



# ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Road, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0DR

**NEWSLETTER 07 – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020**



**HiPP**  
organic

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.*



## INSET DAY, FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER

Please note that School is closed tomorrow and we wish all pupils and families a restful break. School reopens on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November from 8.35am.



## CLOCKS GO BACK on SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

The end of British Summer Time is upon us, and the clocks go back one hour on Sunday at 2.00am. As the evenings become darker earlier on, please see the attached 'Be Bright & Be Seen' information flyer with advice and tips for children on how to be seen and stay safe when they are out and about near roads.



A heartfelt 'Thank You!' to the wonderful group of parents who have been helping to clear the acorns from the 3 playground areas. It has been a great help to the staff and improved safety for pupils. We'd also like to give a special 'Thank You' to the family in Milne who have donated a battery-operated leaf blower to the school, which has dramatically improved one aspect of Miss McGrail's Autumnal duties!

## 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.

## School Calendar

### October

Thu 22<sup>nd</sup>

Last Day of Half Term (3.00pm-3.20pm)

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup>

**INSET DAY – School closed**

26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

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

Sat 31<sup>st</sup>

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

Sat 31<sup>st</sup>

Application deadline for Year 7 school places

### November

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>

School Reopens

Sun 8<sup>th</sup>

Remembrance Sunday Poppies available to buy from Keith Bunce 0118 979 1068

[jayandkaybee@btinternet.com](mailto:jayandkaybee@btinternet.com) or make a donation at [www.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk)

Mon 9<sup>th</sup>

Non-Uniform / Dare to be Different Day (see PTA page)

Wed 11<sup>th</sup>

Remembrance Day

Fri 13<sup>th</sup>

Children in Need – £1 donation in exchange for wearing spotty-inspired top/accessories.

Sat 14<sup>th</sup>

Open Morning for 2021 intake (by appt only)

Fri 27<sup>th</sup>

PTA Meeting, 9.30am via Teams

### December

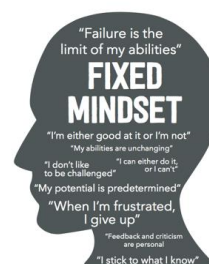
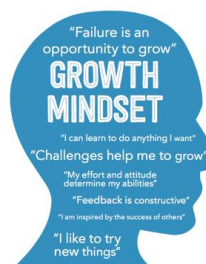
Thu 3<sup>rd</sup>

Flu Vaccination for all pupils from YR - Y6

[www.berkshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu](http://www.berkshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu)

Fri 4<sup>th</sup>

Virtual Christmas Disco (more info to follow)



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

**What is now proved was once only imagined.**

*William Blake*

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

### **100% School Attendance Record**

We have received a certificate from the Education Welfare Service in recognition of our 100% attendance record that we achieved on 13<sup>th</sup> October for a full day's attendance (which we also repeated on 15<sup>th</sup> October!)

This is an exceptional achievement in these very challenging circumstances and we are one of only two schools in the Borough to receive it.

We have even received a letter from The Rt Hon Theresa May MP to personally congratulate us!

**Thank you to all parents and pupils for your continued commitment.**



### **Childhood Flu Vaccine, 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Online Consent Form**

Please take a few minutes over half term to complete the online consent/non-consent form for your child to be given the flu vaccine on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. **All parents must complete this**, even if you do not want your child to be vaccinated. Please visit [www.berkshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu](http://www.berkshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu) and insert the school's unique code: **BK147377** by 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020.



### **Hurst Studios Photography - Special Offer**

Please see attached information flyer from Alexis Jaworski at Hurst Studios for an exclusive special offer for St Nicholas School families. Book your photographic experience by 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and use code 'St Nicholas Families' when booking to get your special offer. [www.hurststudios.co.uk](http://www.hurststudios.co.uk)

### **Half Term Story Time with Mrs Davis, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 10:00am**

Mrs Davis, who retired from teaching last term, is raising money for Oxfam by volunteering to read a story on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 10am. Tickets are £2.20 and the donations will help combat Coronavirus around the world, whilst also encouraging the love of reading and stories by all children. Mrs Davis will be reading 'Eeyore Has a Birthday' by AA Milne. To book a ticket and support a great cause, please visit [www.wegottickets.com/oxfamreadingarea](http://www.wegottickets.com/oxfamreadingarea) (the online link will be sent before the event)



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



Support Act. Great work!

The star of TT Rockstars this week is **Sammy** in TS Eliot. Not only has she become an Unsigned Artist, but she achieved the most correct answers, the most coins and the greatest improvement in speed! Fabulous work, Sammy! Well done also to **Addison** (TS Eliot) who has the greatest improvement in accuracy. In addition, **William** (Blake) has become a Breakthrough Artist and **Sean** (Blake) is now a

The Numbots star is **Leo** (De La Mare). Earning four certificates, he has achieved both Tin and Brass levels as well as the greatest increase in correct answers and the most levels. Well done Leo! Congratulations also to **Mollie** (Milne) for completing Rust level, **Theo** (De La Mare) for finishing Copper level and to **Frankie** (De La Mare) for a big improvement in accuracy.



