



Friday 16 October 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...

Dear Parents and Carers,

With just one week to go until half-term, it is hard to believe how quickly these first few weeks of the school year have passed. It has been a busy start, but a really positive one, and I have been pleased with how well the children have settled into their routines and the expectations of their new year groups.

As I visit classrooms, it is encouraging to see children becoming more confident, developing their independence and taking pride in their learning. These first weeks are so important in establishing good habits, building relationships and setting the foundations for the rest of the year. There is certainly plenty to be proud of.



As we approach half-term, I would also like to remind families about the importance of attendance, particularly at this time of year.

We understand the appeal of taking holidays outside the school holiday periods, especially with the rising costs families face. However, term-time holidays cannot normally be authorised, and leave can only be granted in **exceptional circumstances**, which is often rare by the nature a holiday is booked. Every day in school counts, including those immediately before and after a holiday, and missed learning can be difficult to catch up on. I would ask all families to support us by keeping holidays within the published school breaks.

Next week, we look forward to finishing the term with our 6 Ways to Wellbeing Day on Friday. It is a fitting way to end what has been a busy few weeks, with an opportunity for the children to think about their own wellbeing and the importance of looking after one another.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope everyone has a lovely weekend, and I look forward to a positive final week of term.

Yours sincerely
Christopher Dale
Headteacher



Dates for your diary

October 2026

Mon 19

- 2027 New Intake tours 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Thurs 22

- Y6 & Y2 Class assemblies at 2.50pm – parents welcome to attend

Fri 23

- 6 Ways to Wellbeing Day
- End of Term

November 2026

Mon 2

- Children return to School
- Open Classes 3.15pm to 3.45pm
- PESE National closing date for secondary applications. Y6

Wed 4

- Y4 LUNR Workshop all 'pm'
- 3.15pm Open classes Whole School

Fri 6th

- 2027 New Intake tours 9.15 to 10.30
- 6.30pm PTA BINGO Night

Mon 9th

- KS2 parent teacher consultations 3.30 - 6pm

Thurs 12th

- KS1 parent teacher consultations 3.30 - 6pm

Mon 16th

- KS1 parent teacher consultations 3.30 - 6pm

Thurs 19th

- KS2 Parent teacher consultation 3.30 - 6pm



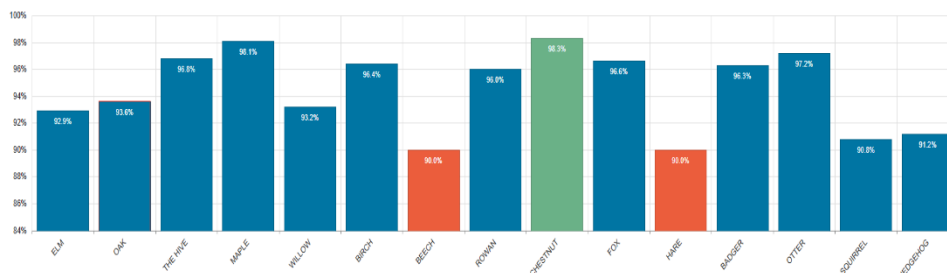
Attendance - Every Day Counts!

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	%
3	Chestnut	98.3
5	Maple	98.1
1	Otter	97.2
-	The Hive	96.8
2	Fox	96.6



Congratulations to all the classes above with their super attendance

♥ Our Community Food Cupboard – Here for You

We would like to remind all our families that our **Community Food Cupboard** is here to support anyone who may need a little extra help.

Our cupboard is fully stocked with essential food and hygiene items, and we want families to know that these are available to be used whenever needed.

We understand that times can be challenging and that everyone can find themselves needing a helping hand. Please never feel embarrassed or worried about asking for support. Our school community is here to look after one another, and we want to make sure that no family feels they have to struggle alone.

If you would like to access the cupboard, you can simply:

- Pop into the main school office for a quiet chat.
- Speak to a member of staff on the gate at morning drop-off.

All conversations and requests are treated with complete confidentiality.

Whether you need a little help just once or some support over a longer period, please know that our door is always open.

Together, we can make sure that everyone in our school family feels supported and cared for. ♥

📷 Individual School Photographs – Monday 2nd November

It's time to get those smiles ready!

Our individual school photographs will be taking place on **Monday 2nd November 2026**.

If you have more than one child attending St Nicholas and would like them to have a photograph taken together, please complete the sibling photograph consent form below.

Sibling Photograph Consent Form: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/NL1AWE0sSS>

Please note that sibling photographs will only be taken where a consent form has been completed. Sibling photographs are available for brothers and sisters, or children living in the same household, who attend our school. Unfortunately, this does not include cousins or children attending the nursery.

Sibling photographs will be taken during the school day. **If you would like a wider family photograph, these can be arranged after school from 3:15pm.**

We look forward to seeing lots of lovely smiles! 📷 ✨

🔥 Firework Night Themed Lunch – Thursday 5th November

We're getting ready for a sparkling celebration with a special **Firework Night Themed Lunch**. Our kitchen team will be serving up a delicious menu that's sure to go off with a bang!

- 🌭 Jumbo Hot Dog in a Roll (or Veggie Sausage)
- 🍟 Crispy Potato Wedges and Spaghetti Hoops
- 🍰 Jam and Coconut Sponge
- 🍏 Fresh Fruit

🕒 **Important – Booking Deadline: 9am on Thursday 22nd October**

To book your child's special lunch, please log in to **MCAS > Dinners > Select Week 02/11/2026**.



Open Sessions for Prospective Parents



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.

Eyes Down... Bingo Night is Back!

PTA Fundraiser Bingo Evening - Friday 6th November 6.30 for a 7pm start

Get your dabbers ready because our ever-popular Bingo Night is back!



