



Friday 20th 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...

A huge thank you to all the families who joined our Mothering Sunday service. It was a truly heart-warming occasion, made even more special by the children's beautiful singing. We especially enjoyed seeing so many mothers and grandmothers there—thank you for sharing part of your special day with us.

It has been a busy week here at St Nicholas. Our Year 6 pupils have successfully completed their Bikeability training, showing great focus and skill. They thoroughly enjoyed practicing their road safety techniques within the local community—well done to all! **Note:** The KS1 bike shed will be temporarily out of action this coming week as we spruce it up for the busy spring season. Keep an eye out for updates in next week's edition.

Please be aware that Rolfe Lane will be closed this Monday. This is expected to significantly impact Nursery drop-offs and general school traffic. Please allow extra time and consider alternative routes or parking arrangements.

Year 4 travelled back in time this week for a fantastic Ancient Egyptian Day. The costumes were incredible, and the hands-on activities were a huge hit!

Huge congratulations to our Herald Cup teams! Both sides secured fantastic victories this week. Beyond the scoreline, we are incredibly proud of the outstanding teamwork and sportsmanship they displayed on and off the pitch.

It's that time of year again! We are kicking off our Lent fundraising with two school favourites-Easter Egg Raffle which tickets are on sale now for 20p each and will be on sale until the last day of term. We will also be collecting 10p's for our annual coin race, to see which class can create the longest line of silver to take the crown.

Get ready for a fiesta! Mexican Lunch on Thursday 21st May: Enjoy mild chilli, rice, nachos, and chocolate cake! Please book via MCAS > Dinners > Week 18/05/2026. Orders must be confirmed in advance, otherwise please provide a packed lunch.

Finally, last night we gathered to celebrate the retirement of our Finance Officer, Mrs Ailwood. After 27 years of extraordinary dedication, Mrs Ailwood is stepping down at the end of this term. She has been a cornerstone of St Nicholas, expertly managing our resources to ensure our pupils have everything they need to thrive. We wish her a very long, happy, and well-deserved retirement! Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.
Best wishes,

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

March

Mon 23rd

KIC THEATRE for Y5 and Y3

Y4 Birch class swimming – week 2

1pm NRAS in for Y4

Mixed football match @ home against

Greatstone

NO HERALD CUP TRAINING FOR THE GIRLS TEAM

Wed 25th

Kav in: AM – Y3

PM – Y1

10am Governor's meeting

Y1 Parents Mastering number meeting 2pm

Thurs 26th

Y5/6 Handball tournament at THSP 10am – 3pm (selected children only)

Y5 Maths Challenge at Folkestone Academy (selected children only)

Fri 27th

6 Ways to Wellbeing 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!**

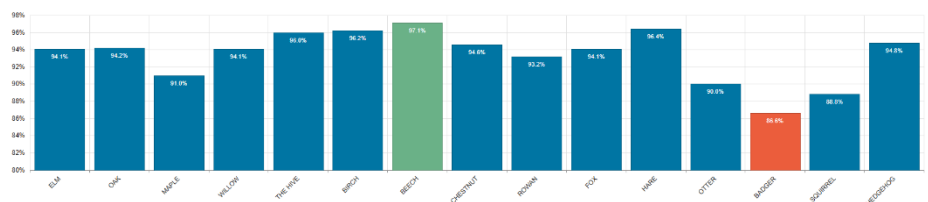


A Message About the Importance of Attendance

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	%
4	Beech	97.1
2	Hare	96.4
4	Birch	96.2
Mixed	The Hive	96.0



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: Arley R **Badger:** Gracie R **Hare:** Daisie B **Rowan:** Annaleiss T
Beech: Autumn J **Maple:** Reggie A **Oak:** Jack O



This week's Birthdays:

Rose B, Jackson B, Luca B, Hudson S, Leon S, Dollie A, Roma R, Archie T, Kenzie V, Bella A, Mason H, Jacob J, Jude W, Conor J and Kallie W – many happy returns to you all!

Online Safety - For Parents for Parents - App Controls to Support Children



Jenny is a mother with two teenage girls who feels the pressure of keeping up to date with online safety, new app settings and more the same as other parents. In this article and YouTube video jenny shares how she uses app-level parental controls to manage social media use across her daughters' phones and tablets. Link: [Using App Controls to Support Children.](#)

For Parents - What is Monetisation - Monetisation is how content creators earn money through social media and video-sharing platforms, with some creators using dishonest practices to receive more activity on their posts. Internet Matters have put together a brilliant information guide and you can find the link below. Link: [For Parents - What is Monetisation?](#)

For Parents - Starting the Conversation

The Family Online Safety Institute (FOSI) have produced a great new, simple guide aimed at helping parents start those conversations which can be very difficult. This is specifically for young people rather than teenagers as it covers online dating safety, digital consent and boundaries.

Link: [For Parents - Starting the Conversation with Young People.](#)



YOU ARE INVITED
TO ENTER OUR



EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

IT IS TIME TO GET
YOUR CREATIVE
HAT ON

Entries to be brought to school
by Monday 30th March 2026

Please make sure you put
your name and class inside the
bonnet



Open to all year groups

PRIZE FOR THE BEST ENTRY IN THE CLASS



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

British Science Week Poster Competition

Theme: *What does a positive childhood
look like now and in the future?*

- **Who:** All students at St Nicholas!
- **Format:** A4 or A3 paper (pencils, paint, digital - anything goes!)
- **Deadline:** Hand to your class teacher by **Monday 30th March.**

*Important: No names or real photos on the
front, please! Shortlisted entries may be
shared publicly.*



