



Friday 3rd July 2026

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy Weekly Newsletter

Headteacher: Christopher Dale

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

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

From the Headteachers desk...

Celebrating Sporting Success at St Nicholas

It has been another fantastic achievement for sport at St Nicholas, and we have so much to celebrate!

We are delighted to announce that we have once again been awarded the **School Games Platinum Mark Award** for the **2025/26 academic year**. Achieving Platinum for a second time is a wonderful recognition of our commitment to providing high-quality sporting opportunities for all of our children and encouraging participation, enjoyment and success in physical activity.



We are also incredibly proud to have been crowned **District Sports Large School Champions**.

Congratulations to every child who represented the school. They competed with determination, resilience and excellent sportsmanship, and thoroughly deserved their success. Thank you to all of our families who came along to support the team and create such a fantastic atmosphere.



Our sporting journey continues next week as our girls football team takes part in the **Herald Cup Final** at **Marsh Academy** on **Wednesday 8th July at 5pm**. We hope as many of our families as possible will be able to come along and support the team as they represent St Nicholas in what promises to be a fantastic occasion. Admission is **£3 per adult**, and we know the girls would love to see plenty of St Nicholas supporters cheering them on.

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to the staff who work tirelessly to make sport such an important part of life at St Nicholas. Without their enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to give up their own time, we simply would not be able to offer our children the wide range of sporting opportunities they enjoy. My sincere thanks go to **Mrs Arnold, Mr Dewey and Miss Long** for everything they have done, and continue to do, to inspire, encourage and support our children. Their dedication plays a huge part in the success we are celebrating in today's newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

July 2026

Mon 6th

- Reports out to parents

Wed 8th

- **Y2** Rapid fire competition at Ashford School
- **Y6** Performance to parents @ 2pm

Thurs 9th

- **Y6** Performance to parents @ 9am
- **Y6** Performance to parents @ 6pm

Mon 13th

- 9:30am – **iROCK** performance to parents

Tues 14th

- **Y6** to Kingswood
- **YR** Beach visit – HH am and SQ pm

Wed 15th

- 12noon – Party in the park – whole school

Fri 17th

- 9:00am **Y6** - leavers service
- 3:00pm – Y6 clapped out of school
- End of term

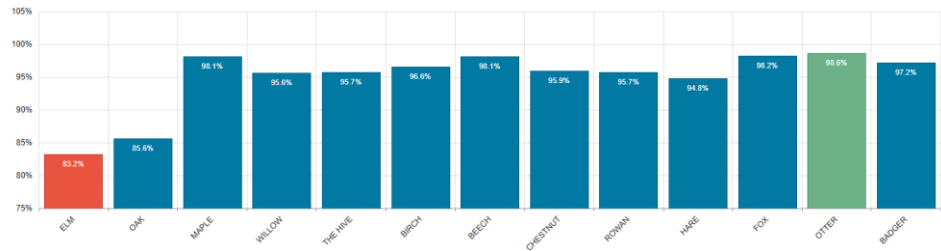


Attendance - Every Day Counts!

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.**

Top attenders are:		
Year	Class	%
1	Otter	98.6
2	Fox	98.2
4	Beech	98.1
5	Maple	98.1
1	Badger	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:



Hedgehogs: Lottie L **Otters:** Michelle T **Hare:** Oscar B **Rowan:** Vinnie H
Birch: Violet H **Maple:** Eli D



This week's Birthdays –

Isla L, Max T, Jude M, Ember M, Charlie N, Oakley G, Minnie N, Kaden S, Roman B, Darcie H and Isaac W – many happy returns to you all!

Warm Weather Arrangements for Next Week

With temperatures forecast to reach the high 20s next week and an Amber Heat Health Alert in place, we wanted to let you know about the arrangements we will continue to have in school to help keep everyone safe and comfortable.

To help children stay cool, we ask that they:

- **Continue to wear PE kit** to school. Year 6 pupils may also leave their school ties at home while the hot weather continues.
- **Apply sun cream** before school. If they are likely to need another application during the day, please send a named bottle of sun cream that they can apply independently.
- **Bring a named water bottle** each day. We will encourage regular drinking and provide additional water breaks throughout the day.
- **Wear a sun hat**, which we strongly recommend for all children when outdoors.



We will continue to adapt the school day where necessary, making use of shaded areas and adjusting activities during the hottest parts of the day.

Current forecasts indicate **there is around a 60% chance that the hot weather will continue into the following week.** We are therefore keeping the forecast under close review, particularly in relation to our Party in the Park event. It is too early to make a decision at this stage, but we will continue to monitor the situation and update families next week should any changes be necessary.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep all of our children safe and comfortable during the warmer weather.



Important Uniform Update

For all future uniform purchases, our remaining approved suppliers are:

♦ **Top Banana Services** - Learoyd Road, **Mountfield Industrial Estate**, New Romney, TN28 8XU

♦ **PMG Schoolwear** – available online - [PMG Schoolwear - Welcome](#)

Thank you for your continued support.



Policy reminder - We would like to ask parents for your support by reminding **children they should not be bringing toys or games from home into school.**



Unfortunately, these items are often lost, 'go missing' or end up damaged or broken. We then have to deal with the upset of the children or sort out other situations which distract us from learning.

