



# ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Road, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0DR

**NEWSLETTER 04 – 1<sup>st</sup> October 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...*

**"Only those who risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go."**

*TS Eliot*

## School Calendar

### October

5<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>

Sat 10<sup>th</sup>

Sun 18<sup>th</sup>

19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup>

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup>

26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

Sat 31<sup>st</sup>

### November

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>

Sat 14<sup>th</sup>

Parent Telephone Consultations

Open Morning for 2021 intake (by appt only)

Messy Church at St Nicholas Church, 11am.

To book your place, please email

[jenny.beasley1@btinternet.com](mailto:jenny.beasley1@btinternet.com)

Year 6 - Level 2 Bikeability training

**INSET DAY – School closed**

**HALF TERM** (For information on a range of children's holiday clubs please see our website under 'News and Events' tab.

Application deadline for secondary school places (Year 6 pupils)

School Reopens

Open Morning for 2021 intake (by appt only)

## Parent Consultation Evenings

### Telephone Appointments

The online booking system to book a telephone appointment with your child's class teacher/s is now open. You will have received an email with login instructions last week (please check spam folder).

The online booking page can be accessed via our website (under the Parents tab/Parents' Evenings) which also includes the full schedule of teacher availability.

[www.st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk](http://www.st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk)

Alternatively, please contact the school office to make an appointment.

## GOLD AWARDS



Congratulations to

**Amelia D, Megan, Mena, Noah, Otto  
in De la Mare**

**who all achieved a Gold Award**

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

# TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS

It has been another busy week. A great effort from **Lucas G** (Longfellow) has meant that he has achieved the most correct answers and the most coins. Well done also to **Zac** (TS Eliot) for the greatest improvement in speed and to **Zoe** (TS Eliot) for improving her accuracy.

Milne Class continue to do well using Numbots.



Rust certificates have been awarded to **Charlie P**, **Charlotte D** and **Elliot D. Sebastian** has also had the greatest improvement in accuracy this week. Well done to them! In Year 2, there has been success for **Lacey** who has achieved Steel Stage, **Theo** for finishing Tin Stage and **William SS** for completing Chrome. Fabulous work! **Theo** has also completed the most levels this week. In Year 1, **Zara** has answered the most correct answers. Well done!



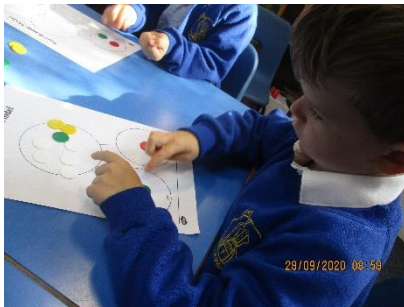
## Milne Class News

Another busy week in Milne! We've had a very crafty week, which came to a messy but very enjoyable peak on Wednesday! After receiving a lovely gift from our Amazon Wish List, which consisted of a range of shaped play dough cutters, it was decided it was time to take the flour-y plunge and make our own play dough! Great fun was had by all and it fit perfectly with our Maths theme for the week; Size, Mass and Capacity! Thank you very much to whomever purchased the cutters on our behalf! As you can see, they have been very popular and will be well used.

Play dough making will now be a regular part of the routine in Milne as it is not only great for exploring Maths concepts, but also fantastic for building up finger and arm muscles and can be turned into super science sessions by experimenting with different ingredients and most importantly, it's fun and messy to make!

Merits were awarded to: **Courtney** for being a kind and thoughtful friend and ensuring everyone is included; **Grace** for showing such determination and interest in her letter writing; and **Phoebe** for her independent work on letter formation and practising writing her name.

Stars of the Week were awarded to: **Annabelle** for fantastic effort in phonics and music and **Sean** for super explanations in Maths and using these to help others.



## Donaldson Class News

This week, Year 1 pupils have been looking at 'part whole' models and started to develop an understanding of when two parts are added together it makes a whole. We used counters to explore different ways of partitioning a number and used 'Numicon' to find what the missing part could be in a part whole model. We also had lots of interesting discussions around whether it is possible for a part to be bigger than a whole, which children proved is not possible!