#### Milne Class News

This week in Milne we have spent time consolidating all our letter sounds from the past half term and are now working on blending, writing and spelling! I could not be more proud of how quickly they have picked up the reading basic, they truly are all superstars! In Maths, it has been all about the numbers 1, 2 and 3. We have been exploring the many different ways in which we can write and represent these numbers. This week also saw us take another exciting adventure, this time to Africa to see all the animals and compare the hot climate to ours (perfect on a very rainy Wednesday afternoon!) I hope you all have a restful and relaxing half term; it is very well deserved!

Merits were awarded to **Sienna** and **Ivy**, for showing a growth mindset when learning and writing tricky words; **Phoebe** for thinking of others and inviting them to join her game and **Freddie**, for demonstrating excellent listening skills and special awareness in PE.

Stars of the Week were **Arthur**, for his super alien family collage in art and **Courtney**, for working so hard to improve her blending skills.

#### Donaldson Class News

This week, children have been very creative and have designed and made their own moving storybooks in DT. To help bring the characters of Humpty Dumpty to life, we created sliders to help our characters move and guides to control the movement. Children really enjoyed this project and the results are fantastic. Inspired by creating our own books, we then wrote alternate versions of Humpty Dumpty.



Merits were awarded to **Margot** for politeness towards adults, **Winnie** for display a growth mind set when solving missing number problems in Maths and **Levi** for his perseverance when learning new letter sounds.

Stars of the Week were **Archie** for his imaginative ideas in English and **Georgia** for working super hard on her letter formation and spelling of tricky words. Well done!



#### De La Mare Class News

This week we are nearing the end of some of our units of work. In Science, the children have been learning about food chains and then had a go at creating one. In History, we had a wonderful discussion about what the explorers Scott and Magellan had in common. There were some interesting points of view including that they both persevered, both died during their expeditions and both led groups of men.

Stars of the Week were **Megan** for mixing colours so well and to **Frankie** for well-presented Artwork.

Merits were awarded to **Mena** for perseverance with letter formation, to **Amelia C** for friendship and to **Felix** for perseverance with using capital letters and full stops. Well done.





### TS Eliot Class News (Year 3)

TS Eliot have been learning about Diwali and contemplating the question, *How would celebrating Diwali at home and in the community bring a feeling of belonging to a Hindu child?* In History, children discovered how important mining for copper was in the Bronze Age. The children focused on the skills required to mine for copper, by applying for a job as a child in a copper miner. In English, Year 3 have been imagining a conversation between the two main characters of the book, *"Stone Age Boy"*. The children created a comic strip to record the imaginary conversations, using their inference skills to imagine how the characters might be feeling and how they might behave, on meeting one another. In Maths, the children have developed further their ability to add and subtract, exchanging tens and hundreds.

Merits awarded to **Alice** for friendship, **Addison** for respect. Stars of the Week were **Lucas, Sammy** and **William**.

### Year 4 News

I'm really proud of the way Year 4 have conducted themselves over this very different half term. The hall is a vast echoey space, and occasionally there has been some improvisation necessary, to create a learning environment similar to a classroom. However, despite "living" in two different parts of the school, I think many



parents would be amazed at how organisation skills have improved over the weeks as the children have moved from their home



classroom to the hall and back. We have ended this half term with an exciting look at dry ice or frozen carbon dioxide, and how it moves from a solid to a gaseous state. Mixing it with washing up liquid produces a fantastic effect. Stars of the week are **Ariane** and **Jayden** for their excellent word choices in their newspaper reports.

### Longfellow Class News (Year 5) Interesting 'Developments'

A new housing estate sprung up in Longfellow last week, but don't be fooled into thinking that these are run of the mill new builds. In fact, they were very much old builds!



These 'des reses' were modelled on Stone Age houses from the Mesolithic period. Although the houses might not have had 'much up top' the creators of these houses certainly did! They worked in pairs to collect the natural materials, then bound them together to create houses from the middle Stone Age (Mesolithic). They worked hard to ensure that the residents were protected from the elements and had soft mossy floors on which to



sleep. If you would like to make an offer on any of these exquisite properties, please direct your enquires via Longfellow. Not only are they suitable for ancient man, but also for Kung-Fu experts such as Bruce Lee as they are 'Round Houses!' - I thank you! - *Mr Butler-Willis*

### Blake Class News

Year 6 participated in their Level 2 Bikeability (cycling proficiency) training this Monday and Tuesday, coached by Lloyd and fellow Avanti coaches Claire, Chris and Karen. 100% of trainees in this cohort passed this level first time - a unique statistic among Wokingham Schools! We look forward to the next challenge - Level 3 - later on this academic year. Poppy described the training as "Really good and fun. It was very educational too! I learned how to go on a roundabout safely, the primary and secondary position and I got better at cycling up hills." Sunni said, "I learned how to cycle at junctions. Before roundabouts were quite scary. Karen taught us how to do it safely and it was lots of fun." We are very proud of our successful (and safe) cyclists!