Who's Who at St Nicholas – *We have a number of staff in our Wellbeing team at St Nicholas and we thought it would be a good idea to introduce all of them to you each week, so you know who's who and the role they have within the team at our school.* **Meet Mrs Starmer Smith – Head of Inclusion**



At St Nicholas, we believe that every child deserves to feel happy, valued and able to thrive. Helping to make this happen is our **Head of Inclusion, Mrs Starmer Smith**, whose role is one of the broadest and most important in our school.

Many parents are familiar with the role of a **SENDCo (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator)**, but the work involved often goes far beyond supporting children with additional needs. Mrs Starmer Smith oversees all aspects of inclusion across our school, ensuring that every child receives the support they need to flourish, whatever their starting point.

Mrs Starmer Smith has oversight of all children who receive additional support, including those on our SEND register, which currently includes **over 100 pupils**. She works closely with teachers, families and outside agencies to ensure children receive the right provision at the right time and that support is regularly reviewed as children's needs develop.

A key part of Mrs Starmer Smith's role is leading the fantastic team of adults who support our children every day. She line manages our Teaching Assistants, including our dedicated 1:1 Teaching Assistants, as well as our ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) and Learning Mentors. Together, they provide academic, emotional and pastoral support that enables children to feel confident, safe and ready to learn. Mrs Starmer Smith is also the school's lead for our **Children in Care**, ensuring these children receive the additional care, stability and support they need to achieve their very best.

Alongside all of this, she is one of our **Safeguarding Officers**, helping to ensure that every child is safe, listened to and well cared for. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, but Mrs Starmer Smith plays a vital role in responding to concerns, working with families and outside agencies, and making sure children receive the support they need.

The scale of Mrs Starmer Smith's role reflects the needs of our wonderful school community. Around **40% of our pupils are eligible for Pupil Premium funding**, and we support a large number of children with a wide range of educational, emotional and pastoral needs. Behind the scenes, Mrs Starmer Smith works tirelessly with staff to coordinate support, guide teachers, liaise with professionals and ensure that every child has the opportunity to succeed.

Much of this work happens quietly and behind the scenes, but its impact is seen every day—in children growing in confidence, families feeling supported, and classrooms where every child is given the opportunity to achieve.

We are incredibly fortunate to have Mrs Starmer Smith leading inclusion at St Nicholas. Her expertise, compassion and dedication help ensure that our school remains a place where every child is known, valued and supported to be the very best they can be.



At our school, keeping every child safe, happy, and ready to learn is at the heart of everything we do. That's why we have a dedicated **Safeguarding Team** who work together to make sure our pupils feel supported both in school and beyond.

How You Can Reach Us:

If you ever have a concern about a child's safety or wellbeing, please ask to speak to a member of our Safeguarding Team. You can find us in school or contact us via **Tel: 01797 361906**

ONLINE SAFETY - For Parents - Layering Up for Online safety

Protecting children and mitigating risk at home doesn't just mean applying a filter and changing a few app settings, it needs a layered approach, and this is where the Internet Matters 'Layering Up for Online Safety' comes in. This helps and guides you to set up devices safely across networks, the devices themselves and the apps alongside regular conversations. There is a downloadable guide which will show you how to layer up in a simple, manageable way. Link: Internet Matters - [Layering Up for Online Safety](#).



Easy Fundraising – Raising funds for your child's school

It costs you nothing... but could make a huge difference to our school!

Join **easyfundraising** today and help raise free donations for **St Nicholas CE Primary Academy** every time you shop online with over **8,000 retailers**, including Tesco, Argos, M&S, eBay, Booking.com and many more. – click the link - <https://shorturl.at/UFqzw>



easyfundraising

If you get the free app, **we'll get £3!**

And that's just the start...

SUMMER PARENT POWER

£3 BONUS DONATION when you sign up!

ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY ACADEMY

You shop. Brands donate. Our children benefit.

- 1. DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP**
Get the easyfundraising app for free.
- 2. CHOOSE OUR SCHOOL**
Sign up and select St Nicholas CE Primary Academy as your cause.
- 3. SHOP AS NORMAL**
Shop online with over 8,000 retailers using the app.
- 4. WE RECEIVE FREE DONATIONS**
Retailers donate to our school at no extra cost to you!

8,000+ RETAILERS INCLUDING...

TESCO M&S ebay
Argos Booking.com ASDA
...and many more!

LET'S GROW TOGETHER!

400+ CHILDREN in our school community

175 SUPPORTERS SO FAR Thank you!

Let's reach 250+ supporters this summer!

Every supporter makes a difference. Free donations help us fund resources, experiences and opportunities for all our children.

Thank you for your support!

SCAN ME TO GET THE APP!

Download the **easyfundraising** app today!

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/stnicholasceprimaryacademy/7h5q55/spp/0yImJ0U/EJ26C/textcopy/>

*T&Cs apply.

PTA Upcoming Events

Our PTA plays a huge part in supporting the school community.

Please take a look at the events and get them into your diary



St Nicholas PTA

GET INVOLVED – SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 6.30PM
A WELCOME TO THE NEW YEAR PTA MEETING

FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER
QUIZ NIGHT IN THE SCHOOL HALL

FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER
BINGO NIGHT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ABACUS NURSERY

QUIZ NIGHT

BINGO

