



ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Road, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0DR

NEWSLETTER 05 – 8th 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 for the link.

Seasonal Flu Vaccination Thursday 3rd December 2020

The School Immunisation Team will be visiting our school on Thursday 3rd December 2020 to offer the seasonal flu vaccine to all children from Reception to Year 6.

The vaccine is given as a nasal spray in each nostril. It is quick and painless. A consent form will be sent to parents after half term.

For more information, please visit
www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/



Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

School Calendar

October

5th – 22nd

Sat 10th

Fri 16th

17th – 18th

Sun 18th

19th / 20th

Fri 23rd

26th – 30th

Sat 31st

Sat 31st

November

Mon 2nd

Mon 9th

Fri 13th

Sat 14th

December

Thu 3rd

Parent Telephone Consultations

Open Morning for 2021 intake (by appt only)

Virtual School Disco (KS1 5pm / KS2 6pm)

Wokingham Children's Book Festival

Messy Church at St Nicholas Church, 11am.

To book your place, please email

jenny.beasley1@btinternet.com

Year 6 - Level 2 Bikeability training (2 days)

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.

This Little Light - Lantern Night, St Nicholas Church 5.00-6.30pm

Application deadline for Year 7 places

School Reopens

Non-Uniform Day – all pupils

Children in Need – £1 donation in exchange for wearing spotty-inspired items.

Open Morning for 2021 intake (by appt only)

Flu Vaccination for all pupils from YR - Y6

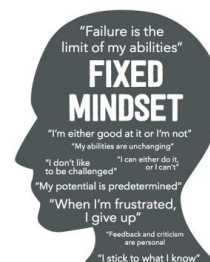
GOLD AWARDS



Congratulations to

Bruno and Ethan
in De La Mare class

who achieved a Gold Award



This week's Growth Mindset thought...

**"As long as I live
I shall always be
My Self – and no other,
Just Me."
Walter de la Mare**

Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

This Little Light – Lantern Night, Saturday 31st October
St Nicholas Church, Hurst: 5-6.30pm

This year, more than any other, the church team want to offer families an opportunity to celebrate light, not darkness on 31st October. Whilst we can't host a Light Party, we're inviting you to visit St Nicholas church to collect a lantern to decorate at home. Inside your kit, you'll also find some tasty treats! You'll be able to pop-up your battery-powered lantern straight away and test it out on a short walk through the church yard on your way home. Along the way there will be lights, messages and activities to enjoy together as a family. To book your free lantern kit, please visit: <https://lantern-night.eventbrite.co.uk>



Thank you to the Hurst Show and Country Fayre!

We have received confirmation that our School will receive a £5,000 donation from this summer's Virtual Hurst Show and Country Fayre, despite all the restrictions and challenges faced to run a successful virtual event and keeping the community spirit alive. We are very grateful for the continued support we receive from the Show and Committee. This extremely generous contribution is vital for our School to enable us to purchase items that we would otherwise not be able to provide, thereby offering the best education we can for our pupils.



REMINDER – Remote Learning Code of Conduct Agreements

There are still a large number of signed agreements yet to be returned to us. We would appreciate your support in returning these forms to the class teachers as soon as possible. Without a signed agreement from a parent, your child will not be invited to participate in online lessons via MS Teams. The agreements are available to download and print from the school website www.st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk under the Pupils/Remote Learning tab. Thank you.

Acorns!

Thank you to Frankie's mum (Ms Hughes) and Uncle Simon for their work clearing acorns on Monday morning. We are currently experiencing daily problems with acorns and would welcome help every morning to clear acorns on the top and bottom playground and adventure playground. Please arrive any time from 7:30am onwards armed with a broom or a leaf blower. Your help is very much needed and appreciated!



Children in Need – Friday 13th November

On Friday 13th November, children may come to school wearing spotty-inspired items or accessories with their school uniform or PE kit, in exchange for a £1 donation, in support of Children in Need. This may include items such as T-shirts, sweaters, headbands, socks etc.

