



# ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Road, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0DR

**NEWSLETTER 02 – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020**



The organic baby food co.

## St Nicholas School Vision Statement

*Delivering a firm foundation for our childrens' future success by celebrating individual and community achievement, built on Christian values.*

## ONLINE CHURCH SERVICE

Join us on at 11:00am on Sunday for our virtual service. Visit [www.thru-christ.org.uk](http://www.thru-christ.org.uk) for the link.



*This week's Growth Mindset thought...*

**"Why fit in when you were born to stand out?"**

*Dr Seuss*

## School Calendar

### September

- Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Messy Church at St Nicholas Church, 11am. To book your place, please email [jenny.beasley1@btinternet.com](mailto:jenny.beasley1@btinternet.com)
- Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Bag2School Collection (*please drop off bags at the shelter outside the Hall before 9am*)
- Weds 30<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival

### October

- Thu 1<sup>st</sup> School Census (Menu change TBC)
- Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Open Morning (by appointment only)
- Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Messy Church at St Nicholas Church, 11am. To book your place, please email [jenny.beasley1@btinternet.com](mailto:jenny.beasley1@btinternet.com)
- Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> **INSET DAY**
- 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> **HALF TERM**

## Harvest Festival

The Twyford Church team will be recording a Harvest Festival service that will be shown to all pupils during the week of 28<sup>th</sup> September. As in previous years, we will be collecting gifts of tinned and dried food for the Alana House women's community project. We would also welcome gifts of tea/coffee, toiletries, baby food/nappies and UHT milk and juice. Please could you send any contributions to school on the morning of Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September by 9:15am. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile local charity.

## Website

We hope you have had the opportunity to visit our new school website and like the fresh new look! If you have any feedback, please let us know. [www.st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk](http://www.st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk) We would like to thank **Alexis Jaworski** for capturing some fantastic photographs of the school and children for the website.

## School Library Books

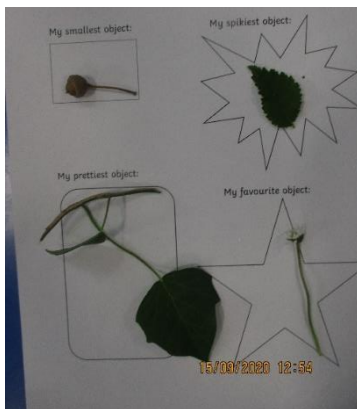
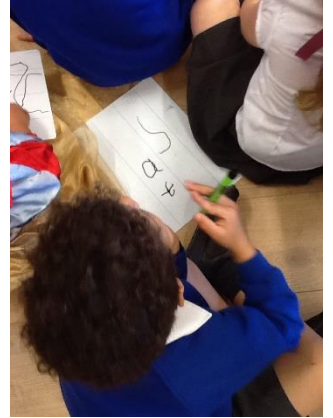
A reminder to parents to please check at home for any library books which were taken home during lockdown and over the summer holidays and please return them as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship**

### Milne Class Update

Congratulations to **Sean, Elliot and Charlie** for receiving a merit this week. **Sean** received his for his thoughts and ideas during our circle time on kindness, **Charlie** was awarded his for being helpful and demonstrating excellent listening skills and **Elliot's** was for helping a friend in need! Congratulations also go to **Sienna** who received a star for showing such a positive attitude towards learning her letters and sounds and in a very rare event, the whole of Milne class were awarded a joint star for adapting to school life with such enthusiasm!

This week has been all about developing fine motor skills and working on some of our letter formation. Animals have been of great interest and have helped with our matching and sorting activities in Maths, we have also been making jellyfish in RE (linked to the creation story) and animals have also featured in many of our stories, we are looking forward to finishing 'The Enormous Crocodile' as the week continues!



### Donaldson Class Update

Last week's merits went to **Georgia** for her Growth Mindset when solving missing number maths problems, **Posy-Belle** for being respectful and polite when talking to adults, **Archie** for his thoughtful contributions during our PSHE session and **Koen** for helping tidy up the class in a record speed.