Last week's Merits were awarded to **Margot** for showing a Growth Mindset when using finger spaces in her writing, **Winnie** for showing thoughtfulness when making sure all pens and glue sticks had lids and **Zara** for helping a friend with their writing. Our Stars of the Week were **Levi** for working hard on his letter formation and to **Eva** for applying her phonic knowledge into a piece of independent writing. Well done everyone!

## De La Mare Class News

De La Mare Class have been focussed on investigating their History question: Who deserves to be remembered the most – Robert Scott or Magellan? This week, we have learned about Scott's failed attempt to reach the South Pole first. The children have been fascinated by how difficult Scott and his men found the journey. In English, we used mime to express the explorers' feelings and have written diary entries as though we were Scott.

Merits went to **Otto** for challenging himself to use interesting vocabulary; **Ethan** for persevering in writing his numbers correctly and **Lacey** for dealing sensibly with a friendship issue. Well done to **Primrose** for her star for using wow words in story writing and to **Noah** for careful spelling.



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

### **TS Eliot Class News (Year 3)**

The children were extremely busy last week. In Science, the children learnt about fossils and created their own replica fossils, using plants, sticks and soft clay. In English, the children imagined life in the stone and metal ages of prehistory, when they wrote imaginative diary recounts. In Maths, the children finished the place value unit, when they ordered numbers and compared them, using the inequality signs. In French, the children can now recall vocabulary to give details of the contents of their pencil case.

This week's stars of the week: **Alice**, for her effective explanation of our pamphlet making about Skara Brae in History and **Adam** for his hard work and determination in Maths. In Year 4, Mrs Thomas gave stars to **Emilia** for her amazing work in English and **Addison** for her brilliant Maths work. There were merits for **Martha P** for perseverance: **Lily** for friendship and **Lola, Josie** and **Maddie** for Growth Mindset.



### **Year 4 News**

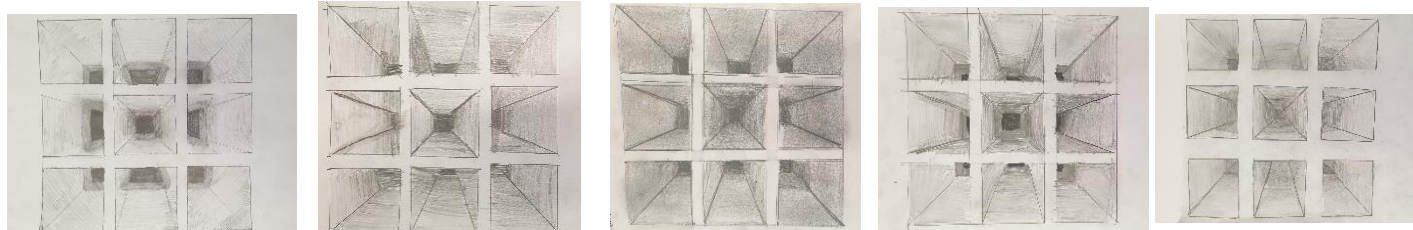
We have had an investigative week working on negative numbers and expanded noun phrases amongst others. Science was very exciting. We learned about gases. We collected carbon dioxide and learned about its uses; watched a candle use up its air supply and compared helium-filled balloons with carbon dioxide and air filled balloons. Many thanks must go to John McKendrick, a senior Chemistry lecturer at Reading University who supplied us with the balloons and scientific equipment.

### **Longfellow Class News (Year 5) 'Shady Dealings'**

This week Longfellow have been uncharacteristically getting a bit 'Shady!' But don't worry, we have been selling off dodgy goods from the back of the class, but instead creating some incredible pieces of art using perspective and different tones of cross hatching and shading. The pupils created nine boxes of equal size and then added vanishing points. After that, they added different levels of shading, getting progressively lighter the closer they got to the edge. The final results were these stunning pieces, which in my opinion wouldn't look out of place in a Secondary School art lesson! And although I said earlier that we haven't been selling of goods from the back of the class, we are a 'Growth Mindset' class – so any reasonable offers for the pieces will be considered (cash in hand of course!). Art pieces by – **Adam, Alex, Gemma, Lucas & Phoebe**