Horses in Field

On Friday last week, we were notified by a resident that one of the horses, Hurley, in the field adjacent to the Village Hall was in significant distress. We have since had an update from its owner that Hurley was in fact choking on something that a passer-by had given him to eat. The vet was urgently called to assist, and was eventually able to dislodge the blockage from Hurley's throat, which is a very painful and dangerous procedure. Hurley is now in recovery and been prescribed a course of antibiotics. Signage has now been placed along the fence to remind people not to feed the horses – that although it may seem harmless, your kindness may kill. We would appreciate everyone's vigilance to ensure Hurley and William's continued safety.



Elements Dance Classes

Please see the attached flyer from Elements Dance with information on tap and modern dance classes held at Hurst Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons. To enjoy a free trial lesson, contact office@elements-dance.com or call 07912 755140



Wokingham Children's Book Festival, Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th October

The third annual Wokingham Children's Book Festival will take place online on 17th and 18th October. There are some top authors talking about their books, inspirations, illustrations and writing techniques. There is a diverse programme of authors and illustrators, a great mix of topics and have sessions for a variety of different age ranges

from 3-12. There'll be plenty of chances for families to interact with the authors, ask questions, or for shy bookworms to just say hello! Did we mention the **book festival is also free**? All we ask is that budding writers, illustrators or self-confessed bookworms sign-up for the sessions they wish to attend at www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/bookfest The first 100 attendees will also get the option of a signed bookplate from the author.



Fabulous work from KS2 this week. **Cruz** (Blake) had the most correct answers whilst **Zac** (TS Eliot) had the greatest improvement in speed. **Harrison** (Longfellow) was the most accurate player and **Ariane** (Longfellow) earned the most coins. Well done to them! Congratulations also to **Dylan** (Blake) who is now a Rockstar and **Bram** (Blake) who has become a Headliner.

This week, the Numbots certificates have been shared between children in Milne, Donaldson and De La Mare classes. **Ethan** (De La Mare) has shown the greatest improvement in accuracy and **Winnie** (Donaldson) had the biggest increase in answers. Well done also to **Theo** (De La Mare) who went up the most levels. The following children have completed a Numbots stage: **Grace** (Milne) has finished Rust level; **Winnie** and **Ivy** (Milne) have completed Iron and **Theo** has conquered Brass. Well done all!



Milne Class News

This week we have been jetting off into space for World Space Week. We have created junk model rockets, investigated the planets and learned about gravity! Special thanks go to Miss Hearn who, using her skills as a drama teacher, took us on a magic journey into space to meet some aliens! We have also been working on our letter formation, writing and spelling and next week the focus will be on developing our blending skills. In Maths, we will be spending some more time explore patterns and numerical patterns. Merits were awarded to **Ronnie** for putting such great thought and effort into finding

ways to help and be kind; **Jack** for showing such respect to our precious pearls in our RE lesson and **Seb** for thinking well during class discussions and sharing his ideas. Stars of the Week were awarded to **Elliot** for having a super attitude towards his learning and being so helpful everyday and **Phoebe** for continuing to work hard on Numbots even when it is really tricky!

Donaldson Class News

Last week in Science, we tested different materials for a new umbrella for the gingerbread man. Unfortunately, some of the materials we tested were not waterproof and our gingerbread men test subjects got very wet and soggy! Donaldson class persevered and eventually found some suitable materials and our gingerbread man now has a brand new, waterproof umbrella that is keeping him dry!

Last week's merits were awarded to **Joe** for involving others in a game, **Poppy** for always putting her hand up nicely to answer questions and **Sam D** for thinking thoughtfully during a science investigation. Our Stars of the Week were **Sam J** for his detailed sketch of a teddy bear and **Koen** for working hard on his number and letter formation. Well done!



De La Mare Class News

This week Year 2 have started studying a book called 'Beegu' by Alexis Deacon. First of all we predicted what the book was about based on the front cover and then compared how the character's feelings changed on a couple of pages by placing the feelings on a circular diagram called a 'Zone of Relevance' – green indicates relevant feelings at that time. The children then created a playdough friend for Beegu and will shortly write a character description of their friend. The class really wants to know what happens to Beegu, but we

won't find out until next week! Stars of the Week were awarded to **Clementine** and **Theo** for beautifully written diary entries. **William** received a merit for challenging himself in Art. **Frankie's** merit was awarded for persevering with her use of vocabulary and **Megan** was helpful when playing a maths game with a classmate.

Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

TS Eliot Class News (Year 3)

In Maths, we began our exploration of addition and subtraction. In English, the children independently wrote stories set in the Stone Age, prompted by a print of a cave painting. The children also planned a *Stig of the Dump* diorama. The children listen to this classic tale most days and are beginning to create Stig's den, in miniature form. The photo shows some of the children using Paper Mache to cover their boxes, ready for painting next week. Merits last week were awarded to **Adam** for perseverance, **Evie** for friendship and **Nathan** and **Reiley** for Growth Mindset. Stars of the Week were **Amelia**, **Josie** and **Henry**.



Year 4 News

We have been reading *Tuesday* by David Weisner. Frogs seem to have invaded the Hall. We are working our way towards writing a newspaper report about the strange happening one Tuesday. Lots of sequencing activities, hot seating and learning to ask open questions have taken place. We can't wait to see what our budding reporters will produce.

Stars of the Week awarded to **Toby** for working hard in Maths and **Aster** for improving her focus and her enthusiasm for lessons.



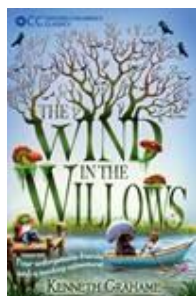
Longfellow Class News (Year 5) - A Wheelie great PE lesson

It was an absolute pleasure to go outside and watch Year 5 cycling in the sunshine this week. As a lover of sport myself, it was brilliant to see all the class fully engaged and taking part in physical exercise with smiles on their faces. The cycling sessions put on by Coach Lloyd are one of the things that makes St Nicholas special. Along with teaching the children a life skill, it also promotes a green and sustainable mode of transport. I am always happy to see PE lessons where pupils are not just standing in line waiting for their turn, or playing in games dominated by a minority. To watch and witness all pupils active for the whole session and enjoying a physical activity made my day. Although they were pretty *tire-d* by the end, one *spokes-person* for the class did report that, "*Cycling has been great, I like it when we test our skills around a track and the ramps are really fun. We also do things with a partner which is surprising, as I thought cycling was only an individual sport, so getting to work in a team is cool too.*"



Blake Class News

It's been all about reading this week! We have just started our class novel: *The Wind in the Willows* and have met the character of Mole, who has never seen a river before! As part of our research before starting the book, we've made predictions based on the front cover and blurb, and found out about the life of the author Kenneth Grahame.



As part of their home learning, pupils have written and shared recommendations for their favourite books, sharing presentations and reviews with their classmates. It has been wonderful to share in the children's enthusiasm for familiar and new authors.

Merits were awarded to: **Zenna** and **Bram** for Thoughtfulness, **Sammy J** for Growth Mindset, and **Sophie R** for Friendship

Stars of the Week were awarded to: **Olivia** and **Roxy** for their descriptive poem about a tiger (based on Blake's *The Tyger*)

PTA NEWS UPDATE

Hello again to all,



Virtual Disco, Friday 16th October

We are very excited about the virtual disco party! It will be on **Friday 16th October at 5pm-5.40pm for the infants** and then **6pm-6.40pm for the juniors**. The disco party will consist of fun games, singing and dance routines. Full details has been emailed to parents today via email. A huge thank you to Rhiannon Jones and Claire Goff for organising it!

If this proves successful, we might look at doing a Christmas Disco.

Non-Uniform Day: the date for this is Monday 9th November; more information to follow soon.

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

- 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 Uniform and PTA Shed

The PTA shed will be organised and sorted at the end of this week. We then plan to let parents know what second-hand uniforms we have available via the PTA Facebook page and in next week's newsletter.



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



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

If any parent would like to talk to us directly about the PTA, please contact Mike or Louise on mike_rand@hotmail.com or louisej125@hotmail.com

Many thanks to all and kind regards

The PTA Team ☺

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