Our stars were **Zara** for applying her phonic knowledge to her writing and Sam D for his detailed story map of 'The Gruffalo'. Well done to all of you!

This week we have been enjoying being outside and looking at God's creations in nature. We went on a scavenger hunt, found a selection of different objects, and celebrated all the different things that God made.

### De La Mare Class Update

Year 2 have really been enjoying their 'Daily Mile' activity and look forward to it each day. Some children have challenged themselves to complete an additional lap during each session and others have enjoyed varying their pace by sprinting and then jogging. All have appreciated being out in the fresh air before returning inside for their daily maths lesson. Great running Year 2!

Last week's stars were awarded to **Ethan** for excellent sounding out in phonics and to **Otto** for using wonderful maths vocabulary to explain. Well done to them! **Amelia D** achieved a merit for making a new classmate so welcome and **Bruno** received his merit for showing sportsmanship during a game in PE. Congratulations also to **Leo** for his merit for persevering with his handwriting and **Mena** for showing respect by always being so polite.



### TS Eliot Class Update (Year 3)

Last week, the Year 3 children practised using concrete resources in maths to represent numbers in ones, tens, hundreds and thousands and began to solve word problems to consolidate. In English, the children became familiar with the features of diary writing and then wrote their own entries in the past tense, incorporating fronted adverbials and similes. In Guided Reading, the children began to read a non-fiction information book about life in the stone and metal ages. The children are enjoying moving from one planet to the next, as an incentive for reading regularly at home. Science saw the children investigate the properties of different types of rocks.

In the afternoons with Year 4, the children began to explore the world of the prehistoric human in history. In Religious Education, the focus was on Guruk Nanak, the founder of Sikhism. Stars were awarded to **Myra** for settling is so well, and **Noah** for consistent hard work, especially in RE. Merits were awarded to **Alice** for friendship and supporting a new pupil to class, **Ted** for showing Growth Mindset and persevering with all work and **Reiley** for respect and listening to and following instructions well.

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### Year 4 Update

Year 4 science is all about the States of Matter. We began by looking at the properties of solids and liquids. We had a sorting activity where the children had a lot of fun deciding whether materials such as sugar, salt, honey and Play Doh are solids or liquids. We finished off by looking closely at jelly!



Last week's stars were awarded to **Dexter** and **Charlotte** for fantastic work in Science being able to explain properties of solids and liquids; and to **Jayden** for excellent, consistent hard work in Maths and English.

Congratulations also to **Lara** for her merit for perseverance; coping with her schoolwork and tiredness after her new baby sister was born! A merit was awarded to **Henry** for showing Growth Mindset by working hard on place value to 1000s.



### Longfellow Class Update (Year 5) - Pear-fect Planets

This week, Year 5 have been investigating the 'apple-solutely' brilliant planets in our solar system. In order to understand the relative size and distance of the planets, we used fruit to compare the eight planets, ranging from Jupiter – a watermelon, to Mercury – a blue berry (in case you are wondering, the much coveted role of Earth being played by a cherry tomato!).



Then we headed to the field to space the planets out into their positions in the solar system, with the smaller rocky planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars) much closer to our Sun and the other 'berry' big gas giants (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune) much further apart from each other. As books, which have a limited space, make it look like the planets are all fairly close, it really helped us to understand just how far apart the planets really are!

We also learnt a pretty 'grape' mnemonic to help us understand the order of the planets. Thank you 'cherry' much for taking the time to read what we have been up to. Stars were awarded to **Lewis** for completing all tasks and extension tasks and **Phoebe** for using a range of creative writing techniques in English. Merits were awarded to **Aidan** for a well written poem about lockdown, **Alex** and **Harry** for settling well into a new school and **Lola** for consistent hard work.

