Friday 6th November 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 Headteacher's desk…

Welcome Back to a New Term!

A very warm welcome back to everyone as we begin another exciting term at St Nicholas! We hope all our families enjoyed a restful half-term break and that the children are feeling refreshed and ready for the busy weeks ahead. It has been wonderful to see everyone return to school with such enthusiasm and positivity.

We have certainly hit the ground running! This week, we were delighted to welcome parents and carers into school for our **Open Class sessions**, providing an opportunity to see the children's learning environments, celebrate the work they have been doing and gain a greater understanding of their progress. These sessions have been particularly valuable as we prepare for our **Parent–Teacher Consultations, which begin next week**.

We hope that these opportunities will help parents feel informed about where their child is currently working, the progress they are making and the next steps in their learning. Our teachers will also be sharing practical ideas, resources and strategies to help families support learning at home. We firmly believe that the partnership between home and school is essential in helping every child achieve their very best.

Members of our **Senior Leadership Team** will also be available during the consultation evenings and will be very happy to answer any questions, listen to feedback or simply have a conversation about school life.

Another highlight of this week has been the opportunity for our teachers to work collaboratively with colleagues from our neighbouring schools. Staff from across all year groups at St Nicholas joined their year group partners from ***Dymchurch, Lydd and Brenzett*** *to share expertise, moderate children's work and support one another in developing teaching and learning, particularly in areas such as writing.*

I am incredibly proud of the strong relationships we have built with our partner schools. This collaboration is a fantastic example of how working together benefits not only our staff but, most importantly, the children across our district. By sharing good practice, challenging our thinking and developing our expertise, we continue to strengthen the quality of education we provide.

Ultimately, everything we do is focused on helping our children flourish, grow in confidence and make the very best progress possible. I hope that this is something you will hear plenty about during your consultations next week.

Here's to another successful term of learning, achievement and working together!

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

November 2026

Sun 8th
- Remembrance Day Service at St Nicholas Church

Mon 9th
- **Y4** Beech Class Swimming – week 6
- **Headteacher Attendance Tea Party**
- **KS2** parent teacher consultations 3:30 - 6pm

Tues 10th
- **Y4** Kench Hill Parent information session at 3:15pm

Wed 11th
- **Armistice Day –** wear your uniform to school – see end of newsletter.
- **EYFS & Y6** NCMP Check
- **Y2/ 6** Cricket
- **Y4** LUNR workshop

Thurs 12th
- **KS1** parent teacher consultations 3:30 - 6pm

Fri 13th
- **PTA** Sponsored Bounce Day – all sponsor forms to be in.

Mon 16th
- **Anti Bullying week ODD SOCKS DAY.**
- **Y4** Beech Class Swimming -Week 7
- **KS1** parent teacher consultations 3:30 - 6pm

Wed 18th
- **Y2/ 6** Cricket
- **Y4** LUNR workshop

Thurs 19th
- **KS2** Parent teacher consultation 3:30 - 6pm

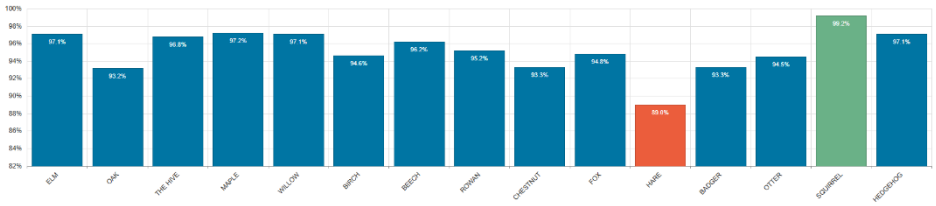
AQUILA Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust

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	99.2
5	Maple	97.2
5	Willow	97.1
6	Elm	97.1
R	Hedgehog	97.1
-	The Hive	96.8



Congratulations to all the classes above with their super attendance

This weeks awards

Star of the week awards went to:

Squirrel: Mia K **Badger:** Bonnie C **Fox:** Kaden S **Chestnut:** Reggie H-C
Beech: Matilda K **Willow:** Delilah G **Elm:** Haydn W

This week's Birthdays –

Olivia B, Demi B, Felicity S, James B, Pixie G, Isabel H, Jason N, Sienna B and Micheal O – many happy returns to you all!