Stars of the Week awarded to: **Lucas** and **Lucy**

Merits were awarded to **Elliot** for Respect, **Amrita** for thoughtfulness and **Charlie** for Friendship

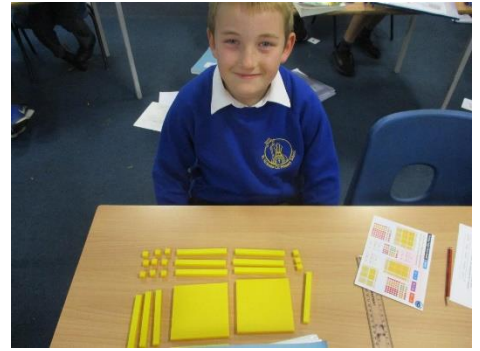


## **Blake Class News**

In Blake Class this week, we've focused on multiplication. To really understand what we're doing when we put pencil to paper, we've used a range of visual and physical prompts. Counters and base ten equipment proved very useful when partitioning and using the grid method! We're moving on to multiplying larger numbers now that we've increased in confidence.

Stars of the Week were awarded to: **Jacob** for enthusiastically contributing to lessons and **Harley**, for his entertaining and enthralling 'Rock Paper Scissor' story.

Merits were awarded to: **Lola** for friendship and taking care of class resources without being asked; **William** for perseverance with some challenging maths and **Sunni** for thoughtfulness as shown in her creative writing.



## **PTA NEWS UPDATE**

Hello to all,

Thank you to those of you who managed to make it to the recent virtual PTA meeting. Hopefully you have all now seen the minutes. We are grateful to parents who have already sent in new possible fundraising ideas – thank you and please keep them coming!



### **Bag2School**

Thank you to everyone who donated clothing. We raised £190.20 for the school.



### **School Events**

We have some exciting news... this term's Disco is going virtual! We know how much the children loved the discos in past, so we are organising an online disco and party for **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October**. It will be at 5pm-5.40pm for Foundation and Year 1 & 2 children and then another will be at 6pm-6.40pm for the juniors. The disco party will consist of fun games, singing and dance routines. Full details to follow soon but for now keep the date saved. A huge thank you to Rhiannon Jones and Claire Goff for organising it for all the children. If this proves successful, we might look to do a Christmas Disco.

The other fundraising things we are looking into for the term include:

- A non-Uniform day
- Dare to be different day
- Santa Fun Run
- Virtual Quiz Night

We also continue to welcome any other ideas from parents. You can let us know via the PTA Facebook page, your class reps or email. Thank you!

**School Spending Requests/Projects** The following items/ideas have been agreed to be funded by the PTA:

- TS Eliot would like a new camera £150
- Donaldson would like bean bags for the reading area £60
- Art Project £225
- Reading books for older children which are dyslexia friendly - £300

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

The following items/ideas are in discussion:

Miss Wheeler has requested a covered area outside Milne.

At the recent PTA meeting, we discussed the outside shelter area and possible alternative uses for this such as an outside PE covered area if extended?

We also discussed providing more tablets – for children to use and also to support possible virtual learning if required. Miss McGrail is going to provide costing for this.

The school would like to make improvements to the Library following on from Louise W and Gemma Moore sorting and clearing the old library books. Some new library books are now needed and Miss McGrail is going to provide costing for this.

The main, longer term project for the school is currently the School field project, which involves the field being cleared and secured with fencing (applying for a grant for fencing via safeguarding through DfE) and lots of planning! Ideally, there will be an all-weather running track around the field and sensory area among other ideas. Each aspect needs costing, and applications of grants to secure the funding in addition to PTA fundraising.

### **School Uniform and PTA Shed**

A general sort and clear out of the PTA shed is required!

We have a lot of second-hand school uniform in there. We plan to compile an inventory very soon to let parents know what is available. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions we cannot do a uniform sale as we have in the past, but we are looking at other options, such as using Facebook.



**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! Unfortunately, the items arrive without the School knowing who they have come from, thus we are unable to send a personalised 'thank you'. 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)



**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)

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 😊