### Blake Class Update

In Year 6 this week, we have officially launched into our main learning topics. Our History this term will focus on the key question: What do all the Ancient Civilisations have in common? We've started with two tasks that appeared deceptively simple, but proved the basis for some interesting discussions.

First, we used timelines and mapped out the duration of significant periods in ancient and modern history. Next, we've plotted the location of Ancient Sumer, Indus Valley, Ancient Egypt and the Shang Dynasty on a world map. Research homework this week will link to our work next week focusing on the major achievements and inventions of each civilisation.

Last week, Stars awarded to **Dylan** for an excellent piece of work on 'being a global citizen' and **Robyn** for demonstrating a positive and engaged approach to learning and providing us with a great role model in Year 6.

Merits awarded to **Cruz** for Friendship; helping a class colleague, **Dylan** for Respect; high quality of presentation and content of work and **Olivia** for Thoughtfulness; well considered answers in PSHE.

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# PTA NEWS UPDATE

Hello all, we hope the first full week has gone well for everyone, especially the new parents and children. We hope to have a date for the next PTA by the beginning of next week. Just to let you know we spent PTA funds so far this term on the following requests from the school:

- Maths resources to give the children extra support following lockdown.
- A Sensory space in school – this is planned to provide support to children with SEN or those who just need a safe space for reflection when not coping.

## PTA Bags to School Clothing & Textile Collection – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September

This is a scheme we have used many times in the past to help raise funds for the school and it's a great way of clearing out your unwanted clothes! The school get money for the total weight of the goods received.



This is booked for Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September but will be slightly different this time round. Instead of using the 'Bags to School' plastic sacks we have used in the past, they are asking us to use our own bin bags which they will then recycle. So if you have any unwanted good quality adult/children clothing, shoes, handbags, hats, belts, scarves, jewellery, soft toys, curtains, towels or bed linen, please pop them in a bin bag (or fill up as many bags as you can!) and bring them to school on the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup> September. **Please drop off the bags to the shelter area by the School Hall by 9.00am.**

They do not accept duvets, blankets, pillows, cushions, rugs/mats, soiled/ripped clothing, school uniform with and without logos, or corporate clothing. For a full list of what is/is not accepted, please see

<https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>

**amazon.co.uk** **Amazon Wish List** Our teachers have carefully selected wish list items that will inspire and support the children's learning, including books, classroom resources, art and craft supplies and gardening resources. Staff will continue to add items over the school year. They really do make a difference to all the children to benefit from these added extras to enhance their learning! If you would like to purchase something from the selection available, please visit the following link:

[www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/WZSU6HFJ8FGO?ref=wl\\_share](http://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/WZSU6HFJ8FGO?ref=wl_share)

**Class Reps** We have several class reps now confirmed but plenty of space if anyone is still interested in the role. If so, please contact Louise Gawthorn on 07776255105. So far, the class reps are as follows:

Milne	Jess Boyden
Donaldson	Kate Brownie and Gemma Higgins
DLM	Louise Gawthorn
TSE	Emma Henderson
Longfellow	Alex Mengham
Blake	Sue Cummings



**EasyFundraising App** Please download this if you haven't already. It's such an easy way to raise funds for the school. You can just do your usual shopping e.g. on Amazon but if you do it via the App, the school get a percentage (at no additional cost to you!) [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stnicholasprimaryhurst](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stnicholasprimaryhurst)

**PTA Facebook page** All current parents are welcome to join our Facebook page, which is a useful forum for parents to communicate PTA information and requests. Please search for 'PTA St Nicholas School Hurst'. **Please read the PTA Social Media Policy before posting content; this can be found on the PTA page of the school website.**

If any parent would like to talk to us directly about the PTA, please contact Mike or Louise on [mike\\_rand@hotmail.com](mailto:mike_rand@hotmail.com) or [louisej125@hotmail.com](mailto:louisej125@hotmail.com)

Many thanks to all and kind regards, The PTA Team ☺

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