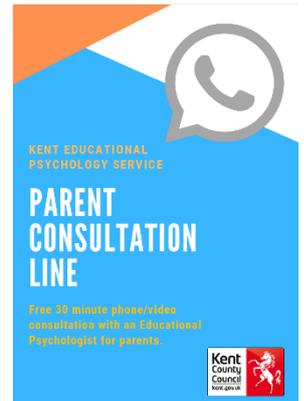
- Social and emotional issues
- Concerns about learning
- Family relationships
- Concerns about behaviour
- Daily routines including sleep

If you consider a parent or carer would benefit from this service please ask them to send an email to kepscommunitysupport@kent.gov.uk and to include the following information:

- name;
- phone number;
- convenient time to call (morning or afternoon)
- their child's education phase e.g. early years, primary school, secondary school;
- a brief description of what they wish to discuss.

We ask that parents themselves contact the service as opposed to professionals doing so for them. This is to ensure that when we make contact it is with the parents consent.

We will do our best to respond within 10 working days but this may be subject to availability. Please note that due to capacity, educational psychologists will not be able to discuss EHCP applications.



Please find below the details of up & coming NELFT meetings here at St Nicholas as well as those available online. These workshops are designed to support families and provide helpful guidance around children's mental health and emotional wellbeing. The online meeting have a QR code, which parents can use to register quickly and easily for any of the online sessions. If you know anyone who may benefit from attending, do pass this information on.



Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams
Medway Emotional Support Teams



Online Parent Workshops

Aimed at parents of children in school

Understanding Sleep and Autism

Monday 9th March 12:30-13:30pm

**Workshop timings change from term to term*

Are you currently experiencing difficulties with your child's sleeping patterns? Maybe your child has received a diagnosis. Would you like to come and meet with other parents and carers and learn about ways to support your child?

You are invited to a workshop about understanding sleeping patterns and autism. We also discuss helpful strategies that you can use at home to help support your child.

If you would like to join, please [click the link below](#) or by entering the Meeting ID and Passcode within Teams:

[Autism and Sleep](#) | [Meeting Join](#) | [Microsoft Teams](#)

Our workshops are held on Microsoft Teams. You can create an account for free. You will need access to the internet. If you have any questions please speak to your child's school. Currently, this workshop is only available to parents/carers of children attending an EWT/EST school. Please speak to your child's school or check our website for our list of schools. If you require materials in another language or have any other access needs then please email:

EWandESTenquiries@nelft.nhs.uk

We look forward to meeting you.






Online Parent Workshops

Aimed at parents of children in primary school

Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears

10/03/2026 - 4pm-6pm

**Workshop timings change from term to term*

Are your child's worries and fears starting to impact their day to day life? Would you like to come and meet with other parents and carers and learn about ways to support your children so they can manage their concerns and enjoy themselves more?

You are invited to a workshop which focuses on understanding what anxiety is, the symptoms you may notice in your child and some techniques to help manage this anxiety.

If you would like to join, please [click the link below](#) or by entering the Meeting ID and Passcode within Teams:

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We look forward to meeting you.






Parent Workshop

Aimed at parents of children in primary school

Understanding Sleep and Autistic Children

Wednesday 18th March 2026
08:45-10:15

Are you currently experiencing difficulties with your child's sleeping patterns? Maybe your child has received a diagnosis. Would you like to come and meet with other parents and carers and learn about ways to support your child?

You are invited to a workshop about understanding sleeping patterns and autism. We also discuss helpful strategies that you can use at home to help support your child.

This workshop will be held at St Nicholas Church of England Primary Academy

If you have any questions, please talk to Mrs Gunn

We look forward to meeting you.







Mothering Sunday Service

Please join us for our special Mothering Sunday Service. Starting at **10:30am** at **St Nicholas Church** on **Sunday 15th March**.

The younger children have created portraits, prayers and poems in readiness for this. It's set to be a beautiful morning.

It would be lovely to see as many of our families there as possible.

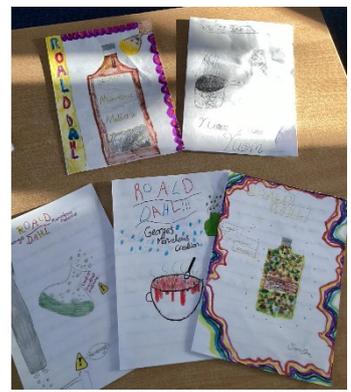
A Wonderful World Book Day!

What a fantastic World Book Day we enjoyed this year! Our school was filled with colour, imagination, and excitement as children arrived dressed as their favourite characters from much-loved stories. From classic tales to modern adventures, the creativity on display was truly impressive.

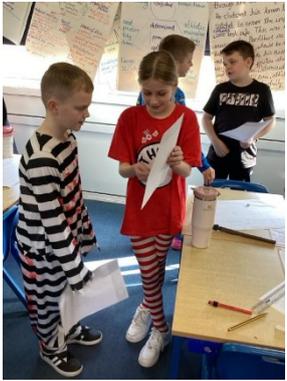
Across the school, pupils took part in a range of reading-themed activities, shared favourite stories, and celebrated the joy of books together. As part of our *Year of Reading*, it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm and to be reminded of how powerful reading is in inspiring curiosity, building confidence, and opening doors to every subject.

We hope you enjoy looking through just a few of the many brilliant photos captured throughout the day—each one showing the joy, fun, and imagination that make World Book Day such a special event in our school calendar.





George crept quietly away from his Grandma to form a ingenious plan.
 He grabbed a fat saucepan for a flat surface want do.
 He chucked in maddy mustard that will melt in grandmas mouth.
 He slashed in maddy Soapy studs to fix the sent of her sour tongue.
 He plopped in an elephant leg mixed with egg for her head will explode.
 And the potion started to sizzle for the formulae refused to stay quiet.



Year 4 Kench Hill Residential

Year 4 had an amazing time on their Kench Hill residential! The sunshine stayed with them all week, which made every activity even better. The children threw themselves into outdoor challenges, team games, and new experiences, coming home full of stories and smiles.

A huge well done to Year 4 for their brilliant attitude—and thank you to the staff who made the trip such a success!