We are delighted to invite you to join us on Friday 6th November for a fantastic evening of bingo, laughter and fundraising, **proudly hosted by St Nicholas PTA and Abacus Nursery.**

Whether you're a bingo regular or a complete beginner, everyone is welcome! Gather your friends, book a table and join us for what promises to be a brilliant evening.

Tickets: £10 per person

What to bring: Your favourite nibbles, drinks and glasses

Don't forget: Your lucky charms and best bingo-dabbing skills!

To reserve your table, please contact the school office:

01797 361906

office@st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk

Spaces are limited, so make sure you book early to avoid disappointment!

All funds raised will help support our school community, so come along, enjoy a great evening and help us raise money for our children.

We can't wait to shout BINGO! with you!

PTA Sponsored ActivAll Event – Friday 13th November

Get ready to move, have fun and raise money for our school!

On **Friday 13th November**, the children will be taking part in an exciting **PTA Sponsored ActivAll Event during the school day.**

This promises to be a fantastic opportunity for the children to get active, enjoy themselves and take part in a fun-filled challenge, all while helping to raise valuable funds for our school.

Don't forget to turn the letter over – you'll find the sponsorship form on the back!

Every contribution, big or small, helps us provide even more wonderful opportunities and experiences for our children.



Thank you for helping us make this another brilliant school event!



♥ A Wonderful £390 Raised for YoungMinds! ♥

Thank You for Supporting Wear Something Yellow Day last week. What a wonderful splash of sunshine we had across St Nicholas last Friday as our children and staff came together to support YoungMinds and mental health awareness by wearing something yellow! From bright yellow jumpers and T-shirts to cheerful accessories, it was lovely to see so many people taking part and helping to spread such an important message.



We are absolutely delighted to announce that, thanks to the incredible generosity of our school community, we raised a fantastic £390, and we couldn't have done it without you! ♥ ☀

⚡ Science Comes to Life!

What a fantastic afternoon of scientific discovery! It was lovely to see so many of our families joining us for last Friday's exciting science show. There was certainly plenty of enthusiasm as we explored the fascinating world of **energy**!

The show was a wonderful opportunity to bring science to life in a fun and engaging way, encouraging curiosity, questions and a real sense of wonder about how the world around us works.

We hope everyone who attended enjoyed the experience, learnt something new and perhaps even went home inspired to carry out a little scientific investigation of their own!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the afternoon such an enjoyable occasion. We love being able to share these special learning experiences with our families. ✨ 🧪



🍁 Signs of Autumn – Creativity with New Romney Arts Society

Our children have been getting creative and celebrating the beautiful colours and changes of the season through some wonderful work with New Romney Arts Society (NRAS). Inspired by the theme 'Signs of Autumn', the children have been exploring the natural world around them and thinking about all the things that make this time of year so special.

From colourful leaves and changing trees to the wonderful shapes, textures and colours found in nature, autumn provides plenty of inspiration for budding young artists.

Working alongside members of the Arts Society has been a lovely opportunity for the children to develop their creativity, express their own ideas and explore different ways of representing the world around them through art. Activities like these are not only great fun but also help develop children's confidence, imagination, observation skills and appreciation of the changing seasons.



We would like to say a very big thank you to New Romney Arts Society for sharing their time, enthusiasm and creativity with our children.

It is always wonderful to work with members of our local community, and we are so grateful for the opportunities they help provide.



🔥 Year 2 Step Back in Time – The Great Fire of London!

Year 2 have been bringing their history learning to life with an exciting and memorable experience linked to their topic, The Great Fire of London.

This morning, the children had the opportunity to observe a recreation of the Great Fire of London, helping them imagine what it might have been like for the people who lived through this dramatic event in 1666.

As they watched the flames, smoke and sparks, the children thought carefully about what people might have seen, heard and felt as the fire spread through the closely packed wooden houses of London.

Their observations were thoughtful, imaginative and full of empathy. Here are just some of the fantastic comments they shared:

What could we see, hear and feel?

- Harper: "The houses were wobbling before they fell over."
- Alfie: "Hot ashes flying above us."
- Kaden: "The flames were coming closer and closer."
- Taylor: "I felt the heat from the fire."
- Peyton: "The smoke was going higher."
- Amber: "The smoke went up my nose. It was not nice."
- Olivia: "I saw sparks hitting the other houses."
- Archie: "The flames were getting higher and higher."
- Ayda: "The flames were flying above us."

How might people have felt during the Great Fire?

- Jude: "I felt sad because it took a long time to build."
- Luna: "Upset because I felt scared."
- Bethany: "I felt sad because my house fell to pieces and made me think of the Great Fire of London."
- Lizzie: "I felt worried like I was in the Great Fire of London."

How did the fire spread?

- Dominic: "The fire spread to the other houses."
- Leo: "The fire spread quickly because the houses were so close together."
- Jacob: "The fire made me feel happy because I liked watching the sparks go higher like a slithery snake."

What wonderful observations from our young historians!

This experience really helped the children deepen their understanding of how quickly the fire spread, the devastation it caused and how frightening it must have been for the people of London.

We are incredibly proud of the thoughtful discussions, fantastic vocabulary and historical understanding demonstrated by Year 2.



🚜 Tractor-Tastic Fun in EYFS!

There was lots of excitement in EYFS this week when the children had a very special visitor – a tractor! 🚜

Our youngest learners were delighted to have the opportunity to see a real tractor up close, sparking plenty of curiosity, excitement and conversation.

The visit was a fantastic way to bring learning to life, helping the children explore the world around them and find out more about the vehicles and machinery that play such an important role in farming and our local community.