



Friday 25th September 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 Headteacher's desk...

Dear Parents and Carers,

As Headteacher, I am often asked what makes St Nicholas such a special school. It would be easy to point to the big things – our curriculum, the opportunities we provide, our events and celebrations – but very often I think the answer can be found in the much smaller moments that happen every day.

It is the child who finally master's something they have been finding difficult. The pupil who notices that someone needs a friend. The child who keeps going when their first attempt does not quite work. It is seeing children becoming that little bit more confident and independent, or watching an older pupil quietly help a younger one without being asked.

These moments might never appear on a certificate or make it into a photograph, but they matter enormously.

One of the great privileges of working in a primary school is seeing that progress happen over time. Children do not always develop in neat, measurable steps. Sometimes progress is academic; sometimes it is finding the confidence to answer a question in class, managing something independently for the first time, showing resilience when things are difficult, or simply being brave enough to have a go.

That is why we talk so much at St Nicholas about children believing, achieving and succeeding. Achievement will look different for every child, and our job is to recognise where each child is starting from, encourage them to aim high and celebrate the steps they make along the way.

Of course, none of this happens through school alone. Over recent weeks it has been wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers through our doors for information evenings and workshops. The relationship between home and school makes an enormous difference to children, and we never take your support for granted.

As we head towards October, there is plenty more to look forward to, including our Harvest Festival at St Nicholas Church. Harvest is always a lovely opportunity to stop for a moment, be thankful for what we have and think about how we can help others within our community. I hope many of you will be able to join us.

So, at the end of another busy week, perhaps it is worth celebrating not only the big achievements, but all those small victories too. They happen throughout St Nicholas every single day – and collectively, they are what make our school the place it is.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Dale

Headteacher

Dates for your diary

October 2026

Thurs 1st

- Y6 to show EYFS around church

Thurs 8th

- **Harvest festival** at St Nicholas Church 9:15am – Parents welcome to attend
- Royal institute to visit the school – watch this space.

Tues 13th

- **2027 New Intake tours** 9:15am to 10:30am and 6pm to 7pm

Wed 14th

- Whole school Flu immunisation, all day
- Y4 Parents in for school dinners 12:30pm

Thurs 15th

- Kent Test decisions letters to parents
- Y2 KIC Theatre workshop all day

Mon 19th

- 2027 New Intake tours 1:30pm - 2:30pm

Thurs 22nd

- Y6 & Y2 Class assemblies at 2:50pm – parents welcome to attend

Fri 23rd

- End of Term

November 2026

Mon 2nd

- Children return to School
- Open Classes 3:15pm to 3:45pm

Wed 4th

- Y4 LUNR Workshop all 'pm'

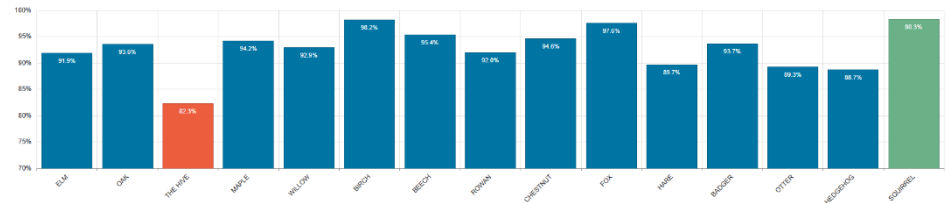


Attendance - Every Day Counts!

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	%
R	Squirrel	98.3
4	Birch	98.2
2	Fox	97.6



Congratulations to all the classes above with their super attendance



It's been another busy week in The Hive!

We have loved welcoming back our fantastic Year 6 from their PGL trip and hearing all about their epic adventures and personal achievements- well done! We are so proud of you! A huge thank you to the fabulous staff who made it possible too.

Our amazing Hive based learners have been working hard to build their engagement, resilience and independence- including having a go at activities that are not of their choosing but are teacher directed instead! These include managing their task completion boards and some highly structured tray tasks following our TEACCH approach with our visuals to support communication.

We are also continuing to develop those all-important independent self-care skills, with the children showing growing confidence in having a go themselves.

There have been plenty of little steps, big efforts and brilliant moments along the way. We are so proud of our busy bees for having a go, keeping going and growing in independence!

🐝 A special busy bee mention to Joshie, for persevering with his glasses this week! ✨

The Hive is our Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) - A Teaching Base for children with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC). It provides a supportive environment tailored to individual needs, while ensuring children are fully included in the wider life of St Nicholas.

Children in The Hive learn, play and take part in activities alongside their peers, helping them to build confidence, independence and a strong sense of belonging within our school community.