Merits were awarded to **Roxy, Harley** and **Olivia**. Stars of the Week were **Jacob, Roxy** and **Sammy**.

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

## PTA NEWS UPDATE

Hello Parents and Carers, We can't believe it is half term already!

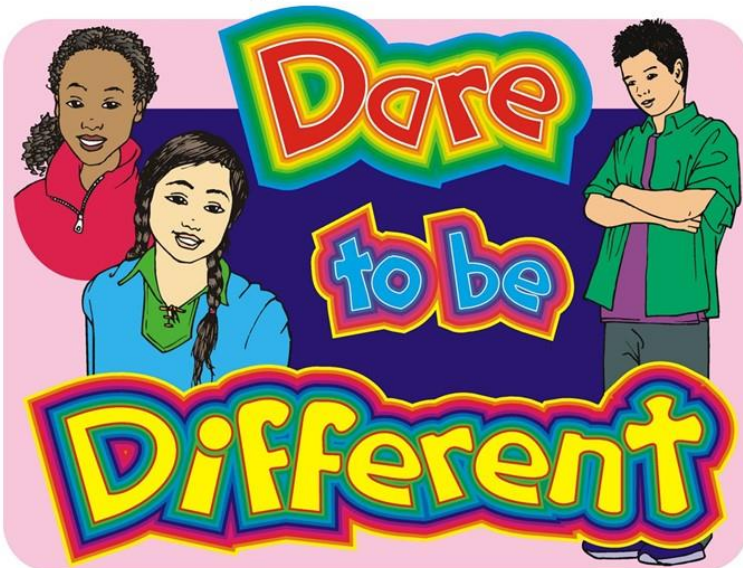
**Virtual Disco Party** - We hope you and your children enjoyed the virtual disco party last Friday. I know we did! A huge thank you to everyone who worked hard to organise the event, including Claire Goff, Rhiannon Jones and Dee Morley. Also, a special thanks goes to Matt Brown who has kindly donated the profits from the pizzas to the PTA.

**The total profit raised was £156.98**

Considering the entertainer was more expensive than our usual one (but we feel well worth it) and the fact we had fewer children signing up than usual, we are pleased with the profits. We have also received really positive feedback about the event for the children and families that 'attended' and people seem keen for more.... So, we have booked John Johnny again for a **virtual Christmas Disco on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December!** Save the date now!

**Dare to be Different Day** - This will run alongside 'Non-Uniform day' on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November:

**Calling all children of St Nicholas..  
...celebrate being you!**



**\*\* All proceeds will go directly to the St Nicholas School PTA \*\***

**On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

**Will you wear....**

- 1. A funny hairband or hat?**
- 2. a temporary or glitter tattoo?**
- 3. your hair in a crazy style?**
- 4. funny shoes or socks?**
- 5. Something shiny or bright?**

Choose 1 or wear  
all 5 to school on  
Mon 9<sup>th</sup>  
November  
Donate 50p per  
item or wear all  
5 for £2

**PTA Meeting, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am via Teams** - If you would like to join, please send your email address to [mike\\_rand@hotmail.com](mailto:mike_rand@hotmail.com) so you can be added to the meeting.

### **Second-hand School Uniform:**

We are aiming to have the completed (long) list of what is available to all parents ready for after half term, if not before so please do keep a look out on our Facebook page.

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

### **Chocoholics**

This is a great way to buy some Christmas presents (or just treat yourself!) whilst raising money for the school at the same time. All you have to do is place an order on the Chocoholics website [www.chocoholicsrachel.co.uk](http://www.chocoholicsrachel.co.uk) and enter the unique code: **stnichurst** at checkout. This will enable them to keep track of any orders placed by parents/staff from our school. You can also pass our unique code on to friends and family, so that they can maximise the total orders for our school.

The order deadline is **Monday 30th November**. On 1st December, Chocoholics will add up the total sales for our school and the school will receive 10% of all sales in cash/bank transfer.

Orders can be delivered to anywhere in the UK, so it's a perfect time for sending gifts to friends and loved ones. Prices start from just 25p, so there is something for everyone!

[www.chocoholicsrachel.co.uk](http://www.chocoholicsrachel.co.uk) / Unique Code: **stnichurst** (all lowercase)



**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 app for 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)

We hope you all have a lovely half term break.

The PTA Team 😊