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.

🌳 Year 4 Parents – Kench Hill Residential Information Evening

A friendly reminder to all our **Year 4 parents and carers** that we will be holding an information evening about our exciting **Kench Hill Residential** on **Tuesday 10th November, from 3:30pm to 4:15pm**, in the **main school hall**.



During the session, we will share everything you need to know about the residential visit, including the venue, transport arrangements, what your child will need to bring, typical activities, overnight arrangements, mealtimes and much more!
There will also be plenty of opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

We strongly encourage all Year 4 parents and carers to attend, as this is an important opportunity to find out more about the residential, understand what to expect and ensure you have all the information you need.

Please make every effort to join us on Tuesday 10th November – we look forward to seeing you there!

🏃 🌟 PTA Sponsored ActivAll Event – Friday 13th November 🌟



St. Nicholas CE Primary Academy

As mentioned in previous newsletters, our exciting PTA Sponsored ActivAll Event will be taking place on **Friday 13th November during the school day!**
Just a friendly reminder that the children will be getting active, having fun and taking part in a fantastic challenge, all while raising valuable funds for our school.

Don't forget! The sponsorship form can be found on the back of the letter sent home.
Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference and helps us provide even more wonderful opportunities and experiences for our children.
Thank you, as always, for your continued support! 🌟

💛 Community Food Cupboard Reminder 💛

Our Community Food Cupboard is fully stocked with essential food and hygiene items and is available to any family needing extra support.
Please speak confidentially to the main school office or a Senior member of staff at the gate. Whether you need help as a one off, or for a little longer, we are here for you. 💛



"Oh no they aren't" ....."Oh yes they are!!"

Key Stage 2 pupils are going to the Marlowe Theatre for the All-New Adventures of Peter Pan on Thursday 17th December 2026.
If you haven't done so already, please complete the consent form as soon as possible - https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/qVtQkpRL8C

Poppy Appeal 2026
Pupils will be visiting classrooms to sell poppies and Remembrance items up until Armistice Day next week (11/11/26). If every child makes a £1 donation we will be able to raise over £400 for this very worthwhile cause.

Children can support The Royal British Legion by purchasing:
- Traditional poppies (any donation of your choice)
- Pencils (50p or above)
- Snap bands (£1 or above)
- Wristbands (£1 or above)
- Keyrings (£1 or above)

Every donation helps The Royal British Legion provide vital mental health support, housing assistance, and recovery programmes for serving military personnel, veterans, and their families. Let's come together as a school community to remember those who sacrificed so much.

Armistice Day – Wednesday 11th November at St Nicholas
As part of our school's commemoration of Armistice Day, we would like to invite children who belong to uniformed organisations, such as **Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Air / Sea Cadets** or other similar service organisations, to wear their organisation's uniform to school on **Wednesday 11th November.**

This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to proudly represent the groups they belong to, share their involvement with others and recognise the values of service, community, respect and remembrance that these organisations promote.

Please note that this invitation is specifically for children who belong to uniformed service organisations and does not include sports clubs, football kits or other sporting uniforms.

Children who do not belong to one of these organisations should attend school in their usual school uniform.

We look forward to seeing our children proudly representing their organisations as we come together as a school community to remember and honour those who have served and sacrificed for others.
Lest We Forget.

For Parents and Carers – Talking About AI With Children

Artificial intelligence is becoming an increasingly familiar part of children's lives, whether that's through chatbots, homework tools, games or the apps they use every day. As AI becomes more common, it's important that children understand both what it can do and where its limitations lie.

Internet Matters has produced a useful Talking About AI guide for families, with age-appropriate conversation starters and activities to help parents explore AI with their children. The guide encourages families to talk about how AI works, question the information it produces, consider privacy and develop healthy habits when using AI tools.

It's a practical resource for parents who may not feel particularly confident about AI themselves but want to help their children use it safely and responsibly.

https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/AI_conversation_guide_for_families_Internet_Matters_2026.pdf