Apply for free school meals

In Kent, 21% of children receive free school meals. If you are eligible & register 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](#)



Policy reminders. Healthy Eating School.

🗨️ Healthy Snack Reminder 🍎

As part of our ongoing commitment to promoting healthy eating habits, we encourage children to bring a **nutritious snack** for break time. **KS1 children are provided with a snack by the school. KS2 children are encouraged to bring snacks from the list below**

✅ Healthy snack ideas include:

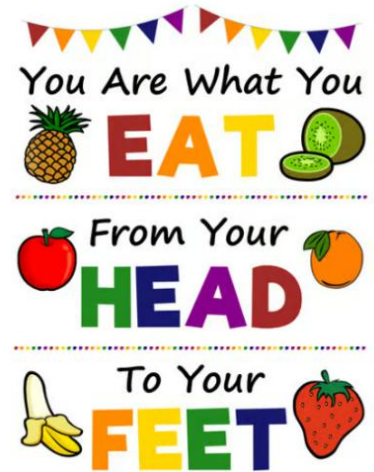
- Fresh fruit (e.g. apples, bananas)
- Raw vegetables (e.g. carrots, celery sticks)

These snacks help support energy, focus, and wellbeing throughout the school day.

🚫 Please avoid sending:

- Sweets; Chocolate bars; Crisps; Sugary drinks.

By choosing healthy options, we can work together to build positive eating habits that benefit our children now and in the future. **Thank you for your support.**



🌾 Harvest Festival Service & Collection 🌾

Thursday 8th 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 28th September.** 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!**



A Big Thank You! ☀️

A huge thank you to **New Romney Country Fayre** for their very generous donation of children's games and resources to our school. The children have already had great fun using the egg and spoons, bean bags and ducks in their learning and play!

We're very grateful to the Country Fayre, and to **Louise Douglas** for thinking of St Nicholas and arranging the donation. Thank you for your kindness and support! 💙



🚩 Thank You to Our Parents and Carers

Over the past few weeks, we have welcomed parents and carers into school for several of our **Parent Information Evenings and Workshops**, and we have been delighted by how well attended these sessions have been.

A huge **thank you** to everyone who gave their time to join us, meet with staff and find out more about their child's learning. Your support and engagement are so important, and we hope you found the sessions useful and informative.

The evenings have provided an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of our curriculum, the expectations for your child's year group and some of the ways you can support learning and build confidence at home.



We are incredibly proud of the curriculum and learning opportunities we provide at St Nicholas, and we hope these sessions have given families a valuable insight into what learning looks like across our school.

Following the half-term break, our **Parent-Teacher Consultations** will provide another opportunity to build on these conversations, with a more individual focus on your child's learning, progress and next steps.

Thank you once again for your continued support and for working in partnership with us. Together, we can give every child the very best opportunity to **believe, achieve and succeed**. ❤️

Thank You for Your Support Yesterday

We would like to thank all our parents and carers for their understanding, patience and calm response to the situation at the end of the school day yesterday.

Following advice from the police, we took the decision to keep the school secure and all children safely on site until the end of the school day. Throughout this time, our priority was, as always, the safety and wellbeing of every child.

We were particularly proud of how calmly everything was managed. The children were able to continue with their school day as normally as possible, without any unnecessary worry about events taking place in the town centre.

We are also extremely grateful for the way our parents and carers responded. Your trust, understanding and cooperation helped us to manage the situation calmly and safely. Situations such as this remind us of the strength of our school community and how effectively we can work together when it matters most.

🏠 Open Sessions for Prospective Parents

St Nicholas CE Primary Academy
New Romney
Learning, living and encouraging through Christ

Do you have a child starting school in September 2027?

ST NICHOLAS ACADEMY
ADMISSIONS
• SEPTEMBER 2027 •

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL TO VISIT

Tuesday 13 October 2026	9.15am – 10.30am 6.00pm – 7.00pm
Monday 19 October 2026	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Friday 6 November 2026	9.00am – 10.00am
Thursday 19 November 2026	9.15am – 10.30am
Monday 23 November 2026	1.30pm – 2.30pm

Come and be part of our school family.

Call us on 01797 361906 | Email us at enquiries@stnicholasnewromney.kent.sch.uk | Visit our website www.stnicholasnewromney.kent.sch.uk

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 2027 pass on these details.**

📅 Upcoming Open Event Dates – 2026

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL TO VISIT	
Tuesday 13 October 2026	9.15am – 10.30am 6.00pm – 7.00pm
Monday 19 October 2026	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Friday 6 November 2026	9.00am – 10.00am
Thursday 19 November 2026	9.15am – 10.30am
Monday 23 November 2026	1.30pm – 2.30pm

If you would like to attend one of these events, please contact the school office to book your place.

